Celebrating Red Gums
Eco-Arts Red Gum Trail

Project Workshop

Monday 13th Sept., 2021
9:30am – 1pm
Flinders University,
Victoria Square Campus
(Level 2)

Facilitator

Matthew Wright-Simon, Ecocreative

Matthew Wright-Simon is a creative facilitator and Ecocreative's principal consultant. His diverse work includes strategy and mentoring, emceeing and facilitation, and the creative direction, design and delivery of persuasive communications, change programs and community resources.

In addition to his role with Ecocreative, Matthew is active in networks focused on social enterprise, thought leadership networks and philanthropy.

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Agenda

09:30 to 10:30	Welcome and introductions
	Background - Sam Middleton (Founder) &
	Natasha Davis (Trees For Life)
	~ morning tea ~
10:45 to 12:15	Presentations
	Heritage Theme - Susan Marsden & John Dallwitz
	Environment & Habitat Theme – John Sandham
	Wellbeing & Connection Theme – Alex Gaut
	Trail Experiences Theme – Paul Koch & Rob Keane
	Team workshopping *("Theme Teams")*
	Environment & Habitat *(in-person/online hybrid)*
	Wellbeing & Connection *(in-person/online hybrid)*
	Heritage *(in-person participants)*
12:15 to 12:45	Opportunities and commitments
12:45 to 13:00	Conclusion and next steps
	~ lunch ~
13:30	Stay and chat/network *(optional)*

The workshop is generously hosted by **Flinders University,**

and sponsored by **ForestrySA,**

with the auspicing support of **TREENET Incorporated.**

We are on Level 2, (Rooms 2.2 and 2.3)
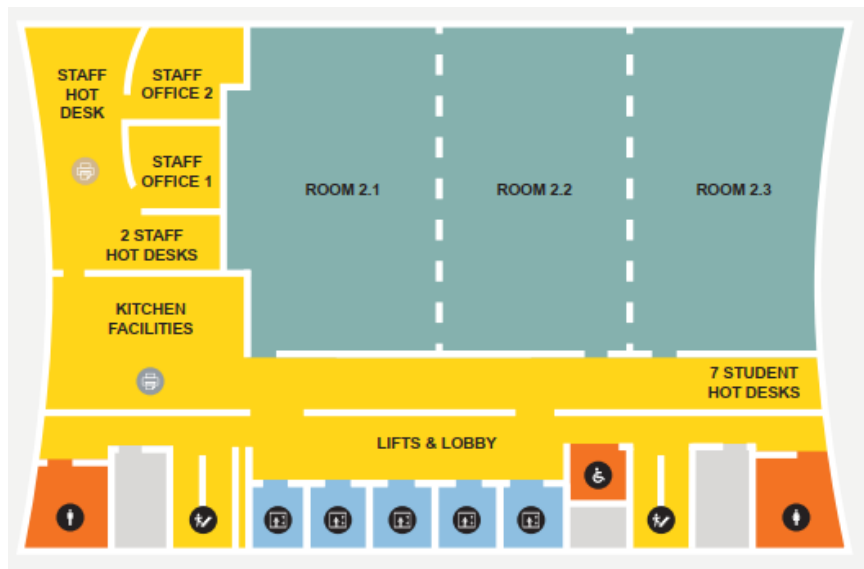
Here's a link to the campus map and parking information,
https://www.flinders.edu.au/campus/victoria-square

The building is accessible via Flinders Street and Victoria Square, with the Concierge Desk being located adjacent the Flinders Street entrance.

The Concierge advises that the parking venues in Gawler Place, (behind The University), and Adelaide Central Markets are close-handy parking options, but that there are a range of other choices.

The tram stops in Victoria Square.
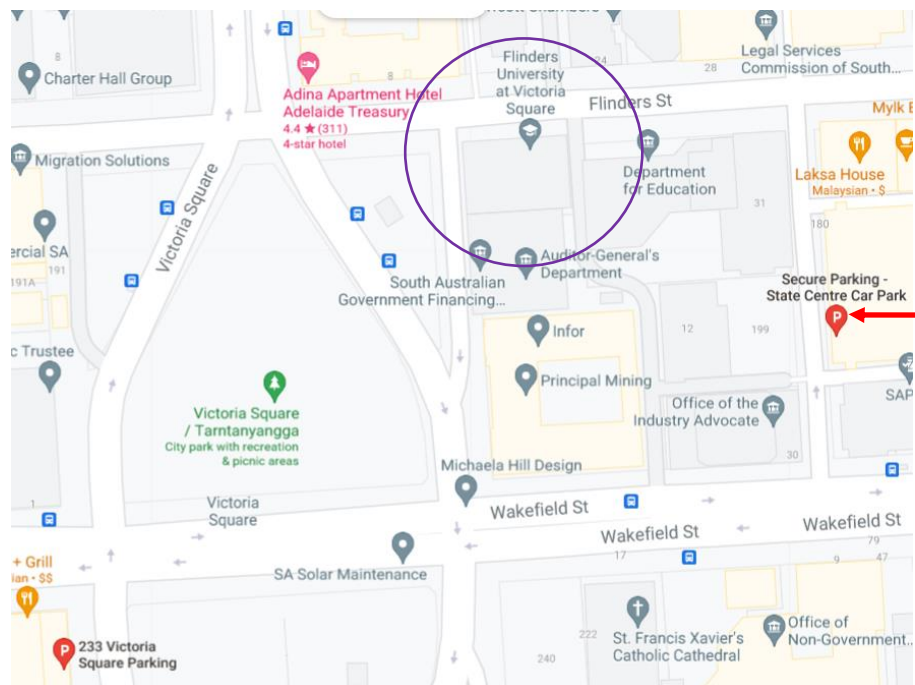
Catering (provided)
- Tea/coffee/bottled water and morning tea will be available in the meeting room.
- Individually-packaged light lunch options: wraps and baguettes, plus fruit skewers.
  * Pre-notified specific dietary requirements will be catered to.

Entity and Project Overview

Celebrating Red Gums is a volunteer-based, grass-roots community initiative, which aims to inspire and enable connection with the past, present and future River Red Gum landscapes and assets of Australia, promoting the vision of wide-spread community appreciation and nurturing of our Red Gum environs.

https://www.facebook.com/CelebratingRedGums

The township of Cavendish, on the banks of the Wannon River in the heart of the Southern Grampians *'Red Gum Country'*, developed and delivered the inaugural *Cavendish Red Gum Festival* in April 2018. The festival is now scheduled biennially.

The Festival represents the first of three projects initially envisioned by the founders of Celebrating Red Gums.

Eco-Arts Red Gum Trail [The Broad Vision]

An immersive, Geographic Information System (GIS) enabled, self-select trail network across the River Red Gum landscapes and assets of Australia.

To be piloted in South Australia, *The Trail* shall employ artistic mediums to showcase, signpost and inspire participation via the creation of an interactive, educational and emotionally-connective self-drive, ride and/or walking trail network encompassing public roads, parks and spaces.

Through the use of technology, innovation and artistic mediums, the project proposes to immerse trail-goers in a journey which intrinsically connects people with the landscape in a way which is meaningful to them. People may be inspired to engage with nature in ways which not only support their physical, mental and spiritual health and wellbeing, but which instil or reawaken a commitment to nurture our landscape and provide for the future.

By way of practical example of a potential trail inclusion:

Via the App., you elect to visit 'Significant Red Gums', in the Mitcham area, and from the available options, you are inspired to be guided to Brown Hill Creek's 'Monarch of the Glen'. At the tree, your iPhone/iPad then takes you on a journey of discovery, depicting the growth of that tree from a seedling to its current age. Through visual storytelling, as the tree matures, the landscape changes accordingly, portraying the Aboriginal and later colonial settler connection with the immediate environs.

A featured link provides access to further information on the history of the area.

You are then invited to photograph 'Monarch of the Glen', caption your experience, and share to a prescribed social media platform.

The Eco-Arts Red Gum Trail

Potential Trail Inclusions – examples of ideas submitted

Received from	Suggestion
Peter Lang (Botanist)	Showcase 'life amongst the leaves', 'life upon the flowers', and 'life beneath the bark'.
Christie Widiarto (Animation Artist)	- Tree data visualization - An installation around RG seeds, and how they are spread
Yandell Walton (Artist)	Projection on to a RG (refer to "Breath", which was commissioned for PITCH Festival at Moyston, Vic). https://www.yandellwalton.com/breath
Paul Fletcher (Soundscapes Artist)	- The Red Gum Wood-wide Web Associations and interactions with soil bacteria, fungi other species, rivers and in turn, even oceans. - Workshops for young children Animating Creature designs they make—in response to being given age appropriate scientific information about the amazing activities and creatures that live under the bark (..even in trees that people consider as "dead") - Starting from Sound— sounds associated with or made by or with Redgums- from "field recordings" contact mics picking up the sound of insects and possibly even water flow within leaves or branches, cracking wood and seed pods, falling branches, lightning strikes- instruments made with red gum - Ive always been fascinated by hearing the fact that River Red Gums can pump up to 500 litres of water a day! - be interesting to imagine/reimagine this further- perhaps also scientifically using measurement /recordings of this as sources of sound or video.
Claire Kennett (Mixed Media Artist)	- Witness Trees (pre-colonial) trees in particular trees that have been felled to allow for progress and development. - Parent:child activity sessions. Ie a printmaking kit that will contain printmaking materials, an information sheet and a short "how to video" (on a QR code) on creating prints from observational drawings of trees, printing of gum leaves and other found objects. - Mainly I have been seeking out large, gnarly gum trees, sitting under the tree and drawing my imagined artist's impression of the cross section of the tree with fine pens, then drawing all the things I can see around me into the tree; grasses, bark, insects, sap, funghi, leaves, gumnuts, water etc. The idea being that all these things are part of the ecosystem of the tree and, in part, represent the biodiverse environment in which this tree is situated. My notations also reflect the weather, time of day and time of year. Additionally, I have been researching eco-dying. This has led me to experiment with a wide range of materials (fallen bark, dried leaves, red cabbage, onion skins, beetroot etc) as handmade dyes that I have used to colour my artworks. I am yet to experiment with soils but this is on the radar. In contrast to this, my neighbour has been supplying me with cut timber. I have been following a process to use this to create relief prints of the tree rings. One type of tree art informs the other. One is a celebration of the beauty of the tree in it's established and natural environment, the other is an observation of the passing of the tree. These artworks will form a major part of my submission for my Master's studies this year and are intentionally designed to challenge community values around trees.

Geoff Bromilow (Sculptor)	Geoff is an arborist who sculpts from the felled timber
Darryl Gobbett (Economist / TREENET Treasurer)	- Historic RG jinker at Burra - Habitat hollows (cameras in hollows – live feed)
Sam Middleton (CRG Founder)	- Red Gum Discovery Centre - Red Gum Boardwalk (amongst a group of trees, potentially on a watercourse, an evening/ night-time experience of sound and light (perhaps a combination of virtual and actual - An animated character, such as a 'dancing twig' as our virtual trail host - A "Heysen's Red Gums" experience - RG historical structures: Langhorne Creek historic RG wine press, heritage RG framed buildings at Hahndorf, Paddlesteamers with RG hulls - "Old friends and new beginnings" – spoken word piece? - Red Gum poetry
Trevor Thomas (RG Heritage Enthusiast)	Photo-point recording These extraordinary images kindly sent in by Trevor Thomas, Tatiara District, S.A. were popular with followers of the Celebrating Red Gums' Facebook Page this month. Showing the changes over time of a canoe tree at Blanchetown (on the Murray River), the 1890 photo of the red gum was published in 'Aboriginal bark canoes of the Murray Valley' by Robert Edwards in 1972. The 1988 and 2015 photos are of Trevor.
Tim Johnson (Sustainable Infrastructure Engineer – Open Space) City of Mitcham	Below is an aerial photo, (1949) which shows the red gum in Jordan Road Melrose Park before construction of the road and many of the shelter/fuel trees on Daws Rd were also red gums (some of which remain). Also note the orchard to the west near where Duncan St is now, much of this area was orchard (see second image).

GIS Database Design Concept (updated Sept 2021)

Asset Categories

1. Environment
   - Significant individual trees
   - Significant groups of trees
   - Wetlands
   - Culturally-significant trees/sites
   - Existing trails/loops
2. Art, Sculpture, Photography, Woodwork, Furniture
   - Galleries and studios
   - Parks & reserves
   - Community assets/displays
3. Historical assets/infrastructure
   - Buildings
   - Boats
   - Railways
   - Museums
   - Other (ie. wharves/jetties, fences, historic red gum wine press)
4. Activities
   - ie. Physical wellbeing activities
   - ie. Mental-health wellbeing activities
   - ie. Creative activities
   - ie. Educational activities
   - ie. Cultural activities

> Phase #1?
>
> Existing Resources & Assets
>
> EOI Process

> Phase #2?
>
> Existing Resources & Assets
>
> + new additions/content

Priorities

1. **First Priority – what data do we essentially need to get this up and running?**
   - Nomination: *Question: does this need to be a link to a separate database which includes the assessment for suitability for inclusion, as detailed at point #2 below??*
     - Name of nominee(s)
     - Organization (if applicable)
     - Organizational role? (if applicable)
     - Contact details of nominee(s) [phone & email]
     - Preferred contact method

   > People register first, then they don't have to fill this in

   - Location of asset/activity site:
     - Coordinates
     - Location descriptor (ie. Portrush Road or South Australian Art Gallery)
     - LGA (ie. Burnside) Q*uestion: can LGA/Catchment/Region/Native Title/Fire Ban District be auto-populated via link with mapping system such as Location SA MapViewer??*
     - Catchment
     - Landscape Management Region (ie. Hills and Fleurieu)
     - Native Title Area
     - Fire Ban District?
     - State
     - Unique identifier

   > GIS will look after all this

- Details of Asset:
  - Category of Asset (per 'Asset Categories' list, enable multiple selection)
    - and also subset of asset (ideally enable multiple selection)
  - Title/name (ie. The Herbig Tree, Sunset on the Gums, Sturt River Walk, Morgan Wharf)
  - Name of artist(s)/creator(s)
  - Date of creation (for assets)
  - Name of "collection" (if the artwork is part of a significant collection)
  - Link to websites or social media sites for further information and/or contact details
  - *Description ie. "A living tree with an aboriginal shield scar, unusual in the Adelaide area. Authentification of the Aboriginal shield scar by David Unaipon, in 1952."*
  - Name and Contact details of current custodian/asset manager
    - Also need to capture 'date contacted' and notes/outcome/follow-up required (as well as date and person/team responsible for any follow-up)
  - For trees, there will be a subset of additional data including: (girth, height, spread, environmental points, age, oxygen output, carbon dioxide absorption, shade provided)
  - Images
    - Also notes/captions regarding the images, ie. description, date, source

- Details of Activity:
  - Category of activity (per 'Activity Categories' list, enable multiple selection)
  - Title of activity
  - Description of activity
  - Facilitated / self-discovery
    - Facilitated: link to website/App
    - Self-discovery: link to website/App (if there is one to support this experience. ie. self-guided meditation in the landscape)
  - Duration of activity (if applicable)
  - Age-specific appeal/design
    - ie. Early learning / pre-school
    - ie. Children – Primary school age?
    - ie. Early teenage – Secondary school age?
    - ie. Adults
    - ie. Family / groups
  - Fitness level required (if applicable) *(need to determine fitness sub-categories)*
    - ie. gentle exercise
    - ie. medium-level exercise
    -
  - Image / video (promotion) of activity
  - Free /cost

- Access
  - Sited on Private Land or Public Land
  - Vehicle/Bicycle/Walking/Horse/Shared Use (need to be able to select multiples)
  - Specific access points
  - Wheelchair access

- o Pram-friendly?
- o Distance and estimated time (for existing trail walks/loops)
- o Topographical considerations
  Question: are there standardized descriptors? ie. easy, moderate
- o Trail surface
  Question: are there standardized descriptors? ie. gravel, sealed
- o Restricted or Unrestricted
  - then subsets of restrictions, ie. Park/gallery opening days/times/admission fee [yes/no], total fire ban day closures
- o "Private Tree" [Yes/No] *(meaning that the Custodian does/doesn't want location disclosed publicly)*
- o Dogs on leash allowed [Yes/No]

2. Secondary necessary considerations
- Assessment for suitability for inclusion in the trail (linked to "nomination")
  - o By whom (could be a team ie. "environment team", or an individual)
  - o Date of assessment [date field]
  - o Health of asset (for living assets; may link to an existing tree management system such as the Forestree data, or alternatively, 'Status' (subsets yet to be determined) plus 'determined by' [name field]… & [date]
  - o Risk Assessment (with subsets – yet to be determined ie. environmental sensitivity, neighboring biosecurity, exclusion zone, safe access/egress)
  - o Neighboring landholder consultation (required? name, date, name of officer, notes/link to written agreement)
  - o Agreement with LGA (similar fields to above)
  - o Included / excluded from The Trail [tick box] + [date field], and reason [text field]
  - o Due for review [date field]

- Integration with artistic mediums and sensory explorations to "deliver the experience". *Question: how do we build in the "triggers"?*
  - o Video (including live feed)
  - o Audio
  - o Physical installations
  - o Links to Apps / sites (for educational information ie. Historical/cultural/artistic)

- Signage
  - o Coordinates
  - o Category (to be determined. ie. QR code, map)
  - o Responsible authority
  - o Image of sign (for the database record)

3. **Complementary considerations**
   - Amenities
     - Public Toilets
     - Parking
       - plus Horse float parking
       - plus Caravan parking
     - BBQ's
     - Shelters
     - Access to drinking water
     - Nearby camping
     - Horse Yards

   - Landscape Features
     - Scenic lookouts / long distance views
     - Heritage/historical sites
     - Cultural sites
     - Relevant monuments

   - Safety/Emergency
     - Medical/fire/police emergency (000)
     - Links to emergency broadcast sites
     - Emergency Evacuation sites /places of last resort / shelters
     - National Parks Duty Ranger contact info
     - SA Water Duty Ranger contact info
     - Forestry SA Duty Ranger contact info
     - Help for Wildlife contact ingo
     - Council (LGA land) contact info
     - Hazard warnings
     - Appropriate Trail Behaviour

   - Feedback from Trail Users
     - Site ranking (five-star system of feedback from site users)
     - Trail ranking (five-star system of feedback from site users)
     - Ability to comment?

   - Collection of Trail Use data
     Question: how do we collect data on numbers of Trail Users?

4. **What's the "wish list"?**

   - Identification and nomination process for Red Gums to the National Trust Register of Significant Trees
   - Links to neighboring attractions (website/app links)

Three business names have been registered with ASIC

- Celebrating Red Gums
- Eco-Arts Red Gum Trail
- Red Gum Trail

Website (under development)
Domain shall be a ".org"

See you on Monday!

Sam Middleton

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"Ancient trees are precious.
There is little else on Earth
that plays host to such a
rich community of life within
a single living organism."

— *Sir David Attenborough*