

Trees in a Changing Environment

Arboricultural Association, Exeter 2018

Trees in a Changing Environment - introduction

What I'm going to talk about:

- The right tree for the right place
- The changing urban environment
- Who decides urban direction
- Tree Risk
- Urban ecology (trees), and
- What we do to our trees

The right tree for the right place

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• As a concept, selecting the right tree for the right place is completely valid

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The right tree for the right place

 As a concept, selecting the right tree for the right place is completely valid at the time of planting, but what happens <u>if</u> the right place changes?



The Wooing Tree – Cromwell. NZ

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The changing urban environment

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The changing urban environment

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- Greening our cities might be thought of as the archetypal urban sustainability solution



Dunedin. New Zealand

The changing urban environment

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The changing urban environment

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- Climate change the biggest environmental challenge of our time...

The changing urban environment

- The dynamic nature of urban areas threaten the survival of trees and/or undermine their delivery of key benefits to society
- Climate change the biggest environmental challenge of our time...
- The right tree for the right place..., not <u>if</u> but <u>when</u> the right place changes?

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Who decides urban direction?

• We do



Canopy and Stars, UK. Internet image

Who decides urban direction?

• We do, or more correctly... those that vote do



Parking campaigners, UK. Internet image

- We do, or more correctly... those that vote do
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- The typical mean life expectancy of a street tree is
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- We do, or more correctly... those that vote do
- The Local government system uses democratically elected individuals (Councillor's) to undertake decision-making on behalf of their community
- The typical mean life expectancy of a street tree is 19 - 28 years, or between 5 to 8 election cycles

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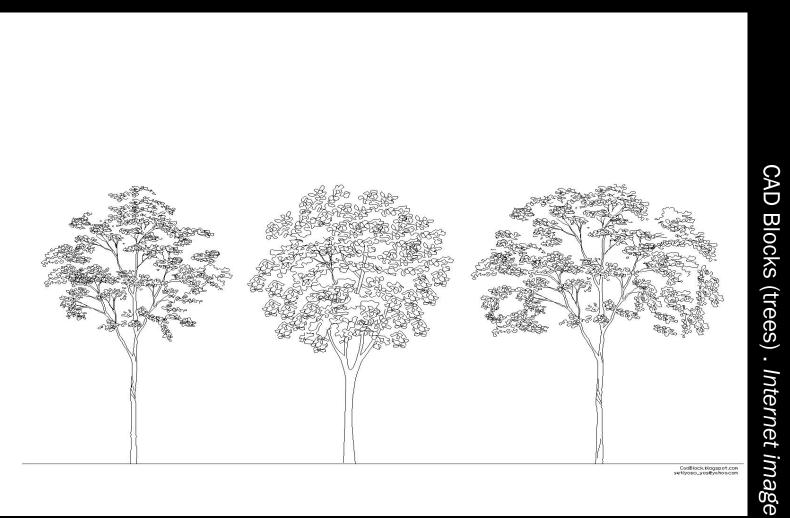
Tree risk

 Pruning standards focus on natural target pruning techniques, and set out pruning practices and procedures intended to reduce the risk or premature death of the individual tree



Tree risk

- Pruning standards focus on natural target pruning techniques, and set out pruning practices and procedures intended to reduce the risk or premature death of the individual tree
- Pruning standards are used to retain and/or recreate a natural form and appearance of a tree







Dunedin, New Zealand



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Dunedin, New Zealand





Dunedin, New Zealand



Dunedin, New Zealand



Sydney, Australia



Dunedin - New Zealand





Dunedin – New Zealand



The red woods - Dunedin



Internet image – Beech forest



Internet image – Sydney, Australia



Internet image – Beech forest







Street tree planting - Chicago. I



Street tree planting - Chicago. I



Street tree planting - Chicago. II





Wanaka, New Zealand

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What we do to our trees

• We know that trees are great survivors



Dunedin - New Zealand



Trees in a Changing Environment - What we do to our trees

Cromwell – New Zealand



Christchurch. New Zealand



Temple tree, Seoul



Trees in a Changing Environment

- What we do to our trees



What we do to our trees

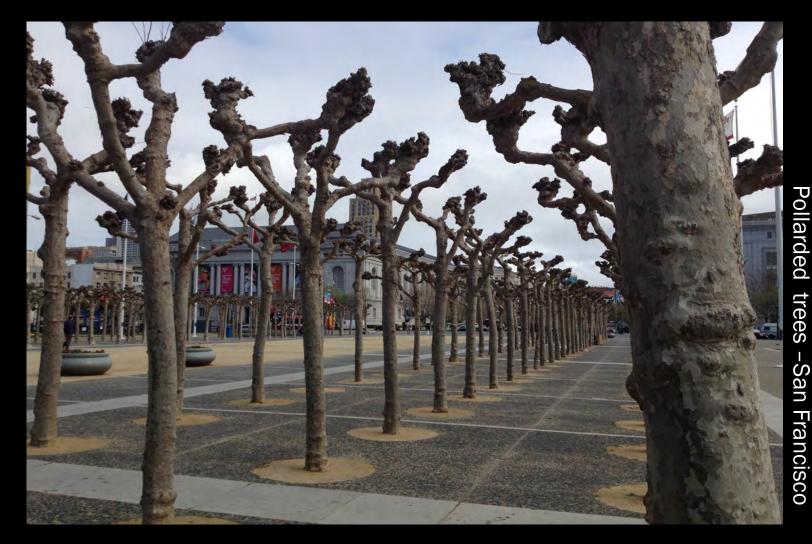
- We know that trees are great survivors
- We know that we are <u>not</u> actually 'recreating the natural form and appearance' of a tree

What we do to our trees

- We know that trees are great survivors
- We know that we are <u>not</u> actually 'recreating the natural form and appearance' of a tree
- We know that trees are amazingly resilient

















Topiary – Internet image

"Change is the only constant" [Heraclitus; c 535 - 475 BC]

Change is the only constant

• We need to apply what we actually know

Change is the only constant

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- The right place is very, very unlikely to remain the right place for the entire life of our trees

Change is the only constant

- We need to apply what we actually know
- The right place is very, very unlikely to remain the right place for the entire life of our trees
- For a tree to survive it must be able to be manipulated as the site that it grows in changes around

Change is the only constant

• We know that we can manipulated trees

Change is the only constant

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Change is the only constant

- We know that we can manipulated trees
- We know that trees are great survivors
- We know that we are not actually 'recreating the natural form and appearance' of a tree

Trees are amazingly resilient and those that manage them must become equally as resilient

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