

MEMBRA Valuing Treescapes

*A conference to explore the full value
of trees and treescapes.*

July 16th - July 18th 2024
University of Exeter



Meeting Information

The meeting takes place at the **Xfi Centre for Finance, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4ST**, which is located on the Main Exeter Campus.

The event is free to attend and we provide coffee breaks throughout the event, lunches on Days 2+3 and an evening reception with drinks on Day 2. We will cater for anyone who specified that they have dietary requirements. If you have any questions about this please contact the meeting organisers.

On the evening of Day 1 we hope delegates will get together in smaller groups to grab some food and a drink in Exeter. Please ask the organisers for advice about good places to go. Please be aware that as this event coincides with Graduation week so we expect Exeter to be rather busy.

Web Access: Both the Eduroam network and University of Exeter Guest Access is available for all delegates

Travel: The venue is a 1 mile uphill walk from Exeter St Davids Train station. There is parking available on campus and if you require a parking permit please contact Geraint Parry ahead of the meeting.



Front cover image: Shelley Castle

Welcome to Valuing Treescapes

Thanks for joining us for this exciting MEMBRA event hosted at the University of Exeter.

During Valuing Treescapes we aim to consider how a 'rights of nature' approach to existing and new treescapes could inform their protection and further development in the UK.

Proposed outputs from this event will include a co-written report on language, ethics, and narratives that can challenge, and provide alternative models for, the utilitarian, monetised valuation of trees in the 'ecosystem services' framework.

We will explore the additional dimensions of 'value' to treescapes, and foreground the importance of language in tree description and depiction during policy recommendations on the future of treescapes.

About MEMBRA

Understanding Memory of UK Treescapes for Better Resilience and Adaptation (MEMBRA) is a UK Treescapes project that looks at the memory of trees using cutting-edge molecular biology techniques to understand how past stresses are maintained and transmitted through generations.

MEMBRA also explores how our understanding of tree memory impacts the language that describes treescapes and this influences human interactions.

MEMBRA is a unique project that brings together artists, classicists, geographers and molecular biologists that has an overall aim of improving future Treescapes.

More information: <https://membra.info/>

Meeting Schedule

DAY 1: Tuesday July 16th

1400-1415 **Welcome and Introduction**
David Wallace-Hare and Katharine Earnshaw

Session 1: Observing Tree Behaviours: Learning with Trees

Moderator: Estrella Luna-Diez

1415-1435 **Estrella Luna-Diez** (University of Birmingham)
Immunological responses and priming

1435-1455 **Joe He** (University of Birmingham)
MEMBRA epigenetic learning

1455-1515 **Bruno Cintra** (University of Birmingham)
Ecological outputs from MEMBRA

1515-1535 **Alison Tidy** (University of Nottingham)
Exploring Priming in Elder for increased tolerance and establishment

1535-1555 **Tatiana Cantillo-Garcia** (University of Exeter)
Participatory design of decision support tools for treescape planting : A case study with Forestry England

1555--1630 *Tea Break*

1630-1715 Performance presentation reflecting on MEMBRA from **Walking Forest**

1715-1745 Discussion about the interdisciplinary research and how it has worked within MEMBRA and the wider-Treescapes program

Free Evening

DAY 2: Wednesday July 17th

0740-0830 **Invitation to 'Running with Trees'**
Anne-Marie Culhane from Walking Forest and Tim Lenton

A 3-5km run that tells the Story of Trees, Breath and Climate Change

0900- 0930 *Coffee and Tea*

Session 2: Tree Agency and the Law

0930- 1100 Panel Discussion
Moderator: Lucy Neal

Panel participants:

- **Lucy Neal** Walking Forest, Dramaturg and co-creator of *The Ring of Truth*
- **Sarah Dodd** Lawyer and owner of Tree Law
- **Charles Mynors** Law Commission of England and Wales

Each speaker provides an introduction followed by Q+A

1100-1130 *Break*

1130-1150 **Jasper Kenter** (Aberystwyth University):
Values of Nature - Introducing the new IPBES typology and Life Framework

1150-1230 Reflection activity on the Rights of Trees
Facilitated by **Walking Forest**: Q and A

1230-1330 *Lunch*

Session 3: Planting Trees for Trees: Design Best Practices

Moderator: Geraint Parry

1330-1400 **Nadina Galle**, <https://www.nadinagalle.com/>
The Nature of Our Cities: Harnessing the Power
of the Natural World to Survive a Changing
Planet (*Online*)



1400-1420 **Gary Grant**, Green Infrastructure Consultancy Ltd
Trees in the Built Environment

1420-1440 **David Wallace-Hare** (University of Exeter)
Industry Pipelines for Tree Learning Implementation,
marketing tree planting in the UK

1440-1500 **Walking Forest**: Introducing the MEMBRA
Tree Nursery and Intentional Woodland

1500 *Break*

1600-1730 **Concurrent Activities**

Outdoors Tree Tour around the Exeter Campus with the
Ancient and Veteran Tree Forum.
Led by Jill Butler, Ancient Tree Forum

Indoors Stress responses in trees and humans participatory
making session with MEMBRA scientists and Walking
Forest - Shelley Castle, Rosa Sanchez-Lucas

Ring of Truth - creating a 'kit' for participatory
use [art law/science]: Walking Forest

Walking Forest MEMBRA Tree Nursery Kit.
Try out elements of the Tree Nursery Kit that has been
developed for use with communities in Birmingham.

1800-1900 **Evening Keynote and Q+A**
John Parker, CEO Arboricultural Association



1900-2000 *Hot buffet and drinks*

2000-2030 Cycles: Performance Presentation by
Walking Forest and MEMBRA scientists

2030-2100 Introduction and Gameplay of MEMBRA Board Game.

DAY 3: Thursday July 18th

0830-0915 **MEMBRA Yoga Tree Salutation** designed by Estrella
Luna Diez, Honor Wolf Moon and Walking Forest.

Join us to ground ourselves in this simple movement to
honor trees. No experience necessary.

0930-1000 *Coffee and Tea*

Session 4: Future of Treescapes

Moderator: David Wallace-Hare

1000-1030 **Tim Lenton** (University of Exeter)

1030-1050 **Sir Harry Studholme** (Perridge Estate)
Rooting the Future Forest

1050-1110 **Alison Dyke** (University of York) and **Michael Wilson**
(Loughborough University)
Rights of Nature in Practice: Storytelling in the
Branching Out project.

1110-1130 **Andrew Weatherall** (RSPB)
Towards Statutory Protection for Ancient
Woodlands



1130-1145 **Closing moment - Naming our collective
Stewardship Guardianship**
Facilitated by Walking Forest

1145-1200 Final comments
Katharine Earnshaw and David Wallace-Hare.

1200 *LUNCH and Travel Home*

<https://membra.info/>



FUTURE OF UK

Treescapes



<https://www.uktreescapes.org/>