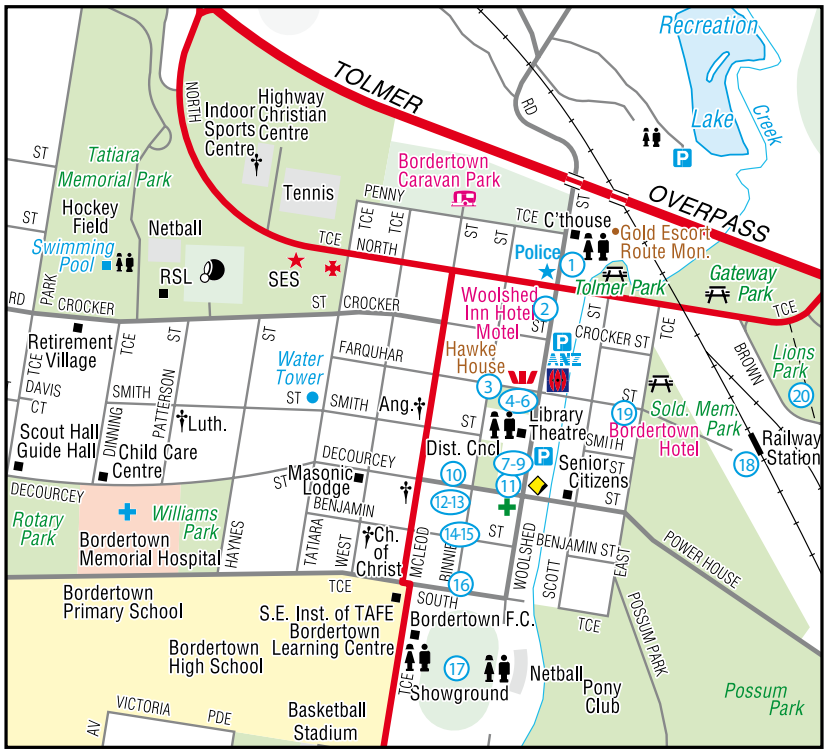
BORDERTOWN WALKING TOUR

Apex Park Mural & Artwork

1 . **Bordertown Visitor Information Centre.** Opened, October 2000. Tolmer Park named after Inspector Tolmer's Gold Escort. The interpretive signs in Tolmer Park give a brief history of the Bordertown area. The Visitor Information Centre and Morning Loaf Bakery are additions to the old police station which can be clearly seen from inside the building. The 'Old Gaol' toilet block is worthy of a stop.

Also of interest is the tapestry created by Bordertown Embroiderers Guild to commemorate Tolmer's Gold Escort route.

Inspector Tolmer chose this as a stopping place because of permanent water. The creek has been widened and re-filled.



2. **Woolshed Inn** - Sydney Smith built the first store here in 1859, gained a licence in the same year and a hotel has been operating on the site ever since. Named because pioneer brothers John and Charles Scott's woolshed was built where the police station is now. The Woolshed Inn was used for many purposes including church services.

3. **Hawke House.** First bank in Bordertown and National Bank from 1888 - 1895. Sold to Congregational Church in 1897. Used as Church Manse. Former Prime Minister, Bob Hawke was born here in 1929, when his father, Rev. Clem Hawke was Minister. Now operates as a business premises.

4. **Apex Park** is a remnant of a recreational area 'McLaren Place' named by a Colonial Surveyor after himself. The area was a show reserve in 1888, but much reduced when streets were straightened in 1892. Developed by Bordertown Apex Club in the mid sixties.

   The wall mural was created by Bordertown Primary School students in 1996, every child was involved. The mural represents Bordertown through children's eyes.

   The Centre Sculpture Feature was created by the Bordertown High School Students in 1999 depicting activities of the district.

5. **Memorial Clock** is a memorial to Mr A W Murray who established the electricity supply for Bordertown in 1924.

6. **Heritage Listed Institute** was built in 1909, and is now the Bordertown Public Library. Extensions incorporating a large hall were opened by then Premier Sir Thomas Playford, May 1960. Further renovations took place to incorporate a little theatre, 1981. Stained glass windows were created in a leadlighting project by 'Friends of the Library' in 1992.

7. **Bob Hawke's Bust,** donated to the Tatiara by the Giannarelli family, and unveiled by his father, April 1987.

8. **Tatiara District Council Chambers** were built to service a local government area established in 1876. Two storied section was built in 1978 added to the single story 1959 building. Bob Hawke Gallery, containing photos, cartoons and a portrait of Bob Hawke by artist Michael Henwood. This is one of only three portraits of the former Prime Minister painted from life. It was an Archibald prize entry. Purchased by Tatiara District Council in 2000 $11,000.00. Please ask to see the commissioned work on loan to council, a large painting of Tolmer's Gold Escort by noted artist and sculptor John Dowie.

9. **Mural** is work of the Bordertown High School students with guidance and direction from Aboriginal Artist Judith Moffatt and BHS Art Teacher, Rose Milton. Created as a bicentenary project in 1988.

10. **Croquet lawns** also originally part of McLaren Place. Original well for the town water supply, sunk in 1885, and it was here that croquet greens were established in 1920.

11. **Post Office** has been on this site since 1911. This building 1971. Original post office established 1879 was diagonally opposite.

12. **Radio Station 5TCB** - was formerly a Telecom repeater station. Opened as community radio centre December 2000. 5TCB started in 1986. Visitors welcome. Mostly volunteer staff.

13. **Border Chronicle Office,** only local paper since 1908 this building has been used since 1939.

14. **Bordertown Takeaway** (now closed) - This store is one of Bordertown's oldest buildings, having been altered and extended over the years.

15. **Pioneer Chapel.** Built as Congregational Church in 1880 through efforts of pioneer Rev. David Milne. Members donated and carted the stone. Floor and fittings are of Singapore Cedar.

16. **Old School Building.** Built in 1874 as a School and Church building. Taken over by the Education Department in 1875. Rent charged to churches so Pioneer Chapel was built. Now used as clubrooms for several community groups.

17. **Bordertown Sports and Show Grounds.** Dedicated as show grounds in 1899. Used for football, cricket, pony club, and many other sports. Sculpture gates at Woolshed Street entrance developed 2001.

18. **Bordertown Railway Station.** Rail reached Bordertown 1883. Daily connection to Adelaide since 1886. Station built in 1914 with stone railed from Jim Watson's property at Cannawigra, and the area surrounding the township of Keith.

19. **Bordertown Hotel** built 1903. The hotel was extended and more rooms were added in 1910. Recent additions include an excellent bistro, dining rooms, and a bottle department making the original L shaped building almost rectangular.

20. **Wildlife Park** - established in 1968. White Kangaroos first introduced in 1980. Also home to Wallabies, Bush-Stone Curlews, Emus, Black Swans, Peacocks and Ducks.

Return to the Bordertown Visitor Information Centre - starting point.