

# The Parklands Petals .... Flowers in the making

## Artists

Lesley Bowen, Jessica Geinzer,  
Kirsten Kelly, Matthew Schrodter  
and Kristie Tunnah

Design Concept

Dr. Linda Ashton



# Our Project

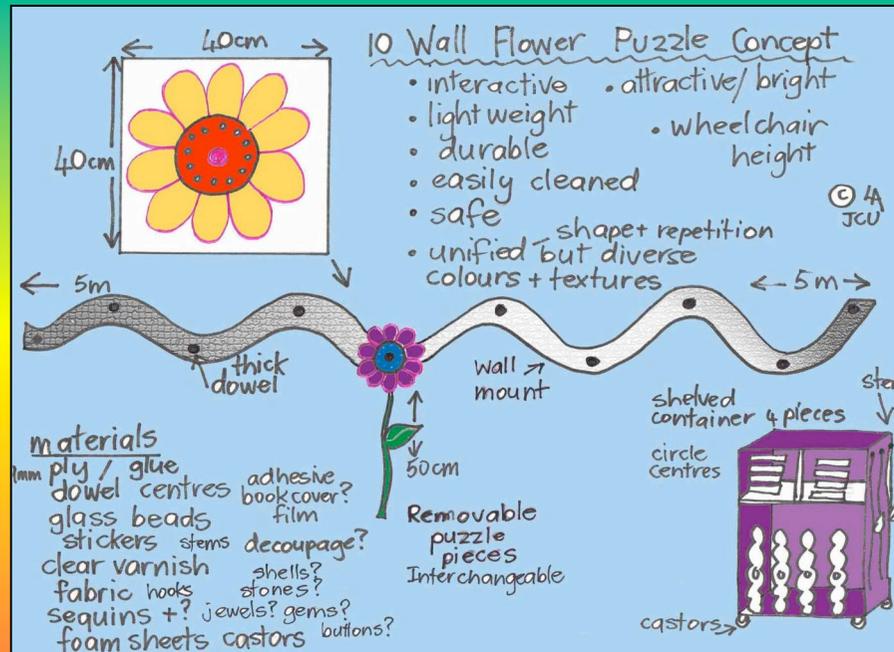
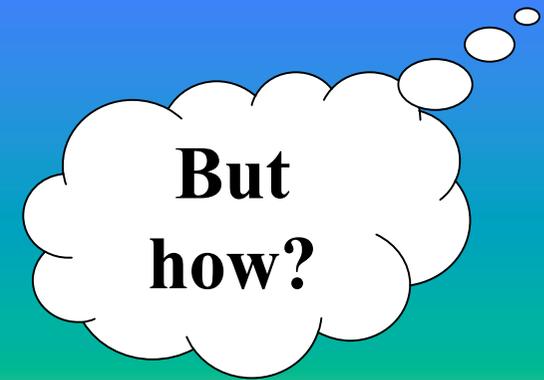
**Mission: To  
brighten up this  
wall**



**in  
Parklands  
retirement  
home.**

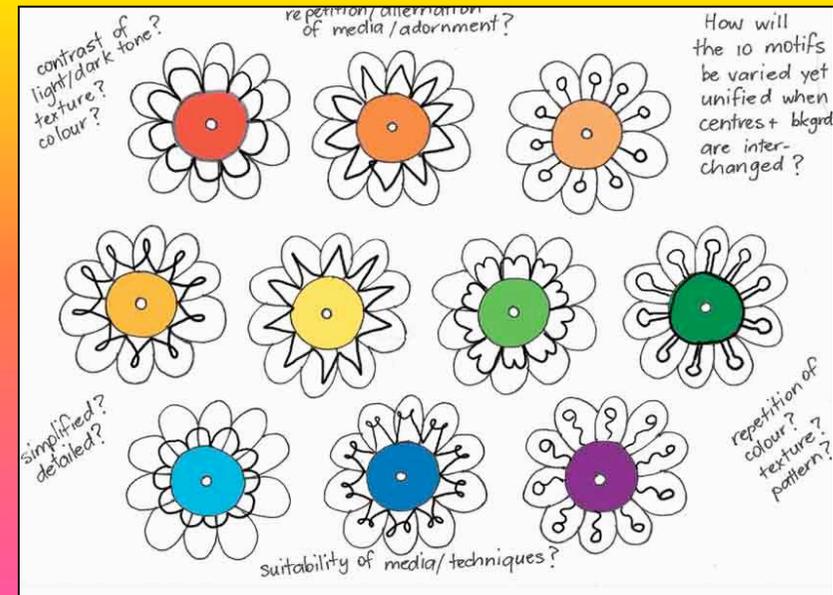
# The Design

A multi-sensory interactive floral wall puzzle at wheelchair height



The basic design and colour combination for the flowers

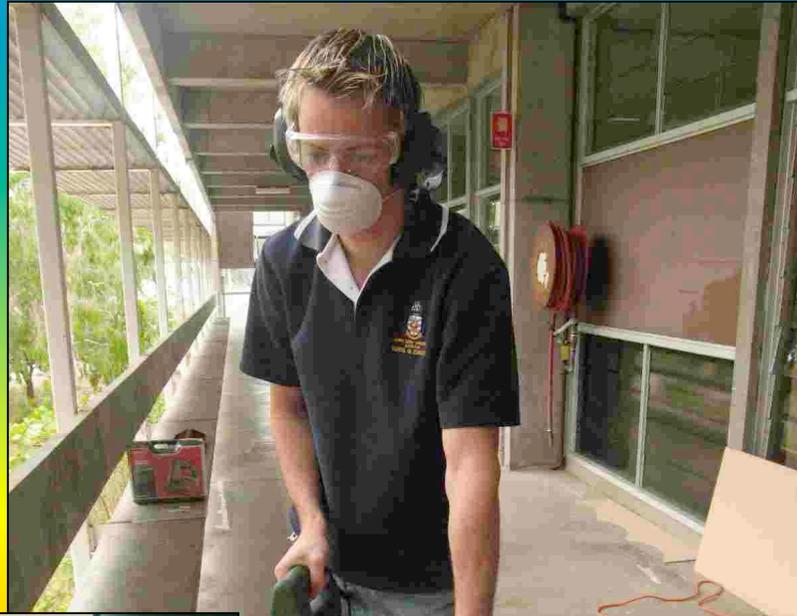
Here is the design brief by Dr. Ashton of the flower puzzle with the cabinet to store the pieces when they are dismantled



# Week One

**Matt had the task of cutting out the flower shapes.**

**Flower template and first cut flower**



**Safety gear is important when working on these big jobs.**

**All ten flowers ready for painting**

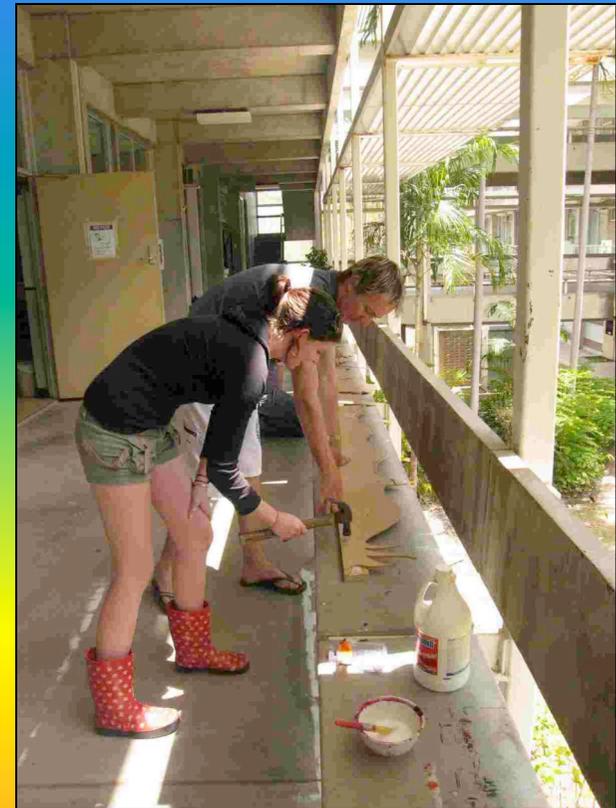


# Week One

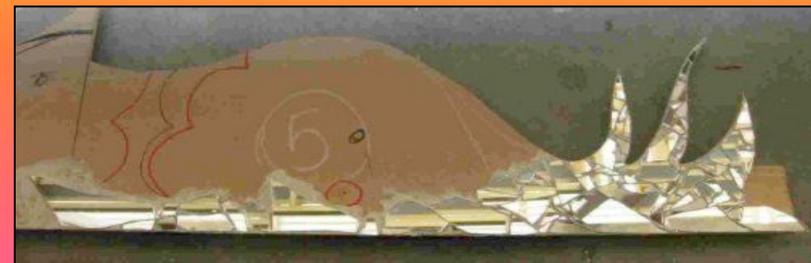


Jess and Kristie sanded the flower edges smooth, while

.... Matt and Lesley started the mirror mosaic.



**Undercoated flowers**



**Beginning of mirror mosaic**

# Week One

**During the workshop our group decided to split into two little task groups to get two jobs done at once. Jess and Kristie worked on measuring out where the flowers would be positioned on the backboard, then sanded, and undercoated the flowers.**

**Matt and Lesley started the mirror mosaic on the backboard piece.**



✓ Sanded flowers and  
centre disks

✓ Undercoated flowers and  
centre disks

✓ Started mirror mosaic on  
backing board

# Week Two



**Here we go!!!**



**At the start of the second week the flowers were in desperate need of colour. We decided to paint first to allow for drying time in case any flowers needed a second coat.**

# Week Two

**Lesley, Kristie and Kirsten mix their chosen paint colours.**



**The group divided up the 10 flowers between the five members, so we each had 2 flowers to decorate.**

# Week Two



**While the flowers dried...**



**the group continue to mosaic  
the mirror back board.**

# Week Two

**During this workshop we had to decide on the colours. Once we chose our colours we painted our designated flowers. When painting we had to position the flowers so they wouldn't stick to the newspaper covering the seats like the previous week!!**

- ✓ Filed white paint bits off the flowers to make them smooth
- ✓ Painted all the flowers and centre disks with background colours
- ✓ Continued mosaicing the backing board.



# Week Three



**Matt worked hard to build the cabinet which will store the flower pieces.**



# Week Three

# Mosaic



# Week Three



✓ Finished mosaicing  
the backboard pieces

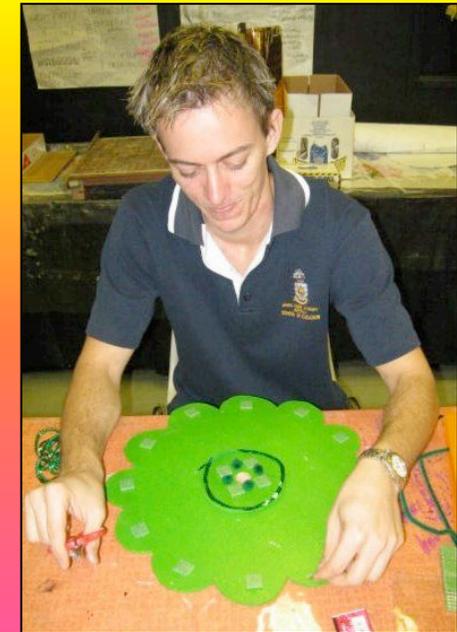
✓ The cabinet was put  
together and  
undercoated

**This week the girls decided to mosaic the whole day to try and get it finished so we could concentrate on getting our flowers done the following week. As this backboard piece will be covered majority of the time with the flowers, we used a lot of large pieces of mirror which you don't normally do when mosaicing. The little pieces were useful to fill in small areas around the curtain rod pegs.**

# Week Four

**This workshop was the big one we all had been waiting for. DECORATING!!!**

**We finally got to play around and stick things onto our flowers.**



# Week Four

**During this workshop a group of year 11 girls visited from St Patrick's**



**Some of the girls helped out with our flowers**

# Week Four

During this workshop we got stuck into the flowers and majority of the decorating was completed. Issues we had to deal with were such things as the different types of glue we should use. Certain glue dried leaving air bubbles, which wasn't expected or appreciated.



Another issue was certain colours didn't have a large variety of decorative bits so Jess became well known for scavenging through cupboards for extra **BLING BITS!**



We also had to be aware of making sure the pieces were firmly fixed onto the flowers for safety and suitable to be wiped over with a wet cloth for cleaning purposes. For some flowers this meant A LOT of glue.



# Week Five

**We used this workshop to finish off our flowers**



**Lesley and Matt then threaded wire into the stems (soaker hose) of the flowers.**

# Week Five

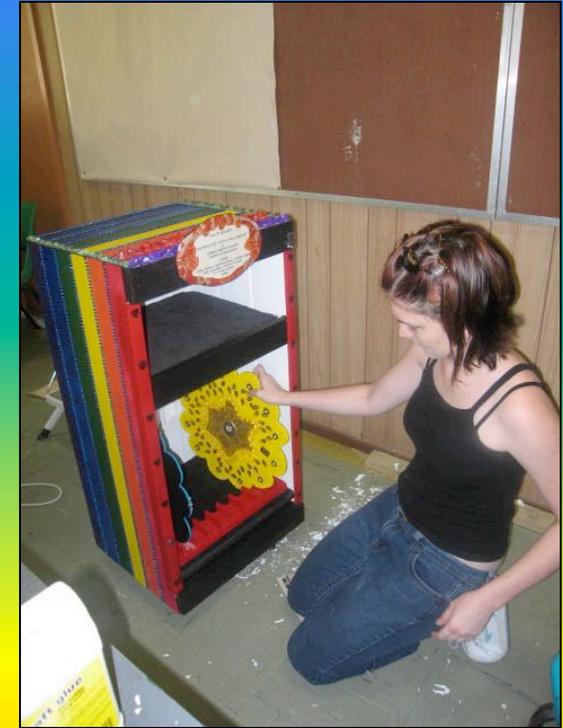


**We also finished some other tasks. Matt smoothed any sharp mirror edges on the mosaic, and Lesley, Kristie and Kirsten painted the cabinet rainbow colours and added blue beads along the joining lines.**

# Week Five



**Kirsten, Jess and Lesley did some weekend work and painted the back of the flowers and backboard pieces black.**



**They also finished off the cabinet to store the pieces, as well as performed the first *drop test!!* to make sure all the flowers were sturdy enough for use.**

# Week Five

**This was an extremely busy week for the Parkland Petals. Anyone who had finished their flowers was working on the other jobs that needed to be completed for the display.**

**The cupboard was completely decorated and prepared for varnishing. The backboards were painted black in preparation for grinding. The flowers and discs were dropped again to ensure that the decorations were secure.**



- ✓ **Finished off flower decorating**
- ✓ **Smoothed mirror mosaic**
- ✓ **Grouted the mirror mosaic**
- ✓ **Painted and decorated the cabinet**
- ✓ **Painted the underside of the flowers and backboards black**
- ✓ **Drop test**
- ✓ **Created flower stems**

# Week Six



**For the final week we got busy adding the finishing touches to the floral puzzle. Extra glue was plastered onto the flowers to secure the decorations.**



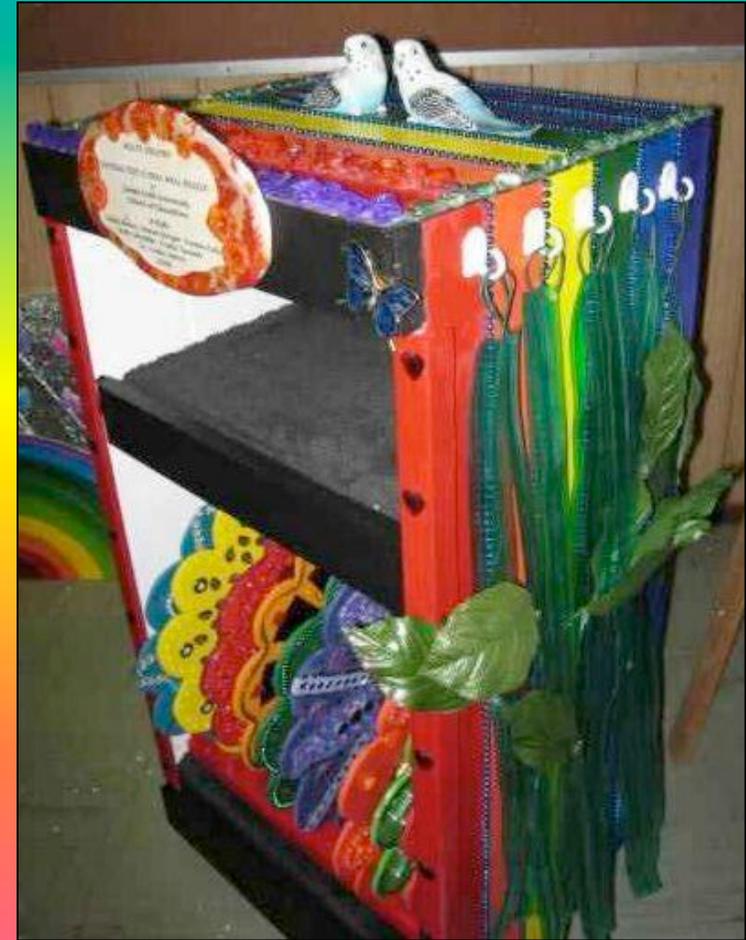
**We also drilled the mirror backboard pieces onto the wall for display. The mirror mosaic was then smoothed in sharp areas with the grinder.**



# Week Six



**Another job to be completed was varnishing the ten flowers and the rainbow cabinet. Lesley worked hard to make everything look glossy.**



# Week Six

**During this week the group had to finalise all pieces and bring them together. As a whole group we looked over all the flowers and did a quality assurance check. We all wrote notes for each flower.**



**Any flowers that needed more work done, either for aesthetic or practical reasons, were and fixed or had more decoration added. All our hard work was displayed on the wall of the workshop room by the end of the week. It was exciting to see the multi-sensory interactive flowers finally in full bloom.**

# Nov. 9th 2006

## Presentation Time

**On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November all the public art groups came together to display their mosaic works and the flower puzzle in a collaborative exhibition.**



**This night was a tribute to John Coburn who sadly had passed away earlier in the week. His beautiful garden shapes and colours had been an inspiration for each of our public art pieces.**

# Presentation Time



**All who interacted with the wall puzzle appeared fascinated by the work.**

**The flower puzzle was officially handed over to the staff and residents of the Parklands retirement home.**

# Presentation Time

The exhibition marked the final time some of us would see our flower puzzle before it went to its new home. We appreciate the people who need



# Transported



and .....



Installed !!!











This wall became ....



*This wall ...*





# JCU

JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY



**Thanks to all who have been involved in**

**the planning, making and installation of**

**another Public Art Project**

**for our regional community**

**now known as**

***The Parkland Petals***