

# NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2018



Gisborne  
**Eastwoodhill**  
National Arboretum of New Zealand

[www.eastwoodhill.org.nz](http://www.eastwoodhill.org.nz)

# CONTENTS

PAGE 3

Chairman's message

PAGE 4

Message from the manager

Message from Daniel Taylor

PAGE 5

Ramarama - a perspective

PAGE 6

The story of William Douglas Cook

PAGE 7

The endless journey

PAGE 8

A visit to gardens of Scotland

PAGE 9

Eastwoodhill in the autumn

Dear Pru

PAGE 10

The great mandalas

The Teddy Bears' Picnic

PAGE 11

Diary dates

News

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## **Opening Hours**

Weekdays 9am – 5pm

Weekends and public holidays 9.30am – 4pm

## **Eastwoodhill Trust Board**

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Jane Williams

John Clarke

Marcus Williams

Patrick Willock

Pru Roberts (Friends of Eastwoodhill Chair)

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# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The autumn colours are now starting to appear at Eastwoodhill. I am often asked when the best time to visit Eastwoodhill for the best colours is, and I am loath to give a definitive answer as it varies from year to year. When we get our occasional droughts here, some trees will 'shut up shop' early due to water stress. The leaves will change colour early as the tree removes energy from the leaves to be stored in the rest of the tree so that it is ready for next spring.

Our Curator Dan Haliday resigned at the end of last year and I want to thank him and Monique, who was the Education and Membership officer, for their enthusiastic work at Eastwoodhill. In Dan's time here, the new Cathedral was planted, the propagation unit built and the driveway was rerouted and sealed. The position of curator will be advertised in May and a new curator will be appointed in early winter. The Eastwoodhill Board have decided to set up a Curatorial Advisory Committee to help the curator. The committee will be made up of people with experience in botanical gardens, arboretums and the plant world. They are there to support the curator with knowledge the board does not have.

The Eastwoodhill Board had commissioned a feasibility study to look at an upgrade of the Douglas Cook Centre. The study came back saying the upgrade was not viable at present but did give the board opportunities to pursue to attract more visitors to the arboretum. One of the opportunities is to develop an education programme that fits within the education curriculum and is easy for the schools to use. We get around 1,500 children through now, but this new programme will cover classes from years one to 13.

I thank the staff for their work in the arboretum over the summer and all the volunteers who have assisted them.

**PETER JACKMAN - CHAIRMAN**



## MESSAGE FROM **THE MANAGER**

We have had a busy time over Christmas and summer with cruise ships and tours which have been great to see.

We are very pleased with the way our giftshop has been going and the lovely new items we are now selling, and we are always receiving very good feedback about the items stocked. We have tried to get a good range of local artisan products which have been selling well. We also now have Eastwoodhill tea towels and new branded pens, and of course our Eastwoodhill produced honey which is probably the cheapest in town at \$5 a pot. Remember if you are a Friend of Eastwoodhill member, you are entitled to 10% discount in the shop with your membership card. A very big thank you to all our amazing weekend volunteers whose help we couldn't do without to keep the visitor centre open throughout the year, and the amazing service they give to our visitors.

Since the last newsletter we have a new set of Hi-Spy binoculars at the high point lookout which have been very popular with visitors, especially on a fine clear day. The extra walk up the extended yellow, purple or green tracks is well worth it.

We are in the process of installing the new sundial – thanks to Les McGreevy, and all going well by the time you receive

this newsletter we will have a mobile café operating in The Arboretum from Thursday to Sunday every week until Queen's Birthday weekend.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic was well supported this year and a huge thanks to all the staff and volunteers who helped to make this day a success.

Also we must pay tribute to the wonderful gardening ladies who look after our Homestead Garden area – they were rewarded for their efforts in December with the judging of the Homestead Garden area as a Garden of National Significance and retained their five star status which is an amazing feat as they are a small dedicated group of "girls". Thanks to Pru, Marg, Pat F, Ann, Mary, Marilyn, Sarah, Pat B, Sue, Rose, Maggy, Jocelyn and Lisa.

The Arboretum is now transforming into "Jacob with his coat of many colours" as the many colours of autumn are appearing every day. Thanks to Adam, Dan and Gauky for their work outside. Margot has been busy with accommodation and membership and she will be a busy bumble while I am away for four weeks. I would like to thank my team for their support over the last few months.

— **MARION NICHOLAS**

## A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL TAYLOR **PLANT COLLECTIONS ASSISTANT**

A warm hello and a friendly 'giddy' to those that would prefer one. My name is Daniel Taylor and I work with the plant collections here at Eastwoodhill Arboretum. I had been thinking about what to talk about in this autumn issue and I was after something that everybody would enjoy. Previously I have talked about practical topics, such as wasps, or provided updates on projects like our tree cathedral, but I felt that something more was required. Today's piece is not going to be looking at updates, nor will it be full of information about a topic, neither will it cover any interesting information on a particular tree species. No sir, today's text is something of a more personal nature.

What I would like to do is take you on a tour of our arboretum and share some of my own interpretations

and the stories I see during my day-to-day work. I will include both Latin and common names when referring to trees for those of you that are interested but otherwise I will be relatively informal. However you choose to read this journey, make sure you are relaxed. Go make a hot cup of tea or maybe some soup. For those of you that find yourself weak at the knees for other treats, go grab some chocolate. Maybe the brave could sneakily prepare a G and T.

Whatever your preferred way of being relaxed, go get prepared, peruse the other articles, and while doing so take your time, and when ready find my story later in this newsletter and follow me on a small journey where we taste a small part of the large pie that is Eastwoodhill Arboretum.

# RAMARAMA A PERSPECTIVE

This article takes its root from a recent visit to “The Meeting of the Waters Reserve” near New Plymouth. It is a relatively small DOC reserve with remnant forest containing tawa, matai, totara and kahikatea as its main canopy trees which line both sides of the Waiwhakaiho river. It is under this canopy where something curious occurs.

The genus *Lophomyrtus* is endemic to our country and it contains two species. They are rōhutu (*Lophomyrtus obcordata*); and ramarama (*Lophomyrtus bullata*).



Figure 1 *Lophomyrtus bullata* Figure 2 *Lophomyrtus obcordata*

Initially they were placed under the genus *Myrtus* but were eventually reclassified in their own genus in 1941. In the early 1900's there was a debate amongst our most notable botanists that there was a third species *Lophomyrtus ralphii*. It was thought that it was closely related to *L. bullata* but with smaller leaves and fewer berries. *L. ralphii* does not exclusively occur at “The Meeting of the Waters Reserve” but it is here however that evidence was gathered that concluded that *L. ralphii* is actually a natural hybridisation between *L. bullata* and *L. obcordata*. To this day you can still find both *Lophomyrtus* parents at the reserve and their hybrids in all their different forms. But this is not where the story ends.



Figure 1 A *Lophomyrtus* hybrid at “The meeting of the waters reserve” near New Plymouth

Since the arrival of myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) in New Zealand in May 2017, *L. bullata* has been found to be very susceptible. The infected hosts that have been found are predominantly found in urban areas. It is New Plymouth nurserymen that have propagated this small hybrid tree (taken from the Meeting of the Waters Reserve) which now has many different leaf shapes and colours to the degree that there are now numerous varieties. It adorns many New Zealand gardens in all its colourful varieties.

Actually this small tree has been exported all over the world, and in fact, *Lophomyrtus* is the main affected host of myrtle rust in Tasmania (Biosecurity Tasmania, 2017).

But what does the future look like for this tree and how will it adapt to the presence of the fungal disease myrtle rust? Now that its proven to be so susceptible, will we lose *Lophomyrtus* altogether?

Curiously, a very similar incursion happened in 1973, when poplar rust (*MelampsoraSpp*) first reached New Zealand. Both are fungal diseases and both arrived here on Trans-Tasman wind currents from Australia. Poplars have a long cultural history in New Zealand where they are planted to control erosion and create shelter. Poplar rust proved to be devastating to some of the cultivars present in New Zealand (A.G. Spiers, 1989). On the bright side, resistant cultivars were identified and propagated. Poplars continue to be of great asset to the agricultural industry. Furthermore trees do have the ability to adapt and create resistance themselves to some degree. It is proven however that myrtle rust (or at least the strain that is present in New Zealand) is sexual and not clonal, suggesting that the fungus can adapt to New Zealand hosts and environmental circumstances (McTaggart et al. 2017). Historically it is proven that a disease will not kill all its hosts in order to survive itself. Hopefully there is natural resistance to myrtle rust present within the species that in turn can be propagated.



Figure 2 Symptoms of myrtle rust on *Lophomyrtus*.

Truthfully, *Lophomyrtus* does not have the grandeur of our Kauri or Pōhutukawa. As a sub-canopy tree it has its' niche in our unique ecosystem and it would be sadly missed. How the story will unfold for *Lophomyrtus* remains to be seen.

— MENNO KLUITERS

# THE STORY OF WILLIAM DOUGLAS COOK

## THE MAN WHOSE DREAM BECAME EASTWOODHILL

Taken from Eastwoodhill Information Series No. 1

On the 28th of October 1884 at New Plymouth, Jessie (nee Miller) and William Cook welcomed the safe arrival of William Douglas Cook.

At the age of 17, Douglas left home, and in 1903 moved to Hawkes Bay where he worked on Stirrett-Orr's "Rosemount" Station at Puketapu for the lessee Hughie Mckenzie where he earned £1 a week as a cowboy.

In 1904 he borrowed £140 from his father to buy 10 acres of the J.N.Williams "Frimely" peach orchard on Omaha Road, Hastings. He was in Hastings for about four years but two seasons of frosts destroying the crops put his position there in jeopardy. He worked on farms and spent some time at Waipiro Bay working around "Takapau" Station before selling his peach block for £600 and moved to Ngatapa.

In 1910 he was successful in drawing sections one and four in the ballot for the Ngatapa subdivision which he named "Eastwoodhill" after the Miller family home in Thornliebank near Glasgow. A small two roomed cabin was built replaced in 1914 by a larger dwelling.

As to his ability as a farmer, locals spoke of Douglas as being a most inadequate farmer. In Douglas Cook's own words of 1963... "I never was a farmer. That was only a means of living in the hills and being my own boss. I never could stand taking orders and loved roaming the hills". He certainly saw the farming life as an opportunity.

He began planting immediately on taking up "Eastwoodhill". Roses, flowers, vegetables, orchards and woodlots were planted in that first year - 1910. Many seeds of trees and shrubs were purchased and sown. An order of one hundred trees and shrubs and one hundred rhododendrons and azaleas arrived a week or so before he was due to head off to Trentham Camp and it was a rush to get these planted.

Douglas volunteered to serve in the First World War and served in the Light Artillery in Egypt, Gallipoli and lastly

France. In Gallipoli he lost the end of a finger to a bullet, and in France he lost the sight of his right eye.

He was sent to Britain to recuperate where he stayed with his family in Scotland. He admired the gardens and homes. This was impetus for him to begin planning a garden at "Eastwoodhill". In his own words ... "I'd got the idea after staying with wealthy relatives and their friends that I too could have lovely surroundings, even if I could never have a fine home and live as they did. That was the start of the Park. A dignified park to drive through to my home - whatever the size. Set your heart at an objective and believe in your heart you'll achieve it and you will. Where most men fail is in the lack of faith in themselves".

To be continued...



# THE ENDLESS JOURNEY

We start here in the Homestead Garden. Being autumn, the tui are keeping their voices low, the occasional kereru bobs from tree to tree with its soft yet noisy flight. These are just two of the many voices that make up the collaboration that is the birds melody in the autumn. As we walk down the main track, through a wooden gate and into our first collection of mature trees we find ourselves looking up at a liquid ambar, a *Liquidambar styraciflua* to be exact. Its branches are well spread, and the leaves are beginning to turn a deep yet somehow bright red. To our right are a pair of *Fagus sylvatica*, the common beech. These haven't fully turned yet, and while we crane our necks upwards to view them in all their glory, we notice the mid-morning autumn sunlight filtering through their light green leaves, causing both themselves and the entire rooftop they have proudly created to glow in a soft green aura. We've found ourselves spinning slowly in a circle while admiring them and looking up at the towering *Cupressus sempervirens*. These nine Italian cypress will soon be the only trees with leaves left nearby, left to talk in the winter winds while standing like a tall proud sentry in a semi-circle around the now unused water fountain at their feet. Or maybe they are in quiet deliberation, like knights of old, leaning on swords around a table from times past?

We look back to eye level to make sure we haven't almost walked into a tree while occupied with such thoughts. Who is that on the small knoll over there? Why, it's the tree man, who unlike the knights, stands hard and defiant. Unlike his surrounding companions he is made of iron and will never move, always standing in stark contrast to his peers. But let's not let his apparent lack of life fool us. Soon he shall bite when touched, for winter is on the horizon and it will chill him to the core. But today his eternal hardness is tempered by his warm response as he basks in the glow of our sun.

Past the *Quercus coccinea* we continue. Our feet crunching leaves and then playfully stirring - no! Now kicking and thrashing about in them! So many! The leaves are dancing, creating an endless party, for while they have been shed from their parents, they are celebrating the circle of life. They end their lives wearing outrageous colours and create a welcoming party for all who would walk amongst their numbers. "Again!" they cry again and again. As we turn to leaf (pun intended) we decide one last farewell is in order, falling into the party we lie with them, staring up at their parents. For the scarlet oaks are yet to farewell more of their leaves and stand on fire, testament to their name. Reluctantly we roll over, leaving the party as we sense something around the corner, something quiet, but sleeping. The quiet babble of water gives the game away. We round the corner searching for the source. Quietly the babble

continues and we stare out overcome by the greeting we have received. The pond sits still, quietly sipping away at its tributaries that faithfully deliver what trees unseen have yet to use. The source of the gentle babbling is on our left. We notice that this pond is generous, and forever hands on her water down a bank and into a deeply shaded gully, with ferns that help protect her treasure as it is delivered downstream. As we admire her we are joined by others. Oaks. Oaks of all types and forms are paying tribute to her, for how would they drink during those parched summer months behind us if it were not for her well of water? We watch them release their leaves to the breeze, gently laying them across her head in a silent thank you for her faithful efforts. Unlike their sister scarlet oaks, they are subtler, displaying their frocks in oranges and yellows. With sudden clarity we realise that we are possibly under-dressed, hair dishevelled and full of evidence of our party with the leaves. We should leaf (again!) these trees to their traditions and move on, I think I spy an unused bee's nest over there and we know for sure that the monkey puzzle tree is cheekily trying to trick us into handling their sharp leaves and seeds...

I hope you enjoyed our brief journey, and more importantly I hope it ignited something inside of you. Whether it be the quest for exploration, the thirst for more, or even a hark back to younger days. For me personally I have found this journey to be about remembering to appreciate what we have, to remember to stop and be playful, inquisitive, even daring, but above all, to be relaxed. We often get caught up in the details - what is this tree doing, why? What sets it apart from the others? When is the best time to cut our roses? Do my avocados need a more pH neutral fertilizer? Maybe that pot should sit slightly further to the left?

Let's all take time to remember, we all have a connection to nature, and regardless of how we enjoy it, we are both privileged and entitled to enjoy it while we can.

**DANIEL TAYLOR**  
PLANT COLLECTIONS





# A VISIT TO SOME OF THE GARDENS OF SCOTLAND

Many in New Zealand can trace their ancestry back to Scotland so it is not surprising that when visiting the gardens of Scotland we find so many plants and trees that are familiar to us, having known them from our gardens in New Zealand.

During our visit to the UK last year (May 2017) we were fortunate to be able to spend several weeks in Scotland. We joined a group of IDS (International Dendrology Society) members for a week to visit some of the great gardens in the south west of Scotland. Some of the private properties had been developed over many generations by their passionate owners who had imported rare and exotic plants from all over the world. Others were public gardens or arboretums that specialised in plants from specific parts of the world that best suited their regional micro-climate. Of particular interest to us were the Logan Botanic Gardens. These gardens are an outpost of the well-known Edinburgh Botanic Gardens but are situated on a peninsular on the south west coast, an area with a mild climate due to the influence of the Gulf Stream. This climate provides ideal growing conditions for an amazing collection of southern hemisphere plants.

Why should someone from the southern hemisphere travel to the other side of the world to see plants from their home country? Many of the visitors I take around Eastwoodhill are from the northern hemisphere and are very interested in plants from their climatic zone and so it was with us.

The entrance to the Logan Gardens is via a long avenue of New Zealand cabbage trees, *Cordyline australis*, that

most distinctive of New Zealand plants. These specimens were looking very healthy and not affected by the dreaded disease that has decimated our populations here. As we went around the gardens we noticed many other plants that were familiar such as kaka beak (*Clianthus puniceus*), again looking very healthy with no sign of the caterpillar infestation that is so common here. We were intrigued to see a New Zealand kauri (*Agathus australis*) and it was even producing cones!

As well as New Zealand plants, the collection contained a great many from Australia, South Africa and South America and all looked quite at home on the coast of Scotland. It seems that this is an excellent example of the value of plant collections in different locations around the world. If the present kauri dieback is as serious as some are predicting and all of ours are wiped out, it is just possible that the kauri we saw in Scotland may be the saviour of the species. The same of course could be said of many of the trees that are thriving at Eastwoodhill but are threatened by disease in their own country. Species such as the European elm (*Ulmus spp.*), most of which have been wiped out in the UK and Europe by Dutch elm disease. Likewise, the ash trees (*Fraxinus spp.*) have very largely been killed in North America by the emerald ash borer. We may never know the true value of the legacy that Douglas Cook left to the world but it is becoming increasingly obvious how internationally important the Eastwoodhill collection is!

— **RODNEY FAULKNER**





# EASTWOODHILL IN THE AUTUMN

Eastwoodhill is currently ablaze with colour as I write this. Looking out the window I see our *Koelreuteria bipinnata*, or the Chinese flame tree, is beginning to live up to its name. Located in our visitor's courtyard, it is currently greeting visitors with a grand display. Some leaves are yellow, others are green and there is no middle ground making for a fantastically contrasting display. Our *Sapium japonicum*, the Japanese tallow tree, is also firing away on all cylinders at the moment, announcing autumn with a heated passion of yellow, orange and red.

The *Populus* species have finished the race already and are now beginning to lie in wait for winter while we have other species gearing up for winter. Trees such as the *Abies pinsapo* (Spanish fir) are currently proudly

displaying their cones at the top of their reach. These cones are a greenish pink and purple that will mature to brown when ready. Our *Cedrus* species are also busy as they are unusual in the sense that they pollenate now rather than in spring time.

I have been asked to provide an opinion on when I think winter and spring are likely to be here, and what sort of winter and spring we are expected to have. While I do not have a crystal ball I can guarantee you two things; winter is expected to follow hot on the heels of what has been a relatively dry autumn and spring will most likely appear between winter and summer, it's usually fairly punctual with such things!

## “DEAR PRU”

**Gordon Collier was garden advisor for Eastwoodhill for many years, on the original plants committee and is a great friend of Eastwoodhill. Many garden enthusiasts and botanists will know him well. Pru Roberts is the Chair of the Friends of Eastwoodhill, on the Board of Trustees for Eastwoodhill and a long time friend and volunteer for Eastwoodhill, as well as being a plant enthusiast!**

Dear Gordon,

Hope you are well! Great to see you recently and thank you for the very special 'ruby wedding' plant. Marg, our membership co-ordinator says she thinks we have it here in the Kuri garden. I would love to know more about it! Thank you also for the cranesbill geranium Annette - I had no idea it came from you. Would love to know more about that as well.

Last week another original plants committee person visited the arboretum, Allan Jellyman, along with Lyn Babich, a long time Pukeiti Board member. We spent most of the day walking around with Rodney Faulkner. You could have called them 'The Three Wise Men'!

Douglas Cook's other great love Pukeiti has certainly had some wonderful investment. I am not happy to be missing out on the Gardens Trust Conference in New Plymouth, but am going to Dunedin for the International Dendrology Society conference. I have just been to Matakana for the [www.creativematakana.nz](http://www.creativematakana.nz). Was absolutely fabulous!

Looking forward to catching up soon.

— Pru.

Dear Pru,

Yes, it was good to see you and have a talk about this and that.

*Fuchsia 'Ruby Wedding'* was named by Dan Hinkley after he took cuttings back to his garden near Seattle, it definitely wouldn't be in Eastwoodhill!

It is a cross between the native *Fuchsia excorticata* 'Purpurea' x *F. procumbens*. A small bush it colours wine red in full sun – maybe a bit tender but responds well to pruning in early spring.

'Annette' is a cranesbill geranium – a seedling from *Geranium pratense* that arose in my garden. I showed it to a nursery man friend from Auckland who thought it worthwhile and we named it for Annette. He eventually patented it and after tissue culture and within a short time many plants found their way this season into The Warehouse; plants can also be found in the Parva Plants catalogue. In reasonable soil and in a sunny spot it makes a nice spreading plant displaying deep violet flowers with a small white centre. Cut back after the first summer flowering it will bloom again well into the autumn. Annette would be pleased to know her plant is blooming at Eastwoodhill.

I am sorry you won't be in New Plymouth to see Pukeiti – Douglas Cook's dream child. Having spent \$4 million on it already, the Taranaki District Council plan a further \$4m in the future including an aerial walkway through the bush. Eastwoodhill needs a fairy god mother like that too!

— Gordon.

# THE GREAT MANDALAS!

During the past school holidays, The Friends of Eastwoodhill Arboretum held three days of art workshops. As it was autumn and the arboretum was visually stunning, the workshops took on an environmental theme – ‘creating mandalas’ (mandala is a sanskrit word for ‘circle’).

Children, teachers, artists, parents and grandparents met each day at Eastwoodhill for a journey of gathering “found objects” from the ground. Teaming up in groups or pairs, or working individually, we created amazing mandala patterns with leaves, acorns, twigs, pebbles, berries, fruit, petals, lichen, seeds and pods.

Each day, as the walks changed, different objects the children found were collected which dictated the overall look of the mandalas. We also created large mandalas with autumn leaves on large grassy banks.

These mandalas were not permanent fixtures as they were subject to the changing environment. Some remained in the forest from the workshop the day before, yet others were blown by the wind and disappeared. Luckily we had cameras on hand to photograph the works.

I was really impressed with the response and enthusiasm of the children and parents who attended. Even the tourists and visitors got involved, asking questions and taking photographs.

We will certainly be conducting more environmental workshops in the future as co-habiting with nature is extremely therapeutic, rewarding and fun.

A big thanks to all the helpers, parents, Eastwoodhill staff and the enthusiastic students who participated.

— **MELODY CRAW**

ON BEHALF OF THE FRIENDS OF EASTWOODHILL

# THE TEDDY BEARS' RETURN!

On March the fourth the Teddy Bears' Picnic returned to Eastwoodhill Arboretum. It proved to be an exciting day for all the children who brought along their bear and their family to partake in all the activities provided.

Goldilocks and The Three Bears (drama students from GGHS and GBHS) were very busy, reading bear stories to the children and leading them through the forest on the Teddy Bear Hunt. Other activities included scarecrow and bird feeder-making, bouncy castle tumbling, amazing face painting and prize giveaways. There were also raffles to

be bought, sausages to munch, sweet cupcakes to delight and free drinks from More FM.

We were lucky to have The Band School and Barleycorn entertaining us throughout the day which kept our attention away from the impending rain...like all great teddy bears...we survived.

So, our Teddy Bears' Picnic would not have been successful without all the support and hard work from the following groups and people.

We thank immensely: Young Nicks Station, Vet Ent, Draggnett Design, PaperPlus, Muirs, Gisborne Musical Theatre, The HB Williams Memorial Library, The Hospice Shop, The Habitat Shop, Kaiti Mall, The Gisborne East Coast Cancer Society, Olwynne and Deane Craw, Eve, Tyler, Liam and Chloe, The two Sue's and Bethan, Chrissie, 'Feather', The Gate Keepers, Carole, Sandy, Pru, Mel, Marion and Da Boys (Dan and Adam).

— **THE FRIENDS OF THE EASTWOODHILL**



# DIARY DATES

**MAY 20 FRIENDS OF EASTWOODHILL AGM**

**MAY 27 BGANZ DAY – FREE ENTRY!**

Free day out at Eastwoodhill Arboretum. Bring the whole family out for a day in the forest and gardens. Surprise activities planned.

**JUNE 09 RARANGA WEAVING DAY WORKSHOP**

Come and learn to weave at Eastwoodhill with Heeni Kerekere. Make your own rourou (food basket) and nga putiputi (flowers) from harakeke (flax). Morning tea and lunch provided. \$40. Limited numbers. Email [eh.art.workshops@gmail.com](mailto:eh.art.workshops@gmail.com) to register.

**AUGUST 31 DAFFODIL DAY**



## MYRTLE RUST

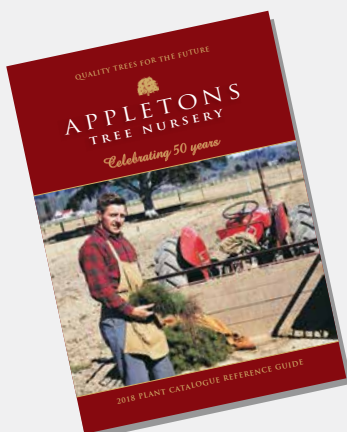
Eastwoodhill is currently in the monitoring phase when it comes to our Myrtle Rust response. This involves checking all of our trees that may be affected. This process covers a total of 255 made up of 42 individual types of genera. While we have not found any evidence of Myrtle Rust in the arboretum yet we are very aware that it is only a matter of time before it arrives. When found we will be notifying Ministry for Primary Industries and will then respond according to their recommendation and requests.

In regards to ensuring the future of the collection itself, we are currently collecting seed as it becomes available. Cuttings are another option we are exploring. Myrtle Rust attacks fresh growth and could very easily wipe out any young plants we grow, whether via cuttings or seed and this is going to provide a very interesting challenge. There are others within the industry that are working on solutions and following their advice on the matter is something we will be doing.

## OUR CONDOLENCES...

We were informed by the family of Sholto Douglas Cook of his passing on 25th March 2018. Sholto was adopted in early 1933 as a six month old infant. Unfortunately life was not easy for his mother Claire, and they left in 1937, first to Auckland and then to Wanganui. Sholto went to England in 1947 and spent two years at the Royal Navy Training College as an officer cadet, but failed an eye test. He then went to work on a farm in St Albans in 1952 but returned to Eastwoodhill to help out in 1953 and celebrated his 21st with his father. But after that an argument saw Sholto leave and work on an East Coast sheep station, and unfortunately during his father's lifetime, but did visit him in the 1960's while he was in Morris Convalescent Home with his wife and children. In 1992, Sholto did return to Eastwoodhill to take part in the official opening of the Douglas Cook Centre for Education. His family were going to bring Sholto over in January of this year, but due to ill health he couldn't travel. We hope that his family will visit in memory of their dad sometime in the near future.

## QUALITY TREES FOR THE FUTURE



  
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## OUR MEMBERS

Eastwoodhill is proud to have such wonderful members. Not only does your membership allow you to come back to Eastwoodhill as many times as you want each year, but your membership fee and donation is essential in helping us not only survive but develop this wonderful New Zealand asset. This will enable us to enjoy this wonderful botanical world now and for future generations to come.

Please join us as a member of Eastwoodhill, or pass the message on to your friends who like to support New Zealand conservation.

To download a membership form, go to [www.eastwoodhill.org.nz/membership](http://www.eastwoodhill.org.nz/membership) and post with your payment to:

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