



**FRIENDS OF
EASTWOODHILL**

*Friends
OF
Eastwoodhill*

Spring has Sprung!





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Coming Events

2021

November 5–8	Gisborne Garden & Arts Weekend
November 19	An evening with Jo Seagar
December 2	Christmas Shopping Evening at Eastwoodhill

2022

March 27	Eastwoodhill Teddy Bear's Picnic
May 29	Botanic Gardens Day

Contacts

06 863 9003
enquiries@eastwoodhill.org.nz
www.eastwoodhill.org.nz

Visitor Centre – Opening Hours

Weekdays 8am – 4.30pm
Weekends and public holidays 9am – 4pm

Eastwoodhill Trust Board

Jane Williams (Chair)
Peter Jackman
Susan Kemp
Patrick Willock
Pru Roberts
Philip Cave

Newsletter design by Draggnett



Welcome from the

Friends

Welcome to the Eastwoodhill spring newsletter.

The Arboretum is coming alive with the daffodils in full bloom and the magnolias are magnificent.

The Friends of Eastwoodhill (EWH) committee are the fundraising arm for our national treasure. We produce the newsletter twice a year, organise fundraising events and we run the Tasty Leaf Catering service which caters for weddings, birthday parties, Christmas parties and

celebrations of any kind (contact the office to book!).

This season EWH will be having a drive to increase the Membership. Members will now be known as 'Friends of EWH. Becoming a friend is so much more than a BEAUTIFUL WALK THROUGH THE TREES... IT SECURES "Trees for our Future".

There are always a lot of projects on at EWH. The new branding has been completed, and the first stage of the ring road has been finished. The web site is currently being updated.

The Tasty Leaf Caterers have many exciting fundraisers coming up. The pop-up café will open during the spring and summer on certain weekends – but keep an eye on the web site for opening days. As we are all volunteers there are some times that we are unable to open. We are always looking for more helpers to either help out in the shop or help with one-off events or if you enjoy the odd cooking join our catering team. All our efforts go towards maintaining this fantastic asset we have right here in New Zealand which currently rescues trees from all around the world. If you are interested in volunteering even for just a day, please contact the office.

Exciting news! We are in the process of purchasing a new Marco Bru coffee machine and will be using Far East Coffee from now on. We are excited to have real coffee to serve!

The fabulous Chef Jo Seagar is coming to us on the 19th of November. It will be a night of good fun and delicious food. We will be featuring all local produce and the night will have wonderful nibbles washed down with a glass of local vino. There will be a few exciting auction items to tickle your fancy. Tickets will be available at the office from October.

Remember the EWH shop is full of great gifts, from baby goodies to pots and gorgeous homewares. The very popular 'Pre-Christmas Shopping Evening' will be held in the courtyard at EWH on the 2nd of December. All friends of EWH get 10% off any purchases in the shop. Maz is currently stocking up on some wonderful goodies.

We are also in the process of updating the history of EWH by reproducing and updating the book "A Man's Tall Dream". We hope to have this published later in the year. This will be a must for everyone's coffee table.

The very popular Teddy Bears picnic will be held in early April 2022.

We have had many cyclists staying in our accommodation. We offer yummy meals from the Tasty Leaf Catering volunteers to enjoy after a long day cycling the Motu trails. The common room has had a make-over and is a great place to cosy up for the evening.

We look forward to welcoming many of you back to the park and look forward to seeing many new faces.

Kaye Williams

**Chair
Friends of Eastwoodhill**





We captured some beautiful images over lock-down levels three and four for you to enjoy....it's been fantastic to welcome everyone back into the Arboretum for level two. Hope you all were safe and well in your homes. It was a great effort by the whole of New Zealand, especially Auckland.



The Curator's Desk

“Where focus goes energy flows” Tony Robbins

On reflection, the past year has been a year of focus around our unique story, purpose and how we communicate our potential to New Zealand and the world. Telling our story well does everything we need to succeed...

Douglas Cook created something beautiful from the depths of war for all New Zealanders and adapted his purpose for global tree conservation. HB Williams' gift and foresight to ensure our collection is secured into the future was visionary.

We have begun to express these key messages in everything that we do and how we communicate. The impact of our story is so powerful and intrinsic to our being, that we are starting to experience powerful feedback and interactions. These vary from word-of-mouth recommendations for our guided tours through to being accepted as a Level 2 accredited collection via ArbNet, the worldwide interactive community of Arboreta.

Amplification of these messages will take centre stage with the newly created Awareness and Fundraising Campaign called "Trees for our Future". This campaign is bold and ambitious. The 'Awareness' aspect will target all of our potentially aligned partners and supporters with aims to increase research, connectivity and collaboration to advance global tree conservation. The 'Fundraising' aspect will focus on areas of long-term partnering and shorter-term needs. It will clearly define how any special donation will be used and give the donor options on where their gift can add value to our general maintenance, capital projects, annual fundraiser or our endowment funds – the Eastwoodhill Reserve Fund and/or our Special Interest Sunrise Endowment fund (<https://www.sunrisefoundation.org.nz/sunrise-funds/funds/>).

A successful campaign will educate all stakeholders about Eastwoodhill and our purpose to support global tree conservation via our Arboreal Ark process and:

- allow us to employ seven new staff members over the next five years and a projected 16 in total, forecasted in an ideal scenario into the future, with the focus of maintaining the collection,
- focus our efforts to continue capital infrastructure projects such as the continuation of the Link Road, building a new multi-purpose building for research and conferences, increasing accommodation and improving the organisation,
- include annual fundraising campaigns that will focus on items or projects less than \$100k, such as a new electric tour bus, a piece of machinery or a smaller infrastructure project,

- bolster our endowment funds.

Supporting these messages will be our new branding. Coupled with our new logo, the brand will clearly designate and represent our organisation in all our activities. A huge thank you to Draggnett Design for their creativity and the sub-committee for working through the options and details. A new website is also being created to reflect the branding and "Trees for our Future" campaign.

Our amplification also took place across New Zealand at numerous events:

- April 2020 – I appeared on the NZ ARB Virtual Couch interview <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=833894333772251>
- November 2020 – I attended and presented at the NZARB Annual Conference
- November 2020 – Marion attended and presented at the Tauranga Garden Festival
- February 2021 – I was interviewed by Jesse Mulligan for Radio New Zealand <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons/audio/2018782456/the-story-of-eastwoodhill-arboretum>
- March 2021 – I attended the NZ Farm Forestry Conference.

Other achievements in the last year:

The Link Road (Phase One) was tendered in 2020–21 and completed in May of this financial year. A great asset and start to this one-million-dollar project. Phase One is 900 meters long and will eventually link the whole arboretum, with the Masterplan aim to access all Eco-Zones and Eco-Regions our collection represents.

The revalidation of the collection has advanced and 20% has been re-inspected. It is important for us to have a clear overview of the current condition of our trees from a tree health perspective and safety purposes for our visitors and other assets.

We posted our highest ever visitor numbers for the financial year which is an awesome achievement.

On reflection we have had a huge effort in the past 12 months that will hopefully amplify, connect and increase our funding over the next five years. I ask all of our supporters to help spread the message and direct people to our website and various social media.

Thank you

Martin Weaver
Curator

Board Member Report

By Phil Cave

As I write this report I am sitting at my desk during a level 4 COVID lockdown. Ironically we had our EWH AGM on the day it was announced. During this meeting we spent some time reflecting on the challenges we had faced over the last 18 months. These reflections seem very pertinent now.

No income for around 3 months over what is, traditionally, our busiest time. Reduced hours and pay for all the staff. The stress of not knowing when, or if, this will ever end. Zoom meetings for the technologically challenged Board members... thanks Martin for your patience and guidance there.

But we got through. Record visitor numbers since. Record shop sales. No redundancies. So on this point I would like to thank everyone who helped this happen and with a special thanks to Jane, our Chairperson, our managers and our staff. It was a very challenging and stressful time for them all.

Over this last Autumn, Maree and I were privileged to be able to walk the length of the South Island staying in back country huts and a tent. In fact, when our daughter saw the size of our tent she expressed serious concerns for our marriage.

1300km over two months. Yes, we are proud of the physical accomplishment. We got to see parts of NZ that you can only get to see by carrying a backpack for up to ten days at a time.

But for me the highlight was the people we met and the experiences we shared. The exhilaration of reaching the top of a mountain pass. The relief of getting across a swift river. The need for team work on a difficult section. I even learnt how to high five and man hug.

So how does this link back to EWH? We are a beautiful collection of trees which we are all very proud of. But EWH



"1300km over two months. Yes, we are proud of the physical accomplishment"

is more than that. We survived the challenges of the last year because of the people. Our Board, our managers and staff. Our Friends. Our volunteers. And the visitors and donors who have continued to support us.

So on behalf of the Board can I take this opportunity to thank you all.

To quote the Maori proverb;

"He aha te mea nui o te ao. He tangata, he tangata, he tangata."

"What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people."

A Lifetime of Happy Places

Written by Chris Somerton, a valued and dedicated volunteer.



Gardens can be many things to all of us. A place to work, to plant, to create, play, share, think, to heal and to feel a presence of something bigger than self. So, 30 years ago my husband Dave and I bought a bare hectare of land at Hexton to attempt all these things. Our kids were at the point of transitioning from us to their futures, but kept bringing friends home every holidays.

We all loved watching our happy place develop, the family grew as the years passed and we were lucky enough to be given some lovely trees to plant from family, friends and Dave's patients as he was a practising GP.

We had many happy occasions over the years- three family weddings, significant birthdays, Christmas cricket matches, Air BnB guests, garden festivals and finally retirement lunches as well having a space to scatter parents at rest.

All good things come to an end and joints and muscles do not react as they used to, so we decided to sell the place. A young family now have it, as should be the way.

Memories do not stay in a house or a garden they carry on with you, so we moved into a town house we'd built ten years ago within walking distance to town. "Garden 'til your hearts content" he said. So, my plonkers garden has begun. I buy and plonk! There is colour, smells and bees for us all to enjoy and a book share box on the fence - so my heart is content.

However, with some time and energy on our hands we were asked to join in caring for Eastwoodhill.

We have become volunteers up there and love the place and people involved with nurturing this new happy place. We, the people of New Zealand, each own EWH and we must nurture it for the future and our families. It has become a living repository of seeds for elsewhere. We encourage you to come and help in the many ways available to help.

Dave and I love food and being hospitable, so we help that way. However, if food is not your thing there are many other ways to be useful. Just phone the office and fill your spaces at EWH.



Two Tasty Leaf recipes

Chicken Pie

Provided by Kaye Williams
our wonderful Chair of the Friends.

Ingredients

2 tablespoons butter
4 rashers bacon
Tin mushrooms or fresh
Herbs- thyme and rosemary all chopped
2 stalks celery and/or leeks, or any vegetables
1 cup white wine
Cornflour for thickening mixed with 1½ cups of water
12 boneless, skinless chicken thighs chopped into thirds
Salt and pepper
Filo pastry

Method

Pre-heat oven to 180°C.
Melt butter, cook bacon, all vegetables until soft, add mushrooms and herbs. Add wine and cornflour and stir until sauce thickens. Season well.
Put all into a shallow casserole dish and stir in the chicken.
Filo pastry – scrunch up sheets of buttered pastry and pop on top.
Bake for 40 minutes.

Heavenly Delights!

Zucchini, Chocolate and Coconut Slice

Base ingredients

110g butter (at room temperature)
¾ cup sugar
1½ cups flours (sifted)

Topping ingredients

3 eggs
1½ cups grated raw zucchini (about 1 large zucchini)
2 cups brown sugar (firmly packed)
1½ cups coconut thread
70g slivered almonds
½ cup chocolate chips
1½ teaspoons vanilla essence
3 tablespoons flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
Pinch salt

Base method

Preheat oven to 190°C. Cream butter and sugar. Add flour and mix until the dough starts to come together. Transfer mixture to a greased 24cm x 30cm pan and press it down to cover the base. Bake for 10-15 minutes.

Topping method

Beat eggs, add zucchini, sugar, coconut, almonds, chocolate chips and vanilla essence. Mix together flour, baking powder and salt. Add zucchini mixture and combine. Spread zucchini mixture over cooked base and bake for 25-30 minutes, until the top is golden. Cool completely before cutting.



Friends
OF
Eastwoodhill

Why become of Friend of Eastwoodhill?

As well as helping to support this wonderful place through a 'friendship' (membership) subscription there are lots of good reasons to join the Friends....

Enjoy free access to the arboretum for you and your family

Keep up-to-date and informed through the newsletters

Take advantage of a discounted rate and first option on tickets for special events

10% of goods in the shop

You will be helping us ensure the future of tree specimens for our global future

To become a friend please check out the web site...

www.eastwoodhill.org.nz

Become a Volunteer

Each year the passion for ewh brings many helpers into the park.

100's of volunteer hours are needed to run the arboretum

and maintain this special environment

we need your help!

Ways You Can Help

We would like to put together a group of male volunteers to help out in the park with our more physical or outdoor jobs.

Females are encouraged also!

Volunteer Roles Available

Gardener • Visitor Centre shop volunteer (1 day a year)

Tasty Leaf Caterers • Pop-up café hosts

Special event helpers • Content writing for the newsletter



PAKÍNSAVE

GIZZY

**SUPPORTER OF
THE FRIENDS OF EASTWOODHILL**



*An evening with
Jo Seagar*

Join us for some fun, fabulous food & drinks with friends!

19 NOVEMBER 2021, 5.30PM – 7.30PM

Venue: Waikanae Surf Club | Tickets: \$70

Tickets available from Eastwoodhill

*The Friends of Eastwoodhill would love
to invite you to an evening with
the wonderful cook Jo Seagar.*

We will enjoy some of Jo's delicious recipes,
which will be prepared by Jo and the
Tasty Leaf Caterers from the
Friends of Eastwoodhill.

"From Garden Gate to Dinner Plate."™

LEADERBRAND®

Locally Grown



Eastwoodhill Memories

Written by Phillida Eivers

My relationship with Eastwoodhill began in 1965 when Dad purchased the property "to prevent it being destroyed and put back into farmland". Dad's passion for trees and shrubs included us all as a family. We would all go together to help eradicate the thorny acacia tree problem out there, usually in the autumn holidays.

Mum would pack up a picnic lunch- bacon and egg pie, Anzac biscuits and/or sultana cake, fruit, and thermoses for cups of tea. Dad would pack in pruners, leather gloves (for the thorns were very vicious), chainsaws, matches and paper, and a small can of petrol or diesel to start the fire. To think now how dangerous that was for Eastwoodhill!

We mostly worked in Pear Park, then up in The Dell where the memorial stands now. Dad and Marcus on the chainsaws - the rest of us carefully pruning the larger branches into smaller manageable pieces, then picking up and stacking the prunings into heaps for burning. Stock were, in those days, grazing under the canopy of trees, so it was deemed too dangerous to leave the prunings lying

around, for the thorns can create a nasty wound which then can fester.

A welcome lunch beside the fire, which was started almost immediately so that we could tend it all day - green prunings burn just as well as dry, as the sap carries the fire - this lesson learnt at that time.

We'd carry on until around afternoon tea time, tending the fire till it died down and we could go home knowing it was out and Eastwoodhill safe; tired and feeling very pleased with ourselves, with fire-kissed faces, and aching muscles.

XP

- To be continued!



**JOIN US FOR A
FANTASTIC SHOPPING
EVENING AT
EASTWOODHILL**

4pm – 7pm

Thursday

2nd December 2021

**Friends get 10% off anything
purchased.**

Drinks and nibbles provided.



Have you visited our shop – we have lots of gorgeous things available to purchase as gifts, for a friend or grab something lovely for yourself!!
 All Friends get 10% off in the shop.

Quick facts

Our collection is unique in the world with over 15,000 specimens, 150 different families, 530 genera and over 2,300 species.

There are currently 151 globally threatened species in our collection.

Our Arboreal Arc protects and ensures protection for 151 globally threatened species from 67 countries the collection currently represents.

In the 2020–2021 year the Friends donated a total of \$37,744 to Eastwoodhill. 44 educational groups came through the gates totalling 1309 visitors, mainly children.

A total of 10,938 visitors came through the arboretum in the last year.




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Friends

We would love to have your support on social media. If you love our images and keen for some member only deals and joining a like-minded community then please join our Friends of Eastwoodhill group on Facebook. The curating team will be sharing some tips and tricks for your garden and we will be posting content on the seasonal goings on at Eastwoodhill. All Friends get entry to this group with your annual Friend-ship (membership!) www.facebook.com/friendsofeastwoodhill

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