



1 CONNECTIONS GARDEN

Cross the road from the visitor centre and proceed to the beautifully landscaped Connections Garden. The waterfall has a backdrop of ferns, cycads and palms. Heading along the path to the right is a Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*). This rare and threatened plant is the only living species from a lineage that dates back to the time of the dinosaurs. Next on the left is the towering Bunya Pine. This species produces the largest cone of any Australian conifer (up to 10 kg). The nutritious kernels, often ground or roasted, were highly valued by First Nations people.



2 TOP OF THE CONNECTIONS GARDEN

Zigzag around the side of the Connections Garden and take the steep walk to the top of the hill. At the summit, stop on the flat ground to the left of the water tank to take in the spectacular view. Below is the suburb of Mount Annan, an area significant to the Dharawal (or Tharawal) nation. A historic campsite close to the primary school has chips of stone called silcrete, which can only be found near Plumpton in Western Sydney, suggesting trading or migration between areas.



3 FIG TREE ARBORETUM AND THE VOLCANO

Continue directly along the present pathway to the bottom of the hill. Keep to the path on the right until you reach the Fig Arboretum. The 42 species of Australian figs occur in many different habitats from desert to the coast and all have edible, but not necessarily palatable fruit. The rough leaves of these Sandpaper Figs contain silica and were used by First Nations people as sandpaper. The next hill on your right is the Volcano. It is in fact a volcanic plug, but was so named because a "crater" was formed in the centre when it was quarried in the 19th century.



DISCOVER YOUR BOTANIC GARDEN



The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan is the native garden of the Botanic Gardens of Sydney. First and foremost, the Garden's role is to conserve plant life and inspire appreciation of plants amongst the public.

The Garden also offers excellent recreational space for visitors and the Trust encourages visitors to enjoy recreational activities such as relaxing amongst nature, walking on the paths or off track walking trails, bird watching, cycling on the approved cycle areas and of course taking in the gorgeous flowers and vistas on offer.

Please remember when you are in the Garden, to observe the rules and regulations of the Garden (see australianbotanicgarden.com.au for more details) and of course be safe in your activities.

As a botanic garden, it is also important for our visitors to remember that plant material found in the Garden is not for collection or removal from the Garden and visitors are asked to treat all plant life in the Garden with respect. Likewise, the Garden is home to numerous native animals, birds and insects and we ask that you also offer them equal respect and care.

We hope you enjoy your visit and come back again.



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CENTRAL VALLEY WALK

CENTRAL VALLEY WALK SELF GUIDED

LENGTH	Approx 2.7 kilometres
GRADE	Moderate - undulating with 3 steep ascents and descents
SURFACE	Fully sealed asphalt paths throughout
DURATION	45 minutes minimum walking time
START & FINISH	Visitor Centre

BEFORE YOU WALK



Wear weather-appropriate clothing including sturdy shoes, a hat and long-sleeved top.



Take a water bottle and snacks.



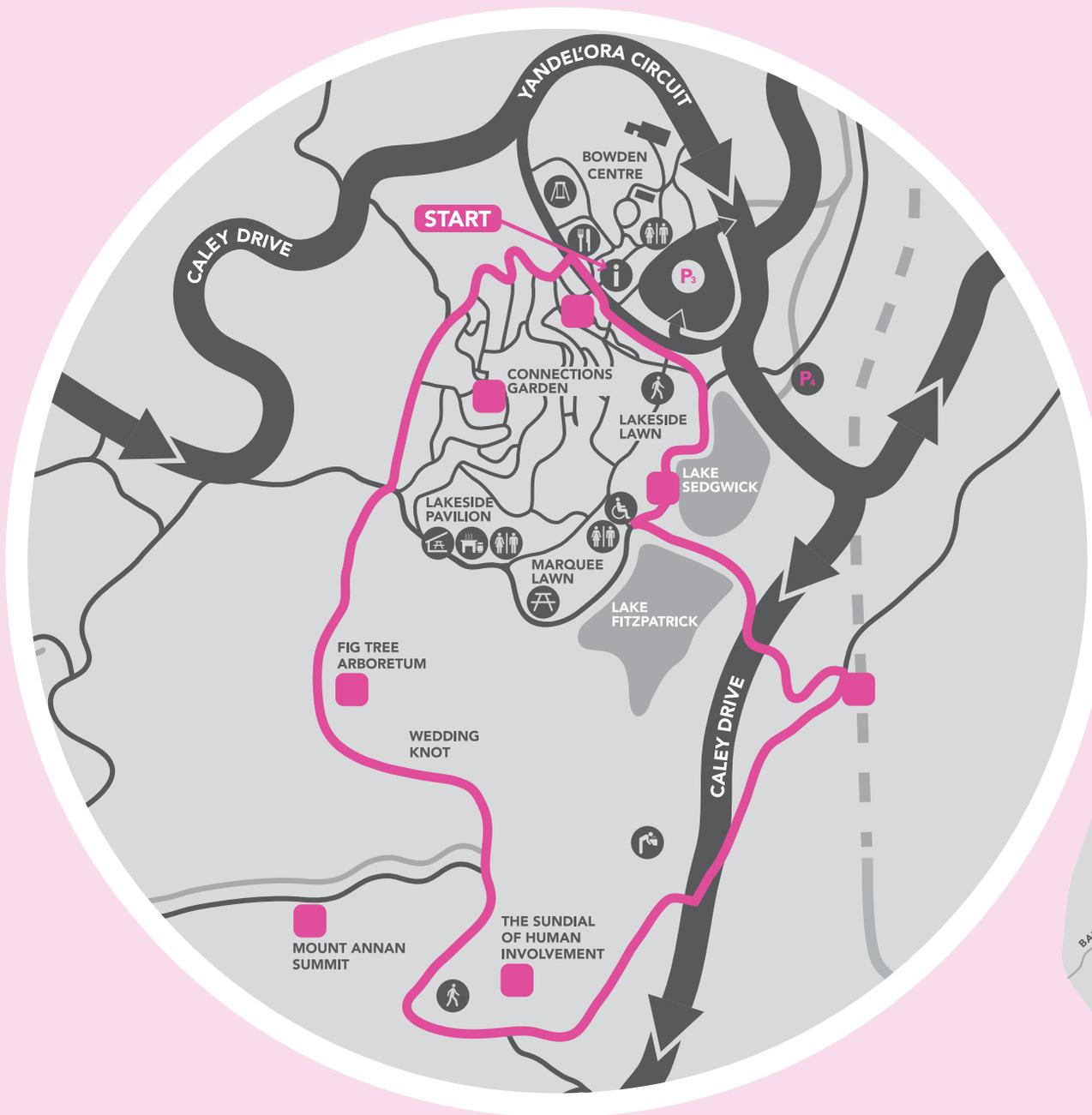
Put the Ranger contact number into your mobile phone in case of emergencies: 0409 122 953.



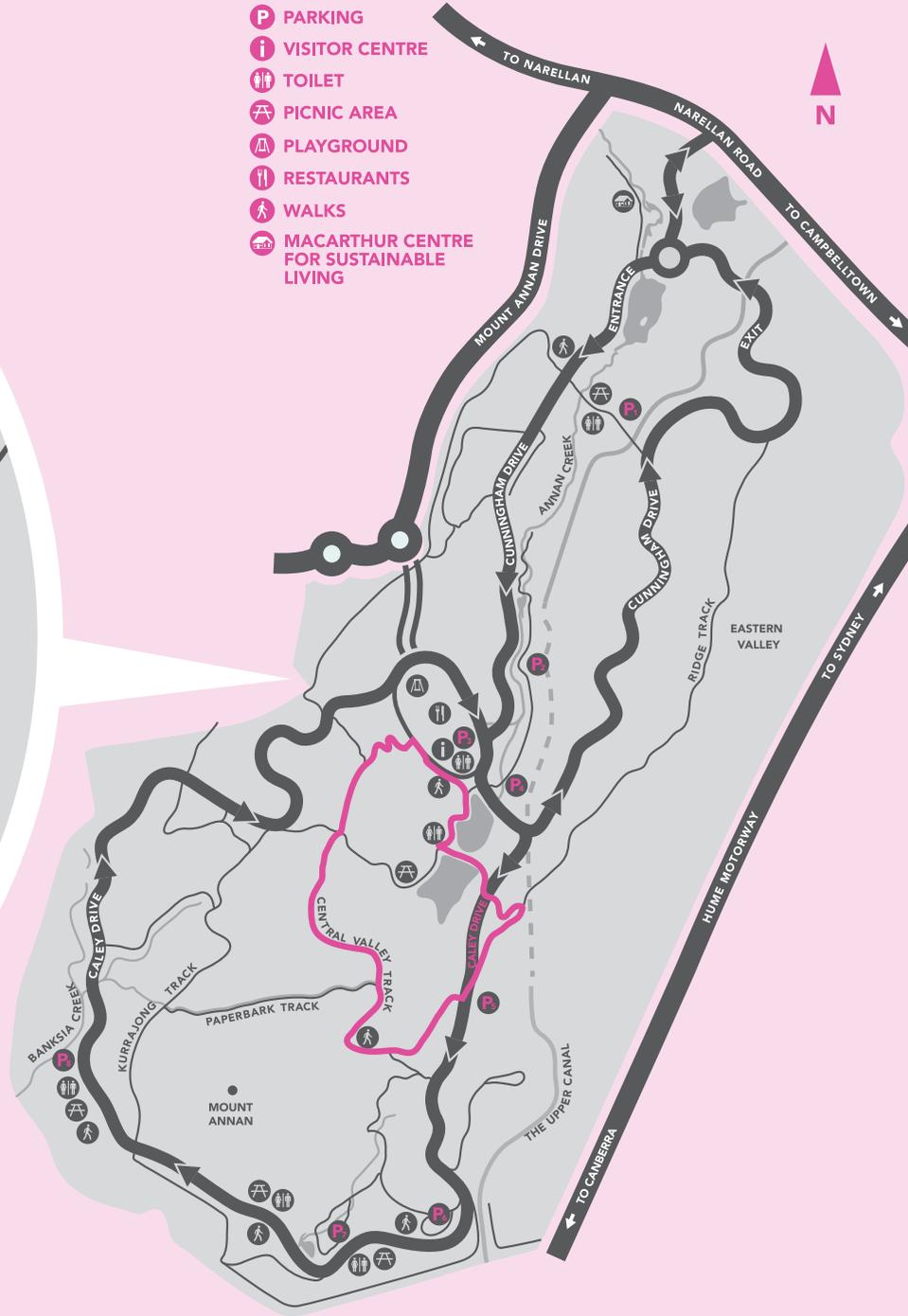
Be aware of snakes, and give them plenty of space.



Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan



- P** PARKING
- i** VISITOR CENTRE
- TOILET
- PICNIC AREA
- PLAYGROUND
- RESTAURANTS
- WALKS
- MACARTHUR CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING



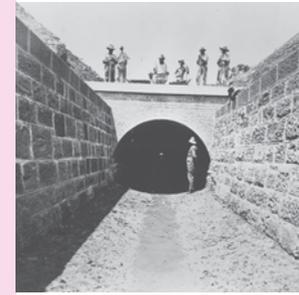
4 MOUNT ANNAN

Mount Annan is a very special site, as this area is covered by three language groups: The Dharug, the Dharawal, and the Gundungurra. Mount Annan has always been a meeting place for trading, marriage, disputes and ceremonies.



5 SUNDIAL HILL

Pass by several mature Bunya Pines to climb Sundial Hill where you will be able to use the analemmatic sundial to tell the time by following the directions on the plaque. When resting on the seat on a clear day you can see to your right, the Sydney skyline and the top of the Harbour Bridge.



6 EASTERN RIDGE AND UPPER NEPEAN CANAL

Walk down to the bottom of the hill, cross the road and proceed left along the Eastern Ridge. The stone cairn on the right is a surveyor's mark for the Upper Nepean Canal which runs directly under this point. The canal was built in the 19th century to transport water a distance of 62 kilometres from the headwaters of the Nepean to Prospect Reservoir. It relies entirely on gravity to maintain its flow.



7 LAKES FITZPATRICK AND SEDGWICK AND THE LAKESIDE LAWN

Continue down the zigzag path to Lake Fitzpatrick, who lived on this land from 1859. On the right is Lake Sedgwick after Edward Sedgwick and his descendants who lived here until 1978. Continue along the path at the base of the Connections Garden heading back to the car park. Below this, on the Lakeside Lawn, is the Federation Maze. Formed in the shape of a Federation Star Flannel Flower, a cultivar developed for the Nations Centenary of Federation.