

Fossilised Forest of Alpha

“This stone sculpture installation represents a boulder, opened to present its mysteries and treasures – a fossilised tree. Like a thunder-egg, the inner beauty of the earth and stone are revealed, while the rough outer crust stands in contrast. For me, this also represents the character of the community of Alpha.

The central “tree trunk” of petrified wood is the core of what holds a community together, its essence flowing out to the three larger elements. These can also be seen as a family group, with the two vertical pieces standing watch and welcoming friends and visitors. The horizontal piece appears to be resting and can also be used for sitting on and invites contemplation and touch.

The tree forms carved into the stones are symbolic for the flora and fauna which thrived here in ancient times. They have left an impression and we can only wonder what it may have been like back then. The petrified wood give hints to a rich and varied past. The black granite represents transformation (into coal), and connects us to the present. The pink stone, zeolite, placed in the heart space, is symbolic of purification and mineral wealth.

“The Fossilised Forest of Alpha” sculpture tells a story of our connections with the past, present, future and this land. It is about continuity.”

Antone Bruinsma – Sculptor 2012