



THE 55<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL AMENITY ARBORICULTURE CONFERENCE

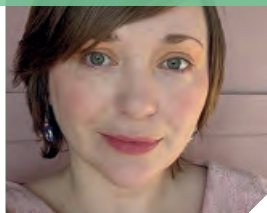
# WHAT IS A TREE?

Loughborough University, Leicestershire, **4-7 September 2022**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



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# WELCOME

## TO THE 2022 ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE HERE AT LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY

John Parker, Chief Executive Officer, Arboricultural Association



Hello, and welcome to the Arboricultural Association Amenity Conference 2022! Speaking on behalf of the whole team at the Association we are delighted to finally be able to see everyone here at Loughborough University, together at an in-person Conference for the first time since 2019.

Part of the intention of Conference 2022 is to celebrate all being in the same place rather than relying on technology to communicate. You will notice from the programme that we have extended the idea of workshops – which in previous conferences have featured on the Wednesday afternoon – to happen each day. This sort of immersive experience, sharing knowledge and ideas with friends and colleagues and working with some of the foremost experts in their field, is very difficult to replicate online. The same goes for the social aspect of Conference – and we hope you will take full advantage of this opportunity to have fun with friends old and new.

The theme of Conference 2022 – **What is a tree?** – was inspired by Ted Green. Over the four days of the event, in which Ted himself will feature prominently, we will start to explore this fascinating question, considering trees from a multitude of angles. Will we find any answers? Maybe a few, but we will certainly not have fully addressed the question by the time we all head home on Wednesday. The idea is that this is the start of a discussion, of a conversation, which will run on for years and decades after this Conference has come to an end.

Events like this do not just happen by themselves – they are the product of a huge amount of work. My colleagues at the Association have been working tirelessly to make this event a success, all of them

contributing in different ways. Many of them will be present at Conference to keep things ticking over, and I would encourage you to seek them out and say hello. Thanks also to our volunteers and Trustees for their support, and of course to all of our speakers. Some have travelled a very long way to be with us, and some have waited three years to deliver these presentations.

Finally, of course, thank you to everyone who has bought a ticket and made the journey to Loughborough. We are extremely grateful to you all. As ever, we would love to hear any thoughts or comments you might have – particularly about Conference itself, and what changes you think we should consider in future years. I look forward to speaking to as many of you as possible.

Have a great Conference.

## WHAT IS A TREE?

### PRESENTATIONS AND RECORDINGS

Conference speaker sessions, where possible, will be recorded and made available to delegates as soon as possible after the event.

An archive of previous conference presentations dating back to 2015 is available for all to view now on the Arboricultural Association website, Trees & Society Online is available to buy on-demand any time.

[www.trees.org.uk/Training](http://www.trees.org.uk/Training)



## Arboricultural Association Conference 2023

Want to know what's planned for next year?

The official announcement of the date, theme and venue for the 56<sup>th</sup> annual amenity arboriculture conference will be made by December 2022. All delegates will receive the announcement bulletin and priority booking when it goes live.



# DELEGATE INFORMATION

## Loughborough University

Here's everything you need to know about finding your way around the campus and all the particulars. On the following pages, you'll find a campus map and a plan of Holywell Park, where speaker sessions and trade exhibition will be held.

More comprehensive details can be found in your joining instructions.

### Car Parking arrangements

#### Day delegates

**For all day delegates:** there is ample free parking opposite Holywell Centre and there are five accessible parking spaces next to the entrance bridge to Holywell Park.

#### Residential delegates at Claudia Parsons Halls

There is limited parking outside the halls, therefore delegates are asked to use these spaces for luggage drop off only, and to then park for the duration of the conference at Holywell Park car park. If you have mobility requirements, please see a member of the AA events team and we will make arrangements. On-campus signage will be provided to guide you to and from the car parks, **Holywell Park** (conference and all meals) **Edward Herbert Buildings** (social) and the **Claudia Parsons Halls** (accommodation).

### Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Conference Registration

Registration for the Lecture Conference will take place in the main foyer, at the Association Registration Desk. All delegates must sign in here and collect their conference bag and badge, before attending any sessions. Lectures will take place in the **Stephenson Lecture Theatre**.

- **Monday:** 08:00 – 08:30
- **Tuesday:** 08:00 – 08:30 (if not already registered)
- **Wednesday:** 08:00 – 08:30 (if not already registered)

### Trade Exhibitions

The Trade Exhibitions will take place throughout Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in **The Babbage Room**, where refreshments, buffet lunch and Monday's wine reception will be served.

### Internet Access on Campus

The same free Wi-Fi network will work across Holywell Park Conference Centre, Edward Herbert Building bar and Claudia Parsons Halls accommodation. Log-in information will be available on arrival.

### Accommodation

Room keys will be available from 08:00–00:00 each day, from the Claudia Parsons Hub. If you are planning to arrive after midnight, please email [events@trees.org.uk](mailto:events@trees.org.uk) so that we can get your keys in advance.

**Rooms must be vacated by 18:00 on your day of departure. Keys should be left at the Hub.**

### Food and Drink

**Sunday and Monday dinner and all breakfasts** will be provided in the restaurant at Holywell Park Centre. Service times are as follows:

- **Evening Dinner:** Sunday and Monday 18:30 – 19:30
- **Breakfast:** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 07:00 – 08:30;



- **All Lunches/Wine Reception:** Daytime refreshments and the wine reception on Monday evening will be served in The Babbage exhibition hub at Holywell Park. For lunch and break times, please refer to the conference programme.
- **Tuesday BBQ:** Will be held in The Turing and garden from 18:30.
- **Bars:** There is a bottle bar on the first floor in Holywell Park, open during dinner service and Tuesday's BBQ. The Edward Herbert Bar serving a range of beers, cider and spirits will be open until late in the evening. The bars will accept cards and cash, but card payment is preferred and will minimise queues! Please display your conference badge to gain access to all premises.

If you have any special dietary requirements, please ensure that we have been notified at [events@trees.org.uk](mailto:events@trees.org.uk).

### Disability Services

Holywell Park has level entries and lift access to first floor restaurant and meeting spaces.

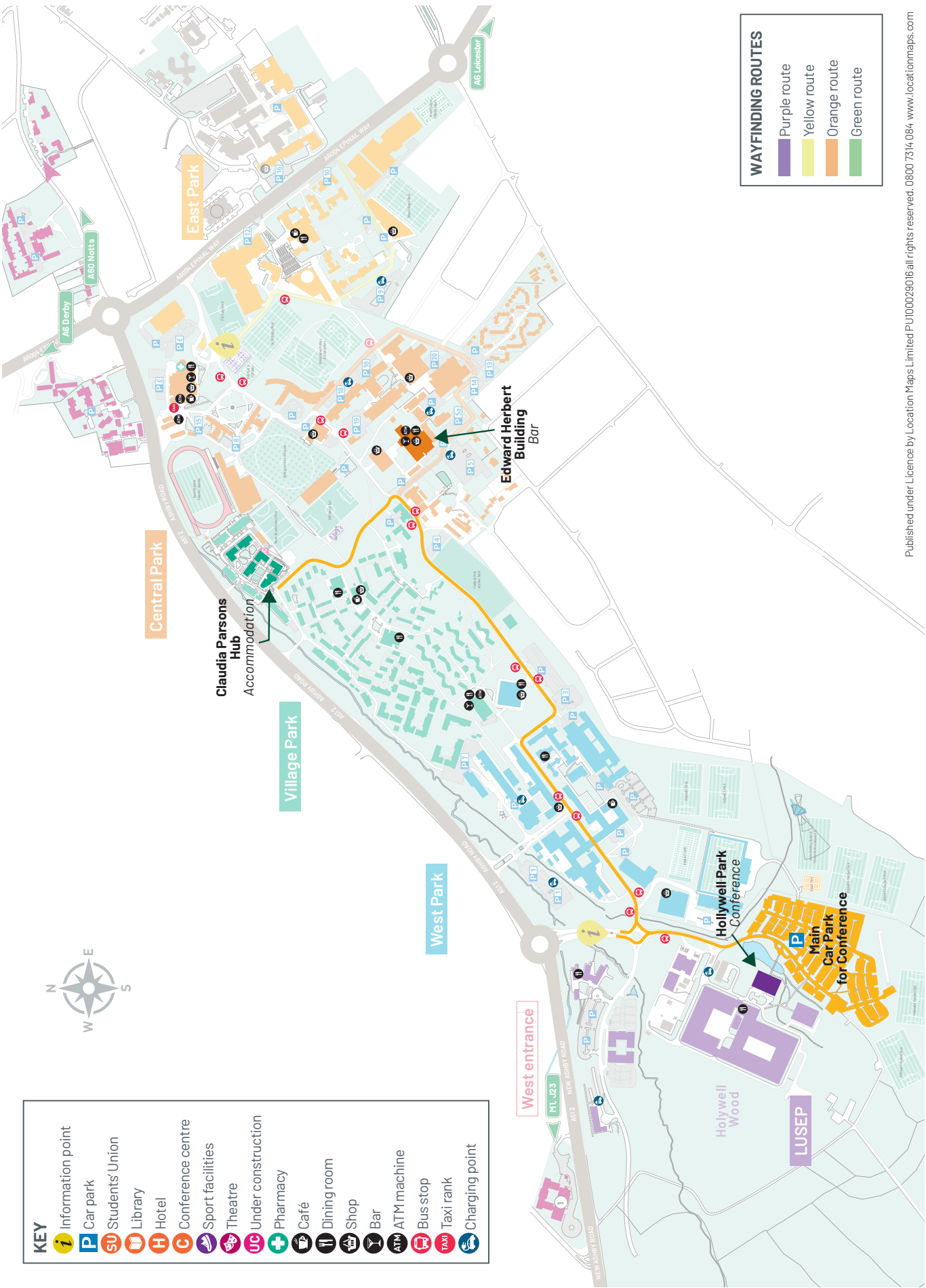
### Business Facilities

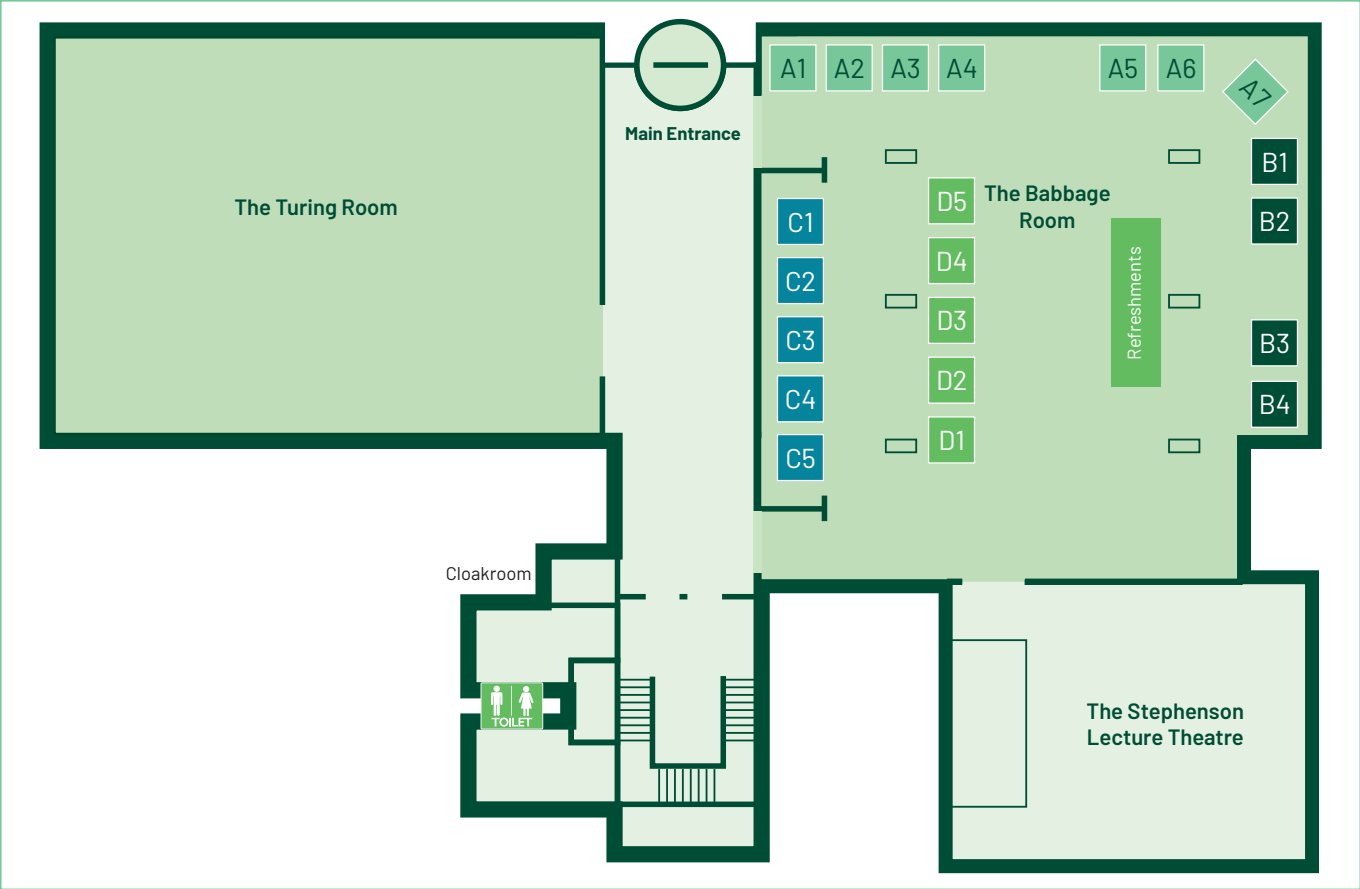
Business services are available at Holywell Park - please ask a member of staff at the reception desk.

### Onsite contact

If you need any assistance throughout the event, please contact a member of AA staff onsite or call/text **07512 720541**.

## Campus Map





**PLOT A1**  
**OTISS**  
Paul Moran  
[www.intrinsica.co.uk](http://www.intrinsica.co.uk)

The Arboricultural Consultants job of surveying trees, collecting data and preparing Tree Survey and BS5837 reports is made more efficient and cost effective when using the OTISS website, maps and reporting facilities together with the Android survey apps.



**PLANIT GEO**  
mapping a greener future

**PLOT A3**  
**PlanIT Geo**  
Justine Petrocchi  
[planitgeo.com](http://planitgeo.com)

The TreePlotter™ software suite by PlanIT Geo™ sets the standard for tree inventory, ground maintenance, urban parks, and asset management worldwide. Products include INVENTORY, PARKS, CANOPY, and the Development Survey module, based on BS583.



**PLOT A5**  
**Tree Life Arboricultural Training Limited**  
Keely Dowson  
[www.treelifeac.co.uk](http://www.treelifeac.co.uk)



**PLOT A6**  
**Pear Technology Services Ltd**  
Jonathan Smith  
[www.peartechtechnology.co.uk](http://www.peartechtechnology.co.uk)

Tree survey, mapping and management software and hardware. Demonstrations and trials of the latest equipment, survey templates and mapping/GIS software.



**PLOT A2**  
**Ruskins Trees and Landscapes**  
Robert Wilkins  
[www.ruskins.co.uk](http://www.ruskins.co.uk)



**PLOT A4**  
**Green Grid Systems**  
Lewis Holmes  
[www.greengridsystems.com](http://www.greengridsystems.com)

Green Grid Systems offer a comprehensive solution for the ongoing preservation of trees. Our RootBridge system helps integrate existing trees into new projects by protecting the sensitive tree roots and providing a support layer for a surface finish.



**PLOT A7**  
**Barcham Trees plc**  
David Johnson  
[www.barcham.co.uk](http://www.barcham.co.uk)



**PLOT B1**  
**Greenfix**  
Laura Collins  
[www.greenfix.co.uk](http://www.greenfix.co.uk)

Greenfix is the leading designer and supplier of soil stabilisation and erosion control systems in the UK. Greenfix is the UK stockist of the Presto Geoweb® cellular confinement system, used extensively for tree root protection.



**PLOT B2**  
**Arborcheck**  
Paul Davis  
[www.hansatech-instruments.com](http://www.hansatech-instruments.com)

Arborcheck chlorophyll fluorescence system for fast, effective assessment of tree vitality and stress using research-proven analysis techniques.



**PLOTS B3&4**  
**Arbortrack Systems Ltd**  
Quentin Nicholls  
[www.arbortrack.com](http://www.arbortrack.com)

Arbortrack tree management software and ArborFlight aerial tree surveying.



**PLOT C1**  
**Mole Group**  
Lisa Furlong  
[molegroup.co.uk](http://molegroup.co.uk)

How to install utilities under TPOs without damaging the tree or excavating. A TPO need not mean a project can't go ahead, and all projects need trees! Our directional drilling methods are the answer.



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**Perennial**

**PLOT C2**  
**Perennial**  
Phil Swainston  
[perennial.org.uk](http://perennial.org.uk)



**Arboricultural ASSOCIATION**  
[trees.org.uk](http://trees.org.uk)

**PLOT C3**  
**Arboricultural Association**  
Event Staff  
[trees.org.uk](http://trees.org.uk)



**PLOT C4**  
**A.M. Lane Ltd**  
Tony Lane  
[amlane.co.uk](http://amlane.co.uk)



**PLOT C5**  
**BeesMax**  
Mark Gale  
[www.beesmax.org](http://www.beesmax.org)

BeesMAX conservation project requests Arborists allow us to collect from anywhere in England, short sections of tree (previously lowered to the ground) with their wild honeybee nest still intact inside the log. Saving the will gene stock is top priority.



**PLOT D1**  
**Tree Diagnostics**  
Sue Barnes  
[www.treediagnostics.co.uk](http://www.treediagnostics.co.uk)

Advanced Tree Assessors, Equipment & Trainers. Importer of Fakopp Enterprises Equipment:- Sonic and Electronic Tomography - 'Arborsonic and ArborElectro', 'Microsecond Timer' Static and Dynamic Tree stability testing - 'Tree Pulls', 'Dynaroot' and 'Dynatree'. Specialist Contract service available throughout the UK.



**PLOT D2**  
**Sorbus International Limited**  
Thomas Wade  
[www.sorbus-intl.co.uk](http://www.sorbus-intl.co.uk)

Sorbus are the leading suppliers in traditional and Hi-Tech equipment for wood decay detection and survey work. This includes the IML range of microdrills and fractometers; PICUS sonic tomography, Tree Tronic ERT and Tree motion sensors. Sorbus also provide a wide range of Biosecruti and Tree care treatments such as the Avengelus Trichoderma range and BITE infusion kits.



**PLOT D3**  
**KBI UK Ltd**  
Graham Pell  
[www.kbiuk.co.uk](http://www.kbiuk.co.uk)

Display of our Flexipave porous surfacing products, including samples of the material and a small demonstrating tank showing how the water passes through material.








**PLOTS D4&5**  
**ezytreev**  
Zhanna Troshina  
[www.ra-is.co.uk](http://www.ra-is.co.uk)

EZYTREEV: Tree, TPO and asset management system A fully-comprehensive solution designed to manage trees and woodlands from storing both current and historic data, all inspections and works, to offering support for conducting surveys and risk calculations, through to work order scheduling and tracking, budgeting, contractor management and processing enquiries.



Monday 5 September morning session

08:00-08:30	Registration	
08:30-08:40		<b>WELCOME</b> Michelle Ryan (Session Chair) introduction
08:40-09:10		<b>TED GREEN</b> The Tree Ecologist
09:10-09:40		<b>STEFANIA GASPERINI</b> Veteran trees: from technical to ethical arboriculture
09:40-10:10		<b>NEVILLE FAY</b> Rethinking the tree from the ground up – a philosophical approach
10:10-10:40		<b>GEOFF MONCK</b> The importance of the microbiome to tree resilience to pests, pathogens and environmental stresses and the key role its deterioration plays in tree decline
10:40-11:00	Questions	
11:00-11:40	Break	



Scan here to view full biographies for each speaker or visit [www.trees.org.uk/ConferenceSpeakers](http://www.trees.org.uk/ConferenceSpeakers)

Workshops

Immediately after lunch each day there will be a panel session in the main auditorium. The themes will be **tree ecology** (Monday), **international tree protection** (Tuesday) and **green inequity** (Wednesday). These sessions will be around 45 minutes long. There will then be a refreshment break, after which delegates will have a choice of workshops to join – the full selection is listed on page 32, but each day one of the options available will be to return to the auditorium for an in-depth discussion session with the panel.

Monday 5 September afternoon session

11:40-11:45		<b>WELCOME</b> Sharon Durdant-Hollamby (Session Chair) introduction
11:45-11:55	SPEED BRIEFING	
11:55-12:25		<b>LORIEN NESBITT</b> Holistic environmental justice for equitable urban forestry
12:25-12:55		<b>JESSICA QUINTON</b> Wealthy, educated and... non-millennial? Inequitable patterns of proximity to urban vegetation in 31 Canadian cities
12:55-13:25		<b>NANAMHLA GWEDLA</b> The legacy of colonial and apartheid eras on the distribution, composition and representation of street trees in South Africa
13:25-13:45	Questions	
13:45-15:00	Lunch	
15:00-15:45	<b>TREE ECOLOGY</b>  with Ted Green, Jill Butler, Neville Fay, Kevin Frediani, Geoff Monck and Lynne Boddy	
15:45-16:15	Break	
16:15-17:15	<b>WORKSHOPS</b>  Panel discussion, further in-depth Q&A with the tree ecology panel Writing a tree strategy with Rob Northrop and Howell Davies The Major Oak Gallery Tour with Reg Harris Tree planting: More than just numbers with Keith Sacre and Kenton Rogers Research project: Noise in decision making with Jennifer Murray	
17:15	CLOSE	

Please note that speakers, times and content may change due to unforeseen circumstances.



Tuesday 6 September morning session

08:00-08:30	Registration	
08:30-08:40		<b>WELCOME</b> Cecil Konijnendijk (Session Chair) introduction
08:40-09:10		<b>JOHN GATHRIGHT</b> Discovering the true value of trees: creating social heroes and better businesses
09:10-09:40		<b>KEVIN FREDIANI</b> Towards an innovative pedagogy of Tree Ecology
09:40-10:10		<b>NAOMI ZÜRCHER</b> Grow a tree, grow a society: lessons from the forest
10:10-10:40		<b>MARK ROBERTS</b> Outrage management: the art of de-catastrophising
10:40-11:00	Questions	
11:00-11:40	Break	
11:40-11:45		<b>WELCOME</b> Henry Kuppen (Session Chair) introduction
11:45-11:55	SPEED BRIEFING	
11:55-12:25		<b>MARK BAYS</b> Oklahoma City's Survivor Tree
12:25-12:55		<b>PAUL MANDIBONDIBO</b> The role of trees in belief, culture and tradition in Biak, Papua

Tuesday 6 September afternoon session

12:55-13:25		<b>JILL BUTLER</b> What is a tree? A tree is an historical document
13:25-13:45	Questions	
13:45-15:00	Lunch	
15:00-15:45	<b>TREE PROTECTION AROUND THE WORLD</b>  including Paul Mandibondibo, Kamil Witkos-Gnach, Cathy Watson, Mark Roberts, John Gathright and Emma Gilmartin	
15:45-16:15	Break	
16:15-17:15	<b>WORKSHOPS</b>  <b>Panel discussion</b> , further in-depth Q&A with the tree protection around the world panel <b>Tree morphology walking tour</b> with Stefania Gasperini and Giovanni Morelli <b>The Major Oak Gallery Tour</b> with Reg Harris <b>Tree planting: More than just numbers</b> with Keith Sacre and Kenton Rogers <b>Research project: Noise in decision making</b> with Jennifer Murray	
17:15	CLOSE	

Please note that speakers, times and content may change due to unforeseen circumstances.



### Tuesday social evening events




**From 18:30**  
(Turing room and garden)

To celebrate the return to in-person conferences, we'll be hosting a special **Tuesday Barbecue** dinner in the Turing room and garden. This starts at 18:30 and includes the traditional **tree planting ceremony**, continuing the tree planting legacy of Henry Girling, as well as the presentation of three annual awards; the 2022 Arboricultural Association Award, Best Student of the Year (sponsored by Tree Life) and Young Arboricultural Professional of the Year (Sponsored by Nicholsons Lockhart Garratt).





Wednesday 7 September morning session

08:00-08:30	Registration	
08:30-08:40		<b>WELCOME</b> Emma Gilmartin (Session Chair) introduction
08:40-09:10		<b>LYNNE BODDY</b> A tree is never just a tree
09:10-09:40		<b>SURESH RAMANAN</b> Indian farmer's perception of trees
09:40-10:10		<b>FRANCESCO FERRINI</b> How do trees respond to environmental stress? Biochemical and physiological aspects of urban trees' tolerance to climate extremes
10:10-10:40		<b>KAMIL WITKOS-GNACH</b> Trees of Białowieża Forest – a place where they can grow and die freely?
10:40-11:00	Questions	
11:00-11:40	Break	



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Wednesday 7 September afternoon session

11:40-11:45		<b>WELCOME</b> John Parker (Session Chair) introduction
11:45-11:55	<b>SPEED BRIEFING</b>	
11:55-12:25		<b>HOWELL DAVIES</b> The development of the urban Ngahere Strategy for Auckland, New Zealand
12:25-12:55		<b>TAHIA DEVISSCHER</b> Urban forests in Latin America: opportunities and challenges
12:55-13:25		<b>ROB NORTHROP</b> What is a tree? A tale of three cities
13:25-13:45	Questions	
13:45-15:00	Lunch	
15:00-15:45	<b>GREEN INEQUITY</b>  with Nanamhla Gwedla and Lorien Nesbitt	
15:45-16:15	Break	
16:15-17:15	<b>WORKSHOPS</b>  <b>Panel discussion</b> , further in-depth Q&A with the green equity panel <b>Writing a tree strategy</b> with Rob Northrop and Howell Davies <b>The Major Oak Gallery Tour</b> with Reg Harris <b>Tree planting: More than just numbers</b> with Keith Sacre and Kenton Rogers <b>Research project: Noise in decision making</b> with Jennifer Murray	
17:15	<b>CLOSE</b>	

Please note that speakers, times and content may change due to unforeseen circumstances.















Monday Presentations



**MICHELLE RYAN**  
(United Kingdom)

Session chair

Michelle Ryan is Senior Engineering Leader (Arboriculture & Landscape) at Transport for London (TfL) and Chair of Trustees for the Arboricultural Association. As strategic lead for the TfL Arboriculture and Landscape team, she has been involved in providing advice and managing projects across the organisation, including on the constraints and opportunities associated with tree planting and green infrastructure in an urban context. Michelle was also the first chair of the Women in Arboriculture working group and is passionate about addressing the issue of succession facing the industry as well as encouraging more women into arboriculture, to raise its profile among the next generation.



**TED GREEN MBE** (United Kingdom)  
**The Tree Ecologist**

Founder member and President of the **Ancient Tree Forum** and Honorary Vice President of the **International Tree Foundation**. I was awarded an MBE in recognition of my work in conservation especially trees and fungi. I was awarded an honorary lectureship by Imperial College, University of London for my outstanding contribution as a technician to science and education. I was given the Arboricultural Association Annual Award for my services to arboriculture.

MONDAY
08:40
09:10

**STEFANIA GASPERINI** (Italy)

**Veteran trees: from technical to ethical arboriculture**

Man's relationship to nature has changed in the short turn of a few thousand years. In the past, direct dependence on the environment, whether more or less "wild" (hunting/harvesting) or "domesticated" (breeding/agriculture), required knowledge based on the understanding of rules and needs which, even if modified, govern the life of both plants and animals. Of this today very little remains; deprived of daily relevance, such knowledge and skills are now lost or in fact relegated to a residual folkloric marginality.

From a cultural point of view, however, it is a process dominated by anthropocentrism. For centuries man has placed himself at the centre of creation; the animal and plant worlds, considered intrinsically "inferior" were therefore subservient to the well-being of humanity.

More recently, tree conservation is justified through ecosystem services. These services, however, are translated into a universal language through their monetisation; the maintenance and protection of the tree are justified only to the extent that they allow a direct or indirect "gain" for the human community. In an industry in which the technical knowledge necessary for the good management of trees is now available, it is now necessary to take an ethical step: to give dignity to the trees and to ensure compliance with and respect for them, regardless of their

MONDAY
09:10
09:40



relationship with humans.

In recent years, in Italy, attempts have been made to restore an equal relationship between trees and humans in anthropized contexts, based on the adoption of decalogues for the protection of trees inspired by the principle of contracting: tree specimens are welcomed in cities because of the ecological, environmental, aesthetic, compositional and cultural benefits that they ensure. In return, they are guaranteed inalienable rights. One of the most effective applications of this approach allows limits, opportunities and exceptions to be established during tree stability assessment campaigns by educating citizens to live together with what we call "acceptable minimum risk." The authors will present experiences that affirm the development of decalogues created in Italy.



**NEVILLE FAY** (United Kingdom)

**Rethinking the tree from the ground up – a philosophical approach**

How we learn about trees, as objects with discrete boundaries or as indeterminate organisms determines our tree science, language and management. The life of the tree is imbued with bacterial and fungal diversity, including its below-ground microbial soil system. Concepts of evolutionary fitness due to competitive advantage or due to symbiosis through mutual cohabitation, influences discourse on the nature of trees, their aging and

survival to ancientness. At a microbial level, the incorporation of ancestral bacteria into larger nucleated host cells, marked a revolutionary innovation – mitochondria and chloroplasts – that exponentially changed species complexity and the evolution of the green plant. Whether we experience Nature as integral to or separate from us, influences our understanding of trees. Are they objects within the environment or agents that influence their environment?

MONDAY
09:40
10:10

*Neville Fay continued...*

Although the invisible root system is where the tree's symbiotic arrangements principally function, modern arboriculture commonly relies on above-ground symptoms of ill-health in trees that suggests pathogenic involvement. This is despite cumulative environmental effects from pollution and other damage to soil health that impacts upon tree resilience. The search for causative pathogens is important but should not distract from a science of complex conditions that predispose ill-

health in trees and disorders of our making. Despite our relative evolutionary youth, we are symbiotically connected to trees in a way that binds our destinies. If we are set apart from Nature, our science and management of trees will have mutual existential consequences. Perhaps the greatest challenge is to experience the true nature of a tree, as Dylan Thomas's green fuse that drives the flower. Is this the place from which we ask the question – 'what is a tree?'

**GEOFF MONCK**  
(United Kingdom)

**The importance of the microbiome to tree resilience to pests, pathogens and environmental stresses and the key role its deterioration plays in tree decline**

All parts of the tree, above and below ground, internal and external, and including the soil immediately around the roots, are colonised by fungi, bacteria and protists. This microbial community is called the tree's microbiome. The tree together with its microbiome is called a holobiont. It operates both as a superorganism, and within the context of its wider environment, as just one component in an even larger, inter-connected superorganism.

Holobiont microbiome composition is strongly influenced by that of the wider soil microbiome and by air and soil borne pollutants. The tree's microbiome has significant influence upon proper tree function, including immune and growth processes, and acquisition of water and nutrients.

This presentation will discuss the implications of changes in the tree and soil microbiome, particularly in reference to tree declines, as well as the seemingly exponential increase in the list of microbial tree pathogens of concern,

MONDAY
10:10
10:40



and their generally increased prevalence and impact globally. Finally, I will discuss the tools we currently have at our disposal for positively manipulating the holobiont microbiome with a view to increasing tree resilience.

Parts of the presentation draw upon work presented during a previous webinar given for the Ancient Tree Forum: 'A hypothesis of oak decline'. The theoretical and evidential basis for this work is explained in more detail in the webinar, which you may want to watch prior to the presentation. The webinar can be found online at: <https://www.ancienttreeforum.org.uk/news-blog/news/recording-now-available-atf-autumn-forum-2021-a-hypothesis-of-oak-decline-3-11-21/>

**LORIEN NESBITT** (Canada)

**Holistic environmental justice for equitable urban forestry**

Urban forestry has seen increasing interest in environmental justice in recent years, with urban forestry researchers conducting urban green equity analyses and practitioners including environmental justice considerations in urban forestry policy, planning and management approaches. Distributive issues, such as who has access to urban forests, have gained particular attention, with many cities targeting low-canopy and marginalized neighbourhoods for increased investment and greening. Recognition and procedural justice have also received attention, although there is less clarity on how to action

MONDAY
11:55
12:25



these in urban forestry.

While this increased interest is a positive development, the conception of environmental justice currently being applied in the field is conceptually narrow, excluding diverse worldviews related to human-nature



**SHARON DURDANT-HOLLAMBY**  
(United Kingdom)

Session chair

President of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, a Chartered Arboriculturist, and an Expert Witness, Sharon's specialties are trees and construction, protected trees, tree root investigations, and trees and well-being (including community engagement). Sharon brings thirteen years' experience as a local government tree and landscape officer, before developing an environmental consultancy in Essex between 2007-2014. As managing director, she built up the ecological and arboricultural consultancy to a team of twenty. Actively involved in the media, she designs and delivers award-winning community projects, as well as being a regular conference presenter and trainer for Trevor Roberts Associates. In 2019 she took her place on the board of the IASHK (Institute of Arboricultural Studies Hong Kong), as an advisor.

Fellow of the Arboricultural Association, Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, Top Student award 2005 for AA Technician's Certificate, Expert Witness (Bond Solon), and ex-manager of a multiple award-winning team delivering innovative community projects. She is the voice of The Tree Lady Talks podcasts.



Lorien Nesbitt continued...

relationships and the needs of nature itself, and thereby reproducing environmental injustice. This conception of environmental justice also fails to contend with the risks of green gentrification, whereby local populations are physically or psychologically displaced following urban greening that attracts increased investment.

We propose that a more holistic conception of environmental justice, and a set of tools and approaches to action it, are needed in urban forestry to accomplish equitable processes and outcomes in the discipline. Drawing on a broad range of literature from urban forestry, environmental justice, Indigenous environmental justice, political ecology, conservation biology, urban ecology, and social-ecological systems, this research presents a critical analysis of the current state of environmental justice in urban forestry and presents an initial framework to address current gaps in the field. We believe this framework is both more realistic and more inclusive of diverse world views and disciplines and hope that it offers a path toward environmental justice solutions for urban forest communities.

## NANAMHLA GWEDLA (South Africa)

### The legacy of colonial and apartheid eras on the distribution, composition and representation of street trees in South Africa

South Africa is a country of social, economic and racial contrasts and inequities, the roots of which can be traced back to the colonial and the post-colonial, racist apartheid periods. During these periods, urban black South Africans were restricted to living in specifically designated neighbourhoods apart from white citizens. These areas became characterised by institutionalised underdevelopment, insufficient infrastructure, limited opportunities and deep poverty.

Despite the democratic transition in the mid-1990s, the imprints of the previous institutionalised segregation remain visible in many facets of the spatial geography of South African towns and cities. The legacies of colonialism and apartheid remain strongly expressed in street trees

## JESSICA QUINTON (Canada)

### Wealthy, educated and... non-millennial? Inequitable patterns of proximity to urban vegetation in 31 Canadian cities

Our study assessed the distribution of urban vegetation—including trees, parks, greenways, and any other planned or un-planned vegetation—in 31 Canadian cities to determine whether certain social-economic/demographic factors are associated with increased proximity to greenness. Using spatial lag models, Canadian census data, and urban 'greenness fractions' derived from Landsat imagery, we find diversity in the factors associated with increased urban vegetation between cities. This makes it difficult to establish a single overarching narrative about the state of environmental justice and green equity as it pertains to proximity to vegetation in Canadian cities. Factors such as greater household income and educational attainment were positively associated with proximity to vegetation in numerous cities, while the proportion of millennials was often negatively

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associated. Variables including the proportion of visible minorities, Indigenous people, and recent immigrants infrequently had significant associations with urban vegetation. These results highlight the need for planning and management actions tailored to individual Canadian cities to improve green equity for marginalized and underserved groups. Funding for greening initiatives and maintenance; democratic participation, engagement, and education opportunities for residents; urban planning that considers the challenge of greening dense environments; and consideration of potential negative outcomes of greening such as gentrification are necessary.

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in terms of where they are found in the urban areas (i.e. very few in the former black neighbourhoods) and the provenance of prevalent species (mostly non-native species in older areas). Similarities to and reproduction of colonial approaches are evident in even contemporary initiatives

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such as the national social housing programme, the national Champion Trees inventory and the naming of streets after non-native species. This has translated into apathy or antagonism towards street trees in some regions by officials and the public.



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– the search engine  
that plants trees

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Well it turns out you can. This eco-friendly internet venture is known as Ecosia. It's a search engine based in Berlin, Germany, that plants trees by donating 80% or more of its surplus income to non-profit organisations that focus on reforestation and conservationism. So far Ecosia has helped plant 61 million trees!

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## Tuesday Presentations



## CECIL KONIJNENDIJK (Canada)

### Session chair

Cecil has over 25 years of experience studying, teaching, and advising on aspects of urban forestry and nature-based solutions. He is widely considered as one of the world's leading urban forestry experts, and his work has been featured by leading media outlets such as CNBC and in international documentary films. A Dutch national, he has lived and worked in Europe, Asia, and North America. Since 2016 he has been a professor of urban forestry at the University of British Columbia. Cecil helped found the leading academic journal Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, and edited seminal textbooks such as The Routledge Handbook of Urban Forestry. He is currently Editor-in-chief of Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, the scientific journal of the International Society of Arboriculture. He has published widely. Cecil is passionate about using trees and nature to develop better cities, and always stresses the importance of building meaningful relationships between people and places. He has advised international organisations such as FAO, as well as national and local governments in more than 30 countries, and was an invited panellist at the 8th Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in April 2021. Cecil currently lives in Barcelona with his family.

## JOHN GATHRIGHT (Japan)

### Discovering the true value of trees: Creating social heroes and better businesses

When most people look up at a tall tree, they see a beautiful living thing, a source of shade, or even an obstacle. When Dr. John Gathright looks up at a tree, he sees hope, freedom and courage. Dr. John Gathright, is a Social Entrepreneur who believes trees are our friends, our teachers and emotional doctors. John's doctorate is in creating Purpose Specific Tree Climbing Programs that Benefit Trees and Society. He has focused his businesses and organizations on partnering with trees to build healthier

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communities for Trees and People. By reaching across a diversity of professions and focusing on innovative ways of enhancing the benefits of trees he has transformed the arboriculture industry in Japan.

## KEVIN FREDIANI (United Kingdom)

### Towards an innovative pedagogy of Tree Ecology

As someone engaged in education, the method and practice of teaching is something that is of interest, especially in relation to 'tree ecology'. As a potential way of knowing or understanding academic subjects and theoretical concepts, it presents a novel way to makes sense of the dynamic patterns in an age of global change. Where exposure to different world views can be introduced and explored through many different facets of tree ecology. As genes, species, communities and ecosystems. Enabling learning to emerge through our actions, association, and observation that help learners to embody the landscapes of the past, while facilitating an understanding of the need for new system design, for an uncertain future. An approach that suggests we should not only focus on subject knowledge, but also enable an ecology of mind.

At the root of this talk, is the notion first propagated by Gregory Bateson, that ideas are interdependent, interacting, and that ideas are provisional. The ideas that die, do so because they don't fit with the others, in our education or social system which it reflects. Bateson

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suggests that we have the sort of complicated, living, struggling, cooperating 'tangle' that you'll find on any mountainside with the trees, various plants and animals that live and interact there — in fact, what many would understand as an ecosystem. The ecology of mind, transcends the observation of other, to place us in the landscape, where we can be seen as part of, not apart from the ecology of our planet. Where the ecological systems that support us as understood in terms of the number of biological, physical, and chemical processes. Where spaces become places, informed through the actions and reactions of people and the environment. Within such an ecology, there are all sorts of themes that one can then recognise, classify and think about separately to help grow tree ecologists with an ecological mind.

## NAOMI ZÜRCHER (Switzerland)

### Grow a tree, grow a society: lessons from the forest

Trees and people have been connected over the many millennia we have been present on this Planet, facilitating our very existence. "Throughout human history, trees have enabled us in a very tangible way... We live in trees via building materials and furniture. We ingest trees – food and medicinal sustenance. We share our thoughts

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**HENRY KUPPEN**  
(Netherlands)

Session chair

Henry Kuppen is managing director of Terra Nostra, consultancy and knowledge centre for trees and soil in The Netherlands and has more than 30 years of experience in the tree-care sector. Henry is an innovator and develops solutions for (practical) management and policy related issues for trees in an urban environment. Besides being an owner of a pleached tree nursery he is interested in historical plantings of shaped and pleached trees.

Naomi Zürcher continued...

and knowledge using paper made from their pulp. We wear trees’ fiber for clothing. Trees convey us via canoes, wagons, bridges. They warm us in winter and shade us in summer. But these same tangibles have also inspired the intangibles – shelter can also be viewed as protection and sustenance can be of the spirit and the mind as well as for the body.” (Zürcher, N. In review. Connecting Tree with People: Synergistic Strategies for Growing the Urban Forest.

If one analyzes the intangibles – the myths, the art – one can see the effect trees have on our individual and collective psyche. How then do we turn ancestral connections into today’s actionable stewardship? How do we, the professional choir, get back to those basics that

Dr. Alex Shigo was so fond of sharing – what makes a tree a tree – biologically, structurally, genetically.? How can the built environment accommodate trees’ needs, enabling all those remarkable capacities, so critical in a changing climate? How do we expand the stakeholder circle to create and include an informed citizenry?

This Urban Forester/Consulting Arborist’s observations from the field will offer insight into innovative strategies for the planning and management of the Urban Forest – strategies that not only provide beneficial outcomes for our urban trees but facilitate community empowerment, cross cultural collaboration and informed advocacy, resulting in a more sustainable urban ecosystem and a healthier, more connected human population.

**MARK ROBERTS** (New Zealand)

Outrage management:  
the art of de-catastrophising

**What is a Tree?** A tree is greater than the sum of its parts, and in this presentation, I don’t plan to talk about any of them.

When someone is hurt or killed by a falling tree there is shock, followed by anger and outrage. The situation becomes emotional, logic goes out the window and the demands start to flow in. Trees are dangerous, trees are bad.

Big trees, small trees, healthy trees, all trees – trees are bad when the community is frightened. As arborist’s we need to calm the waters, we need to manage the outrage and de- catastrophise the situation. But how? In this presentation I shall introduce the concept of outrage management and decatastrophising.

Fear is an emotion and when dealing with frightened clients and members of public using logic, science, and common sense, might not work – in fact often, such things might make

matters worse.

Outrage management is about guidance and letting the frightened have their say. As a consulting arborist and tree risk assessor, I shall share what I have learnt over the past 30years. I shall explain what has worked and just as importantly, I shall explain what hasn’t worked. Managing outrage is a skill that I was never taught, but I wish that I had. Mark is a consulting arborist based in Dunedin New Zealand.

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**MARK BAYS** (United States)

Oklahoma City’s Survivor Tree

At the highest point on the grounds of the Oklahoma City National Memorial stands a very special tree in the hearts of the victims’ families, survivors and all those impacted by a senseless act of violence that struck the in heart of Oklahoma City 25 years ago. This native American elm has come to represent hope and healing and stands strong as a symbol for all to reflect upon remembering those lives lost and honoring their memories.

Today the Survivor Tree, like the Oklahoma City community, stands strong honoring those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever from the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building.

In 1996 at the request of the Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation Mark Bays an urban forester with Oklahoma Forestry Services was asked to assist with the care for the Survivor Tree and this has continued ever since. Many in the tree care industry in

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Oklahoma continue to voluntarily give their time, equipment and supplies whenever it’s needed. The National Memorial also wanted to be sure that the legacy and

Mark Bays continued...

special meaning of this tree would live on and since 1996 volunteers and staff collect seeds to continue the Survivor Tree Seedling Program to grow new generations of trees.

Mark and others worked closely with the designers, engineers and construction crews in all aspects of the construction relating to the Survivor Tree and many innovative designs were considered and implemented.

*“I have worked on many construction projects but the feeling here was different. Bays said. “Everybody knew it was much more than any one of us and everyone worked together in a spirit dignity and respect”.*

Come learn the special story of the recovery of The Survivor Tree and its ongoing care that began in 1996.

**PAUL MANDIBONDIBO**  
(Papua)

The role of trees in belief,  
culture and tradition in  
Biak, Papua

This presentation will describe the significant role that trees play in the belief system, culture and traditions of people in Biak, Papua. It will outline how people in Biak value the trees in their surrounding areas in terms of conservation, traditional medicine, culture and socio-economic value, based on their local wisdom. This wisdom is significant in promoting Biak as a tourist destination, particularly for eco-tourism. However, even though the surrounding area is green with trees, in terms of management these trees are not currently being managed properly to maximise their full potential to deliver environmental, economic and social benefits for citizens and visitors. A management plan and guidance are needed to develop urban forest management in Biak. In 2018 Paulus

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Mandibondibo (Ottow Geissler University, Papua) and John Parker (Arboricultural Association, UK) launched Green Cities for Papua, an initiative intended to assist local government in Papua to promote the importance of urban trees and proper urban forest management in the country. The project is also intended to promote Papua and to assist the local government agenda to find nature-based solutions for climate issues. So far activities have included tree planting, particularly with a view to flood mitigation, and political engagement with a view to developing an urban forest management plan for Biak.

**JILL BUTLER** (United Kingdom)

What is a tree? A tree is an historical document

*“Their shapes, their burrs and branch stumps and rootstocks are a living record of what has happened to them historically. In their maturity trees are so etched with experience that they become recognisable not just as species but as individuals and then yet another kind of grain begins to develop – the accumulating layers of myth and affection that gather round ancient trees”*

Richard Mabey (1980)

Archaeologists and historians look to documents, old maps, tree ring chronologies and plant remains (e.g. pollen, charcoal, neolithic trackways) but long-lived trees in their own right also have much to tell us. Arboriculturalists are well placed to learn tree language and help other specialists read a tree like a document to enrich an overall understanding of the past.

It is possible to reach far back in time through analysing the location, ecological requirements and the way trees grow,

age or have been managed of individual or groups of trees. In some cases, it’s a question of understanding the body language of the tree or how it has been managed. Alternatively, it maybe through understanding different species demand for light and the natural processes needed for their survival. Interpreting their stories may involve circumstantial or tangential information from associated communities of species such as saproxylic invertebrates or associations with famous people and events.

Historical documents inform us about trees but equally trees can help us better interpret historic documents for example the 32 pollard trees on the Bayeux Tapestry may be helping to revise the historic record of this iconic story.

Using different tree species including those that have exceptionally long ancient life-stages, it is possible to start to read a tree like an historic document and give them a voice.

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# Wednesday Presentations



**EMMA GILMARTIN**  
(United Kingdom)

## Session chair

Emma Gilmartin is a Conservation Adviser at the Woodland Trust. She specialises in the ecology and wildlife value of trees. Before joining the Woodland Trust in 2019, Emma gained her PhD at Cardiff University, researching wood decaying fungi in living beech trees with Professor Lynne Boddy. She has a background in recording fungi and plants across the UK, and loves to help others to identify and appreciate them. Emma helped to take 'Unsung Heroes of the Planet'—the world's first fungal opera—to the Green Man Festival in 2017, and she supports the Ancient Tree Forum and the British Mycological Society.

**LYNNE BODDY MBE** (United Kingdom)

## A tree is never just a tree

Trees are mostly thought of as a single organism – a plant, but this is far from the case. As humans we are becoming increasingly aware that our bodies do not operate on their own. We are covered with microbes, and they not only abound but also play important roles in our gut. We are holobionts, and trees are too. A tree is never just a tree, it is always a tree plus very many fungi and other microbes.

Every tree is partnered by fungi, most obviously as the water/nutrient-supplying mycorrhizal associations with their roots, but also with cryptic endophytic (which means within a plant) fungi in all of their tissues – leaves, stems and roots, and epiphytic fungi. They also depend, indirectly, on decomposer fungi to break down dead tissues, especially wood, and in so doing release nutrients which become available for

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continued plant growth. Also, some fungi are pathogens, though most plants are resistant to most pathogens most of the time, and even when a pathogen is present it is not always a death sentence for the tree. I will touch on pathogens briefly, but concentrate mostly on mycorrhizal, endophytic and decomposer fungi that are intimately associated with trees.

**SURESH RAMANAN** (India)

## Indian farmer's perception of trees

India is the seventh-largest country, area-wise, supporting 17% of the global population raising concerns over effective utilization of land. With the adoption of the National Agroforestry Policy in 2014 – a first of its kind in the whole world, our country indicated the need for diversification of the farming system; thereby laying roads for developing an agroecologically sound food production system.

Agroforestry as such aims in integrating the woody perennials (trees, palm bamboo and shrubs) with crops and/or animal livestock in the same piece of land suited to socio-economic and cultural aspects of the farmers. Therefore, with the institutionalised promotion of incorporating trees in the farmlands, the farmer's perception of trees needs to be acknowledged. Farmers in India like any other developing country are facing unprecedented challenges along with climate change. The average landholding per farmer is decreasing and hence the possibility of incorporating a large-crowned tree with clean bole suited for

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timber/fuelwood use is not quite possible. For small and marginal farmers, any plants that are retained or prevailing for more than one year – is regarded as trees and usually, these trees are multi-utility species. Thus, it will not be ironic if coconut palm is referred to as coconut tree here and even bamboos, citrus, papaya is considered a tree. For a biodiversity-rich country like India, it is logical for this misconception among farmers who perceive all woody perennials as trees. However, the scientific community needs to visualize and empathize with farmers' attitudes to bring changes in research as well as legal fronts.

**FRANCESCO FERRINI** (Italy)

## How do trees respond to environmental stress? Biochemical and physiological aspects of urban trees tolerance to climate extremes

The urban environment constrains tree growth and survival reducing the net benefit by urban trees. It is therefore important to better understand the dynamics leading to tree decline in the urban environment, and to develop

strategies and techniques aimed at improving their tolerance to stressful conditions). Research in the urban environment is time and money consuming and until the beginning of this century the knowledge about the ecophysiology

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## Francesco Ferrini continued...

of urban trees was relatively limited if compared to fruit trees and crop species. Therefore, more and reliable information coming from long-term research is needed to plan future cities while maximising tree benefits. Drought is a major constraint to urban tree survival and health. Research has shown that woody plants respond to drought using different physiological strategies, depending on the environment where the species have evolved and adapted to. The mechanisms used by popular urban species, including *Platanus × hispanica*, *Celtis australis*, *Fraxinus ornus*, and *Tilia × europaea*, and their consequence for urban microclimate (e.g. cooling by transpiration, VOC emission) will be discussed in this presentation. We also tested

the hypothesis that a red-leaved cultivar of a species sensitive to excess light stress (*Acer platanoides* 'Crimson King') was better able to tolerate excess light stress than a green leaved cultivars of the same species (*A. platanoides* 'Emerald Queen') when drought constrains the use of radiation for photosynthesis. Due to climate change, urban trees will be exposed to co-occurring rises in temperature and CO<sub>2</sub>, which were shown to have antagonistic effects on plant physiology. In a growth chamber experiment, we tested the hypothesis that, due to faster leaf turnover, a deciduous oak species (*Q. cerris*) may be better suited to acclimate to the co-occurring change in CO<sub>2</sub> and temperature compared to an evergreen species (*Quercus ilex*).

**KAMIL WITKOS-GNACH** (Poland)

## Trees of Bialowieza Forest – place where they can grow and die freely?

How do trees develop in ideal conditions? Do they die young? Are they free of defects? How tall do they grow, and how long do they live?

These are just some of the questions we often ask ourselves when learning about trees. Bialowieza is a perfect place to find reference trees, and it stimulates a review of the role of arboricultural practices, especially so-called tree risk management. Bialowieza Forest is a place on the Polish-Belarusian border. It's a unique place

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where trees are not planted, pruned and felled. It covers 1572 km<sup>2</sup>, which is about the size of London. The Polish side covers 625 km<sup>2</sup>, of which only 105 km<sup>2</sup> falls within the Bialowieza National Park.

**HOWELL DAVIES** (New Zealand)

## The development of the urban Ngahere Strategy for Auckland, New Zealand

### "An Urban Forest strategy, the development of a programme to deliver a flourishing future for the urban Ngahere in Auckland Region"

The Urban Forest Strategy for Auckland was approved by council's Environment Committee in February 2018. The document was released in March of 2019, it is the first of its kind for the region (and likely NZ), is designed to provide high-level guidance and reference document based on research and data analysis. The strategy sets out the direction for the future growth, management and where possible protection of tree cover for the region. The document is aimed at giving a clear strategic direction for the current and future landscape management of the regions public and private tree asset.

Howell will present an overview of the Auckland council urban forest strategies the stepped process of its development and will discuss the analytical and consultative work that has taken place, and is currently ongoing, along with presenting some of the key findings from this large programme, looking in detail at urban tree cover in the Auckland region.

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**JOHN PARKER**  
(United Kingdom)

## Session chair

John Parker has been Chief Executive Officer of the Arboricultural Association since July 2021, and previously held the role of Technical Director at the Association from August 2019. He has more than ten years of experience in public sector tree management and from 2012-2019 was a member of the Executive Committee of the London Tree Officers Association, which he Chaired in 2016-18, and until 2019 was a Director of the National Association of Tree Officers. John is a member of the European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF) International Steering Group and is a Chartered Environmentalist, Chartered Forester and an Associate Member of the Royal Society of Biology. He frequently presents at national and international conferences and has delivered a TED Talk entitled Why trees are better than people (available on YouTube). Since spring 2020 John has chaired the Arboricultural Association webinar series, covering a huge range of topics to a worldwide audience. In 2018 he was named Young European Urban Forester of the Year and in 2020 he was appointed as a Trustee of the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum, the national UK tree collection. John is interested in public engagement, green equity and promoting the benefits of trees, with particular consideration for their social and cultural value. He is the founder of the Stonehouse Community Arboretum in Gloucestershire.



**TAHIA DEVISSCHER** (Canada)

**Urban Forests in Latin America: Opportunities and Challenges**

Urban forests in Latin America face several challenges, including inequity in distribution and access, increased exposure to climate extremes, and new demands for participatory governance. Nature-based solutions (NbS), such as enhancing the ecosystem services provided by green infrastructure, were proposed to help cities address many of these challenges. In the US, Canada, Europe and Australia, research on urban forests has expanded in the last 30 years to analyse these contributions. Despite the potential role that urban forests could play in alleviating some of these social-ecological problems in Latin

America, there are few, if any, regional-scale assessments on how urban forests contribute to urban sustainability and resilience in the region. We address this gap by providing a baseline understanding of urban forestry and its potential in Latin America. The baseline is developed through a systematic literature review of the scientific evidence generated from 1980 to 2018 across all countries of the region, and an online survey capturing the perspectives from a wide range of practitioners and researchers working on urban forests in Latin America. The studies provide insights into current discourses, research

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directions and needs, capacities, barriers, and opportunities for urban forestry in the region. We distil key messages to inform regional and global trends in urban forest research and management, and the broader use of NbS and ecosystem service frameworks.

**ROB NORTHROP** (United States)

**What is a tree? A tale of three cities**

What is a tree?, is a profoundly simple question. The fundamental question of perceived value. It needs to be continually asked and understood as we design programs for the management of individual trees, and entire urban and urbanizing forests.

The answer is not only about what is a tree – as an aesthetic, historic, biological or utilitarian part of our landscape – but is also key to understanding how diverse audiences might participate within the societal and governance context concerning the management city/town trees, remnant forest patches and forest ecosystems themselves.

When designing and initiating urban forest management programs in Tampa Florida, Gainesville Florida and earlier in Baltimore Maryland we used focus groups and workshops to ask very similar questions of residents in disenfranchised neighbourhoods. People in disenfranchised neighbourhoods have historically been under represented in the traditional social surveys.

In Tampa Florida, where disenfranchised neighbourhoods chronically lack canopy cover, we asked, 'If we gave you a tree (species of your choice) and planted it for you, would you take it?' Essentially asking if they wanted and valued trees in their neighbourhood. At a Baltimore Maryland workshop on the values of trees conducted in economically depressed neighbourhood residents were asked if they would support tree planting program. Gainesville's traditional black African neighbourhoods provided historically based perspectives that varied distinctly from main stream scientific thinking. Answers in all three cities were surprising to the 'expert' foresters and planners.

Answers to such fundamental questions in these under represented neighbourhoods

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illustrated the great gap that exists between professionals, with their professional language often derived from the contemporary scientific and popular literature so replete with illustrations of social, economic and ecological value of urban trees, and citizen perspectives concerned with managing household budgets, crime and prejudice. The responses received in these focus groups and workshops changed the way the all three cities eventually approached the management of their urban trees, parks and woodlands.

**Monday Afternoon  
Panel Discussion  
Tree Ecology**

In this facilitated panel discussion our speakers will be grappling with the question at the heart of Conference 2022: What is a tree? The concept of tree ecology is not something which can be sufficiently covered in this session, or in a whole conference or even series of conferences. However, we hope that this will prove to be the start of a conversation which will help to take this emerging discipline forward. Join our expert panel for what is sure to be an illuminating, thought-provoking and entertaining journey into the heart of the tree.



**Tuesday Afternoon  
Panel Discussion  
Tree protection around the world**

This international panel discussion, featuring a range of speakers and co-hosted by the Woodland Trust, will consider how different countries and regions approach the issue of tree protection. What trees are considered worthy of protection around the world, and why? How and where are they protected? What are the strengths and weaknesses of each approach, and how much do societal and cultural norms influence these different methods? This session will seek to answer these questions through facilitated discussion and audience engagement.

**Wednesday Afternoon  
Panel Discussion  
Green inequity**

The concept of green equity can be defined as "fair access to, and governance of, urban forests regardless of differentiating factors such as socioeconomic status, racialization, cultural background or age" (Nesbitt, 2018). We know that trees can deliver environmental, social and economic benefits – but are those benefits being equally distributed across different communities? In this session, Lorien Nesbitt and Nhana Gwedla will discuss their work on green equity and green gentrification and consider potential paths forward to advance the discipline.





At Conference 2022 the Association is introducing an expanded range of workshops and panel sessions, offering more choice than ever to delegates and encouraging the sort of in-person engagement and discussion that even the best online events are unable to offer.

Each day of Conference will feature at least three different workshops to choose from, including panel discussions, workshops, masterclasses, indoor and outdoor sessions and even a gallery. Some of these will be repeated on different days, others will happen only once. Most sessions will last around 90 minutes, and some sessions will have a cap on numbers.

Tree morphology walking tour



Tuesday only workshop

The tree form is the plastic, dynamic and transient expression of the relationship between the individual and the context. The study of the form allows us to outline the past of a tree, to describe its present and to foresee the future, by placing in morphological and functional relation its different anatomical regions in a logical and consequential way. The tree form is a language or, rather, the expressive form of its identity: the tree is its form. In this entertaining and informative workshop, tree morphology experts Stefania and Giovanni will explore this fascinating subject.



Writing a tree strategy



Monday & Wednesday workshop

Around the world, many villages, towns and cities are developing tree and woodland strategies in a variety of different formats and with a wide range of approaches. Rob Northrop was a key part of the team responsible for developing the City of Tampa's Urban Forest Management Plan in Florida, USA, and Howell Davies led the production of Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy in new Zealand. This masterclass offers attendees a unique opportunity to hear the story behind the production of these management plans, and discuss their own ideas and experiences.



The Major Oak Gallery Tour

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday workshop

The Major Oak is one of the UK's most famous trees and is the subject of a multitude of photographs, paintings, postcards and other images. Continuing on from the theme of Reg's "A postcard from the Major" series, for the duration of Conference a Major Oak Gallery will be in place for delegates to explore, featuring a selection of postcards. Reg will also be giving a talk about the Major Oak, presented in the form of a gallery tour, delving into the story behind the images and bringing the history of this remarkable tree to life.



Tree planting: More than just numbers



Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday workshop

There is tremendous focus on tree planting from both central and local government coupled with increased community activity and demand. Much of this focus is on numbers or canopy cover. Demand for trees has risen exponentially, but its effect on the nursery industry has rarely been considered. This workshop will explore the ramifications for the nursery industry and the urban forest, considering urban forest diversity, biosecurity and sustainability. It will also explore the advantages of strategic management and long term planning, both to managers and nurseries.



Research project: Noise in decision making

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday workshop

This workshop is part of a research project to explore the effect of "noise" on judgements that underpin tree risk assessment and how these affect decisions, with the intention of informing the development of a holistic tree risk assessment tool/measure/guideline (format will be dependent on the findings of the study). It will involve a quasi-experimental approach, asking practitioners to assess risk based on three trees and then complete a questionnaire and potentially participating in short one-to-one interviews with the researchers.



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Notes	Condition	Inspected	Inspect Period
Spreading into verges. Fungal bodies on some trunks.	Good	24-Mar-2014	3 Years
Foliage - poor. Damaged by hanging branches.			1 Year
Damaged by hanging branches.			1 Year
mi Mature			2 Years
Exp			1 Year





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