

Public art

WACRA takes pride in initiating four major public art works along the Coast and on the banks of the Torrens River.

Sea eagle

The magnificent sea eagle standing proud and tall at the end of Grange Road was a joint venture between WACRA, Friends of Gulf St Vincent and the City of Charles Sturt. This bird was once prolific along our coastline, flying down from the Mount Lofty Ranges each day to catch a feed of fish and take back to its family. But like so many great birds, we have over developed the area and these birds will now be seen much farther north or across the other side of the gulf.

Mosaic sea creatures

The 30 mosaic sea creatures attached to the Esplanade rock wall between Henley Square and Marlborough Street are a community activity as part of SA Living Artists. Over 80 mums, dads and kids made these wonderful creatures all to be found in Gulf St Vincent.

Blue Groper mural

The idea of a big Blue Groper sculpture was initially proposed for the entrance to the Glenelg Jetty. This concept has now relocated to Noarlunga.

Mosaic stepping stones

If you venture down to the banks of the Torrens River near the bridge on Henley Beach Road you will find a splendid artistic crossed pathway of stepping stones made of mosaic birds, animals, plants and creatures who habitat in and along the banks of the river. This path was the work of over 100 community members who took great pride and skills in creating their pieces of work. Take a walk along the pathway and see if you can name them. The feature piece is the platypus who holds right of way as the Totem for the Torrens. It is our collective aim to make the water in the Torrens River clean enough for the platypus to return to its natural home.

Bernie and June (the life-size pelicans)

At the point where the Torrens meets the sea you will find Bernie and June, two life-size pelicans who watch over us and wait with the everlasting hope of seeing a wetland built between Tapleys Hill Road and the sea so that clean water enters the Gulf. Bernie and June were two local activists who walked the beach every day and gave so much of themselves to our community.

Wheels of Peace

As part of the ANZAC Centenary, WACRA made a presentation to City of Charles Sturt Council proposing a public art sculpture designed by artist Indiana James, who has also created three other beautiful sculptures featured along the coast. The sculpture would be a recognition of those who fought in WW1 in the hope for peace. It is a series of wheels that would be collected from soldier settler places in Kangaroo Island and the Riverland, and would in part replicate the amazing work of the carrier pigeons and the symbol of the peace dove. Planning approval processes and the need for additional money saw council withdraw their support for the project. However, WACRA has not given up hope that this stunning piece of work will one day stand as a reminder to us all of the importance of peace.