

Community art project: Re-imagining the Dethridge Wheel

Summary of feedback collected at the
community workshop, February 2024.



Community art project: Workshop findings

WHO WE HEARD FROM

- Art galleries and groups
- Primary schools
- The Mildura Airport
- Mildura Rural City Council
- Historical societies
- Community organisations & non profits
- A small number of individuals & private organisation



WHAT WE HEARD

The following report summarises the perspectives shared by participating community members:

Wheel locations

Attendees were keen to see the wheels in a wide variety of locations, including public and private spaces. Regionally, attendees suggested the wheels in locations including Mildura, Millewa, Red Cliffs, Irymple, Cardross, Robinvale and Nichols Point.

Location suggestions included:

- Schools
- Hospitals
- Aged care facilities
- The Mildura Airport
- Information Centre/s
- Art groups & galleries
- Historic societies
- Country Women's Associations
- Brownies/Guides/Scouts
- Outdoor spaces & walks, potentially used as way-finders
- Specific locations including: Centenary Walk in Red Cliffs, Pump Hill in Merbein, Irymple Park, Deakin Ave, Chaffey Trail, Ross Lake, Eco Village, Lake Hawthorn, Benetook Farm, Powerhouse Hall, along the walkway leading to mosaics
- Sporting clubs (i.e. footy, cricket, bowls)
- Sporting facilities
- CFA
- Community organisations, including the library
- Golf Clubs
- Men's sheds

Wheel designs

Attendees expressed a desire to not constrain the creativity of how wheels could be used and showcased. Design ideas for wheels in the art trail and across the community included:

- Moving water sculpture/active water feature
- Painted wheels
- Mosaiced wheels
- Crocheted wheels
- Projected light/patterns onto wheel
- Made into functional items, e.g. tables
- Many wheels combined into one large sculpture
- Rubber coated (a nod to tar in the original wheels)
- Wheels in their natural, unaltered form

Support from Lower Murray Water

The group identified numerous ways Lower Murray Water could support community to lead this initiative. This included:

- Developing application forms for allocating wheels
- Supporting or conducting the process of reviewing applications
- Wheel preparation (i.e. pressure wash & primer for galvanised surfaces)
- Installing wheels (i.e. providing standardised mounts or cages)
- Support to assess and meet OH&S requirements
- Council liaison for wheels re land permissions for wheels in public spaces
- Funding or sponsorship opportunities of artwork costs & supplies
- Coordination in allocating resources
- Ongoing wheel maintenance

NEXT STEPS

Lower Murray Water will work with Land Managers through the practicalities of the project including landowner permissions, installation, security and maintenance considerations.

We expect to begin the process of issuing application forms in coming months.

We will keep you posted with updates as we have news.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A WHEEL?

If you know someone in the community that should be part of this community art project, please ask them to get in touch so we can keep them across project progress.



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