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Saw Promenade

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## Take a Tropical Grove tour

Take a walk through our beautiful Tropical Grove garden, located south of Winthrop Hall in the northern precinct of the Crawley campus. Learn about the history of how the Tropical Grove came together, along with key points of interest along the way.



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1. **George Munns plaque** – Grounds' first curator after the position was created in 1955. Live-in curator resided on Parkway from 1955-72. Commenced work at UWA in 1932 as a garden labourer. Was one of only six gardeners and by the time he left there were 25.
2. **Ginkgo biloba** – One of the oldest known plant species dating back 270 million years prior to the Jurassic period. Once thought to be extinct, it was rediscovered in two small areas in eastern China.
3. **Wollemi pine** – *Wollemia nobilis* – a conifer from the Jurassic period. It was discovered in 1994 in the Blue Mountains region of NSW. Wollemi pines date back 90 million years. This tree was planted by the Faculty of Arts in 2014 to mark the launch of the Master of Heritage Studies degree.
4. **Azalea bed** – Originally these azaleas grew alongside the tennis courts located at the former Currie Hall site (now University Hall) and were transplanted to their new location at the Tropical Grove in 2012.
5. **Queen and Duke trees** – 2 x *Ficus hillii* planted by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip on their visit in 1963. 1963 was UWA's Jubilee year.
6. **Karri tree** – *Eucalyptus diversicolor* is endemic to southern WA. Mature specimens can grow up to 80m tall. The name diversicolor means 'separate colours' referring to the top and bottom of the leaf.
7. **Jarrah** – *Eucalyptus marginata*. Over 400 years old, believed to be the oldest tree on the Crawley site. Jarrah is a popular species for making furniture and wood flooring. A young jarrah has been planted either side of this significant tree to ensure the presence of jarrahs on campus well into the future.
8. **Macadamia** – The QLD nut. Discovered in 1828 by European settlers. It wasn't until 1858 when the Superintendent of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens noticed a boy eating one of the seeds without ill effect that, after observation, the trees were grown as a food crop.
9. **NZ Kauri** – *Agathis australis* or Kauri. Planted in 1963 as part of the Great Court upgrade and the completion of the Reid Library.
10. **Common Screwpine** – *Pandanus spiralis* from Northern Australia. Used to weave baskets and the pandan leaf is used in Asian cuisine.
11. **Honeymoon tree** – *Eucalyptus diversicolor* was once surrounded by an iron bench popular with students in the 1940s. The name, honeymoon tree, was given by the first gardener at UWA, Oliver Dowell who dug this plant up on his honeymoon in Southern WA and replanted it in the Great Court lawn.
12. **Heliconia bed** – Sub tropical to tropical species plant, hard to cultivate in Perth due to the cold winters. This display is one of the largest collections of heliconia varieties in WA.
13. **Pritchardia palm** – Native to the Pacific Islands as far as Hawaii. It is called the umbrella palm as it was used to protect people and property from the rain.

#### Interesting fact

The original campus by-laws stated:

'Students are not allowed to walk over ovals or any areas laid to grass or cultivated to flowerbeds but to keep to paths and gateways'

Information prepared by Campus Management



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