

TreeMatters

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE
NEW ZEALAND ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

EDITION 97
Spring 2023
ISSN 1174-4715

NZ ARB 2023 CONFERENCE

Waihōpai Invercargill

ILT Stadium Southland | 9-11 November 2023



► IN THIS ISSUE

Members: \$17.50 + GST per issue / \$70 + GST per annum
Non-Members: \$25.00 + GST per issue / \$100 + GST per annum

STREETS AHEAD IN DIVERSITY
TIAGO MIRANDA

Tiago Miranda

P. 12

**NEW HUSQVARNA DIELECTRIC
POLE SAW OFFERS
UNPRECEDENTED VERSATILITY**

Tania Kragner

P. 22

SOUTH ISLAND TCC 2023

Alvar Del Castillo

P. 31

ARBORIST SUPPLIES

Harnesses & Ropes

Carabiners

Climbing Irons

Rigging

Pulleys

Fliplines

Friction Savers

LEVIN SAWMAKERS LTD.
 PO Box 1066, 15 Tiro Tiro Road, Levin, New Zealand
 Phone: 06-368 2494 Fax: 06-368 2926
 Email: sales@timbersaws.co.nz www.timbersaws.co.nz

Throwlines & Throwbags

Silky Pruning Saws

Wood Splitters

Chipper Knives

Stumpgrinder Teeth

cobra Tree Bracing

Greenteeth

Supertooth

Yellowjacket

Shanks

YALE CORDAGE

CLIMBING LINES

	YALE BLAZE - 11mm
	YALE KERMASTER - 11mm
	YALE KERMASTER EXPLORER - 11mm
	YALE BLUE MOON - 11.7mm
	YALE CALAMINE - 11.7mm
	YALE XTC PLUS - 12.5mm
	YALE SCORCH - 12.5mm
	YALE IMORI GREEN - 12.5mm
	YALE IMORI ORANGE - 12.5mm
	YALE SCANDERE - 11.7mm

RIGGING LINES

	YALE POLYDYNE - 12mm
	YALE POLYDYNE - 14mm
	YALE POLYDYNE - 16mm
	YALE POLYDYNE - 19mm
	YALE YALEX - 16mm
	YALE YALEX - 19mm
	YALE ULTREX - 10mm
	YALE ULTREX - 12mm
	YALE ULTREX - 16mm

CERTIFIED SPLICING INHOUSE

YALE Topping Strops

YALE Whoopie Slings

Wide range of Lanyards available

TRANSMISSION STRINGING LINES
PLEASE CALL TO DISCUSS

YALE Ultrex Winch Lines
with chippable hook

LEVIN SAWMAKERS

SILVER CORNERSTONE PARTNER
GOLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSOR

YALE CORDAGE

WOMEN'S MASTERS SPONSOR
NZARB FOUNDING SPONSOR

Ph: 06 368 2494 Email: sales@timbersaws.co.nz www.timbersaws.co.nz



New Zealand Arboricultural Association Inc.
 PO Box 1193, Nelson, 7040, New Zealand
www.nzarb.org.nz

MISSION STATEMENT

To encourage, foster, improve and educate members and others in all aspects of arboriculture throughout New Zealand.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:
Howell Davies (Auckland)
 Auckland Council
howell.davies@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Treasurer:
Craig de Denus (Wellington)
 Arb Innovations Ltd
craig@arbinnovations.co.nz

Secretary:
David Spencer (Wellington)
 Tend Trees Ltd
david.spencer@tendtrees.co.nz

Vice President:
Mark Armistead (Tauranga)
 Tauranga City Council
mark.armistead@tauranga.govt.nz

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
Seb Bainbridge (Auckland)

seb@greencycle.co.nz

Scott Geddes
 Auckland Tree Services
scott@aucklandtreeservices.co.nz

Tim Rillstone
 All About Trees
tim@allabouttrees.co.nz

Derek Winwood
 Invercargill City Council
derek.winwood@icc.govt.nz

Richie Hill (Wellington)
 Paper Street Tree Company
richie@paperstreettree.co.nz

Jak Harris
 Treotech
jak.harris@treotech.co.nz

WORKING GROUPS, LIAISONS & REPRESENTATIVES

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups will be established throughout the year to deliver industry projects and outcomes. If you have an interest in getting involved in an NZ Arb Working Group or are able to support with specific skills, please contact NZ Arb today (administrator@nzarb.org.nz). Keep an eye on NZ Arb communications also for Working Group vacancies and leadership opportunities as they arise.

STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

Tree Climbing Committee
 Utility Arboriculture Committee
 Registered Master Arborists Working Group
 Registered Consultants Working Group
 Conference Working Group
 Professional Development & Training

LIAISONS & REPRESENTATIVES

For a full list of liaisons and representatives, please visit nzarb.org.nz/sub-committees-and-liaisons. These positions include: Arbor Day Co-ordinator, ACOP Liaison, Consultants Group Liaison, ISA Certification Certifiers, ISA COR Chapter Representative, MOU Partners Liaison, NZ NTT Liaison and Website Warden.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

NZ Arb would like to thank the following organisations for supporting the Association through allowing their employees the time and resources to serve on the NZ Arb Executive Committee:

Arb Innovations, Auckland Council, Tend Trees Ltd, Tauranga City, Council, GreenCycle, Invercargill City Council, Auckland Tree Services, Paper Street Tree Company, All About Trees, Treotech.

MAGAZINE ENQUIRIES

Please send all articles, photos, or advertisements to the Editor via the e-mail below. Alternatively scan the QR code below to contact us.
comms@nzarb.org.nz

ADVERTISING OPTIONS

For the Rate Card, with advertising rates & specifications, please visit nzarb.org.nz/tree-matters or email comms@nzarb.org.nz

TREE MATTERS COPY DEADLINES

For details and deadline for content and advertising bookings please check the NZ Arb website nzarb.org.nz/tree-matters.

Issue 97 Spring 2023 Deadlines

Content Submission: 20 January 2024

Advertising Booking: 20 January 2024

Advertising Artwork: 1 February 2024

PUBLISHER

NZ Arboricultural Association (NZ Arb)

LAY-OUT

OnCue Conferences & Association Solutions



www.nzarb.org.nz

PUBLICATION: Tree Matters is published quarterly by the New Zealand Arboricultural Association Inc., PO Box 1193, Nelson 7010, New Zealand. Since 2020, Tree Matters has been a digital-only publication to reduce the environmental impact and carbon footprint of NZ Arb.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Tree Matters is distributed in a digital format free to all NZ Arb members. Membership rates detailed within this magazine.

DISCLAIMER: Tree Matters intends the content to provide a news and reference source for the arboriculture-related industry in New Zealand. While we aim to ensure that information is accurate and correct at all times, any individual or organisation making use of information from this publication does so at their own risk. The opinions expressed in Tree Matters are not necessarily supported by NZ Arb. Nothing published within may be construed as policy, or an official announcement, unless so stated. NZ Arb accepts no liability for any content or information in Tree Matters.

COPYRIGHT: Tree Matters is subject to copyright in its entirety. The content may not be reproduced in any form, either in whole or in part, without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved in material accepted for publication, unless initially specified otherwise.

All letters and other material forwarded to the magazine will be assumed intended for publication unless labelled 'Not for Publication'. Although every care is taken with advertising, no responsibility whatsoever shall be accepted for any material advertised. NZ Arb, the Publisher, its employees and agents shall not be liable for any inaccuracies, errors, or omissions.

© 2023.

NZ ARB IS PROUD
TO RECOGNISE OUR
CORNERSTONE PARTNERS

The NZ Arboricultural Association (NZ Arb) sends a big thank you to the following companies, who directly support our organisation. Please get to know the companies, their services and their products and tell them that you appreciate their willingness to dedicate resources and time to NZ Arb.

MAJOR TREE CLIMBING SPONSOR



CORNERSTONE SPONSORS



If your company is interested in becoming a NZ Arb Cornerstone Partner please contact us by email administrator@nzarb.org.nz

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE

President's branch **P. 06**
Howell Davies

Arborist hoping to soar **P. 09**
James Isaacs

General tree protection rules restored **P. 10**
Jez Partridge

Streets ahead in diversity **P. 12**
Tiago Miranda

Victory for NZ Arb **P. 18**
Terry Snow

Tree protest on a Saturday morning **P. 20**
Tiago Miranda

New Husqvarna Dielectric Pole Saw offers Unprecedented Versatility **P.22**
Tania Kragner

Notable tree stories **P. 25**
Phoenix palms: beginning a sociological inquiry
Dr Mike Lloyd

Together we stopped the chop **P. 29**
Mels Barton

They who walk with wolves are taught to howl, South Island TCC 2023 **P. 31**
Alvar Del Castillo

NZ ARB Conference 2023 **P. 33**



STREETS AHEAD IN DIVERSITY
TIAGO MIRANDA / P. 12



NEW HUSQVARNA DIELECTRIC POLE SAW OFFERS UNPRECEDENTED VERSATILITY
TANIA KRAGNER / P. 22



SOUTH ISLAND TCC 2023
ALVAR DEL CASTILLO/P. 31



NZ ARB CONFERENCE 2023 /P.37



PRESIDENT'S BRANCH

**Howell Davies, New Zealand
Arboricultural Association Inc.**

Tēnā koutou katoa - nau mai ki Waihōpai – Welcome to Invercargill and the 2023 NZ Arb Annual Conference, in association with Asplundh. This is the first time that NZ Arb has travelled to the far south, and a great opportunity to host the conference in provincial New Zealand. We have a superb venue for this year's conference at ILT Stadium. The executive team hope you enjoy the event and make the most of your time in Southland; it is truly a spectacular part of the country.

Firstly, a huge thank you to the Platinum sponsor Asplundh, Gold sponsors Treotech, Levin Sawmakers/Yale Cordage, Clogger and Silver sponsors Treotools, Silky, Landscape Growers Supplies (LGS) and, the Careers pathways sponsor Treotech. Without your help and commitment we would not be able to put on the event. I would also like to thank the conference committee and the team at OnCue who have put in a huge amount of time and effort for the 2023 event.

At the end of the conference in 2022 the team at Clogger sent NZ Arb Executive a letter inviting us to come to their home in Invercargill. The company has its roots embedded in the deep south and began manufacturing chainsaw protection clothing in 1994. Clogger is another example of a NZ company that has put time and effort in research investment and innovation. The company have managed to successfully wrap Kiwi ingenuity into their products, resulting in them becoming an international brand in safety clothing and there is an opportunity in the conference programme to check out the Clogger factory.

The conference at the ILT Stadium is walking distance from the main centre of Invercargill. The programme this year is made up of a very talented line-up of international and local speakers with a wide range of topics being covered. There

should be something of interest for everyone, and the venue has a huge indoor events space for exhibitors to showcase their products and services. So, please take a few minutes whilst you are with us at the conference to go and check out all the great things on offer in the Trade Zone

NZ Arb has a stand in the Trade Zone, and we encourage you to take some time to come and talk to members of the Executive Committee. It is an opportunity to find out more on what we are focusing our energy on, how you as a member can help grow and promote the association to achieve its strategic goals. We want to continue to develop and strengthen the association as the industry's national representative body.

It has been another exciting year with the NZ Arb Husqvarna regional tree climbing competition series producing a fantastic group of very talented climbers who will be competing for the national title and the chance to go to ITCC 2024 in St Louis MO, USA in October. This will be held separately from the 2024 conference in Atlanta, GA, where ISA will be celebrating its 100th birthday which is an amazing achievement

On Friday afternoon and Saturday at the NZ Arb 2023 conference there is the opportunity to go along to Queens Park to support the climbers. If you want to help as a volunteer, please see the OnCue team at the conference registration stand to register and you will get a free tee-shirt and lunch. It's a fun day and a great way to help support our climbers who are such an integral part of the association and the industry.

Take care, stay safe, and please make time to reconnect with your friends, colleagues, meet new people and above all else have fun and enjoy the Invercargill conference.

Makita
XGT

40Vmax XGT 450mm 18" Chainsaw (5.0Ah) Kit
1x 5.0Ah battery (BL4050F), Rapid charger (DC40RZ)

UP TO VALUE \$295

BUY A QUALIFYING XGT KIT + 4.0Ah XGT BATTERY

Promotion starts 1st Sep 2022 and ends 28th Feb 2023
www.makita.co.nz/promotions/

40Vmax XGT 350mm 14" Top Handle Chainsaw (4.0Ah) Kit
1x 4.0Ah battery (BL4040F), Rapid charger (DC40RZ)

Creating Green Space Sustainability

Arborlab

At Arborlab we are committed to creating the sustainable development of our cities green open spaces to build a brighter future. Arborlab are leading independent Green Space specialists, providing precision arboricultural reporting and analysis, risk management, monitoring and consultancy services.

Talk to our arboricultural specialist team today.



Call +64 (9) 379 3302 | arborlab.co.nz

STIHL MSA 161 T CORDLESS TOP HANDLE PROFESSIONAL CHAINSAW



Introducing the new lightweight, professional cordless arborist chainsaw, ideal for use in noise-sensitive areas.

Thanks to its powerful 1.2kW motor and a chain speed of 16 m/s (40% higher than its predecessor), the MSA 161 T is the perfect solution for any arborist or tree specialist.

- Higher chain speed: 16 m/s (+40%)
- EC motor with more power (+15%)
- Ideal weight and balance
- Improved trigger response
- Ideal for noise sensitive areas
- No hearing protection required

www.stihl.co.nz
0800 4 STIHL



ARBORIST HOPING TO SOAR

BY JAMES ISAACS

Following in his brother's footsteps has paid off for the Waikato's Jason Gwynn who will represent the arborist sector at the NZ Young Horticulturist finals this year.

Jason, who grew up in Te Awamutu, is an arborist team leader at Waipa Networks Limited. Initially unsure where his career path would lead, Jason made the call three years ago to join his brother Tyrel at Waipa Networks.

While Tyrel has moved on to other things, Jason's been fully focused on his journey as an arborist. He started as a trainee arborist and last year became a team leader/foreman. Late last year he also competed in the New Zealand Tree Climbing Competition. Representing the Waikato at the national competition he went on to win the title of New Arborist of the Year, and the right to represent his sector at the NZ Young Horticulturist Competition.

Jason has plans to gain a diploma in arboriculture, but first there's that grand final in Auckland on November 7 and 8.

At the Young Horticulturist event he will compete against finalists from the NZ Young Horticulturist Competition's other sectors. The sectors are: Young Grower of the Year (Horticulture New Zealand Fruit & Vegetable Sectors); Young Amenity Horticulturist of the Year (Recreation Aotearoa NZ); Young Plant Producer of the Year (New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated); Young Landscaper of the Year (Registered Master Landscapers New Zealand); Young Florist/Flower Grower of the Year (FLONZI Florists and Flower Growers NZ Incorporated); Young Viticulturist of the Year (New Zealand Winegrowers); and New Arborist of the Year (New Zealand Arboricultural Association Inc).

Jason will compete armed with a total passion for the sector he represents.

"As cheesy as it sounds, I just really love everything about my job. No two days are the same. The workload is so diverse -- one day I could be hedge trimming the next I could be removing large trees over power lines. I love the thrill of being sky-high maintaining trees, and also seeing the final product of

trees that I have worked on."

Jason tells how chainsaws have intrigued him ever since his earlier days out in the bush with his dad and grandfather collecting firewood. And, with a brother who was an arborist, and a mother who's a gardener, there are plenty of green thumbs in the family.

Jason, his wife, and their two young sons live in Hamilton, but they plan to return to Te Awamutu before summer.

The Young Horticulturist Competition's official partners are: Countdown, Fruitfed Supplies and T&G Fresh.





GENERAL TREE PROTECTION RULES RESTORED

BY JEZ PARTRIDGE

The newly minted Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) will restore the ability of local government councils to designate general (blanket) tree protection for all or some trees in a particular area, for example by protecting them according to their size, diameter, or species. The 2009 Resource Management Act (RMA) amendments required trees to be identified by species, number, and location, but under the new NBA specific locations will no longer be required.

This is a big win for everyone who has campaigned and lobbied for the ability of councils to blanket protect urban trees on private land. Green Party MP Eugenie Sage, former Minister of Conservation and Associate Minister for the Environment, and chair of parliament's Environment Select Committee which heard submissions on the bill, can take credit for championing the cause within the government. In the ten years since blanket tree protection was removed, hundreds of historic and significant trees have been chopped down without the need to obtain council consent.

The legislation eliminating blanket tree protection was introduced in 2009 but did not come into effect until 2014. Local councils had four years to employ an arborist to identify important trees that would lose protection and protect them within district plans, but only a very few councils managed this. Councils cited excessive costs as the main barrier to assessing these trees but the true reasons are more opaque. There was huge pressure from developers on the-then National Government to revoke blanket tree protection. Many individual councils were and remain to this day reluctant to protect trees on private land.

Around 50% of councils require landowner approval to designate a Notable Tree in a district plan. This caveat (which sits outside the remit of the RMA or NBA) means that a tree cannot be protected by a general tree protection rule, or as an individual tree, if the landowner objects.

At the time of the changes in 2009, I represented an urban council within a Regional Working Group looking at the legal ramifications of the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009.

My advice to the council was to send an arborist out to assess important trees that would lose protection, and to add these to the Notable Tree Register. But my advice and similar advice from many others around the country fell on deaf ears. Councils were mostly too timid to intervene, and irreparable tree loss ensued. Auckland was particularly badly hit as the use of blanket tree protection controls was widespread, and thus many important large trees were removed.

In the early 2000s I worked in the UK as a tree officer for a council where my main role was to assess trees protected by blanket area Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), and to determine whether these had sufficient value to remain protected individually or in groups. After the Second World War thousands of kilometres of land became subject to vast area TPOs in the UK which protected tens of thousands of trees. In the 1990s the UK Government said the ability of councils to protect trees using blanket orders would be gradually revoked. The government was concerned that due to the indiscriminate nature of

these TPOs, multiple trees in poor condition or of limited value were being protected, and that it was not fair to impose this restriction on landowners without reasonable justification. I have a considered view on the use of blanket tree protection. On one hand the ability to blanket protect trees increases tree retention overall. This can be verified by the staggering number of protected trees in the UK, which coincidentally generates employment for hundreds of council tree officers and consultant arborists. On the other hand it is likely that many trees which were protected really should not have been as they were in poor or unsafe condition, or had very low amenity value. Tree lovers would respond by saying that it is better to protect as many trees as possible rather than protect none at all. I agree with this sentiment, but perhaps there is a more effective way to protect significant trees in our urban environment.

The NZ urban tree protection debacle speaks volumes about the ongoing problems with the RMA and its NBA replacement, and on a wider level to the country's general lack of appetite for greater protection of urban trees. The RMA legislation is weak and vague when it comes to tree protection, and new rules within the new NBA are barely better. The possible bright light within the bureaucratic quagmire is a direction to produce a National Planning Framework to provide guidance to councils on how tree protection should be enacted. However, the devil will be in the detail, and with a National government elected, there may be scant substance, detail or direction provided to councils in regard to urban tree protection, or the NBA may be repealed.

The substantive issue is that even if blanket tree protection for trees on private land is enabled these areas will need to be surveyed (to some extent) and then added to district plans. This will provide landowners with a chance to object to a particular tree's inclusion and will suck up hours of council officer and arborist time.

If councils continue to require landowner approval to protect a tree or simply sympathise with a landowner's right to manage their own property as they see fit, then the tree may not end up being protected anyway. The other issue is that in the period prior to the protection of a tree in a district plan there is nothing to prevent the landowner removing the tree/s.

Until there is a consensus at a government level, urban trees are unlikely to have more protection on private land. In the UK a tree preservation order can be placed on a tree or group of trees by a delegated tree officer without the need to notify the landowner beforehand, thereby preventing the destruction of the tree prior to its protection. The UK Planning Act 2008

also provides detailed guidance on matters such as the justification required to protect a tree, which to a large extent frees local councils from the burden of having to come up with their own method and justification.

Until councils are able to pre-emptively protect trees on private land, are provided with clear tree protection guidance, and there is consistent and robust legislation in place we are unlikely to stem the loss of large trees in urban areas. Private property will have plenty of small trees and shrubs in back gardens but the number of larger, older trees on private land, which have the most amenity, landscape, and ecological value, will continue to decline. At the current time district plan rules for tree protection are inconsistent and frequently do not reflect best practice. This is principally due to weak legislative and policy requirements.

I realise that this opinion piece will not sit comfortably with many of those who have worked so hard to revive the ability of councils to protect trees using blanket general tree protection rules. But the sad truth is that this is unlikely to be a silver bullet. As a country we could and should be doing far more to protect urban trees on private land, and this aspiration needs to be legislated for and championed by the government using much improved and robust planning legislation and guidance.

Jez Partridge is a Consultant Arborist based in the lower North Island.



STREETS AHEAD IN DIVERSITY

BY TIAGO MIRANDA

Diverse street tree planting in Adelaide

My travels take me to a road not far from where I live in Unley, in the south-eastern suburbs of the south Australian capital of Adelaide, near the well-known Parklands City Ring. Walking down Palmerston Road, I reflect upon the history and purpose of such a diverse streetscape. It is a road which is a melting pot of distinct tree species as street trees. I wonder about this beautiful-to-look-at tree diversity and ask why street trees are so different in Adelaide eastern suburbs.

On one side of Palmerston Road North, you have a

mature row of desert ashes (*Fraxinus angustifolia*) planted at a convenient distance within private driveways. Best known as the narrow-leaved ash, its deciduous phenology provides shade in Adelaide's scorching summer and allows light penetration during cold periods in winter. A desert ash with its spreading form can only reach 15 metres maximum height as a street tree but can be much taller in open land. It provides an attractive yet bewildering soundscape while nurturing insects in its deeply fissured bark and allowing birds (rainbow lorikeets, noisy mynas, corellas) to munch on its tiny flower buds.



Image above and right: Photographed by Radio Sydney

Not far from these beauties, Queensland brush box (*Lophostemon confertus*) takes the lead as the most reliable street tree of all in Adelaide, in my view. With its straight trunk, it has an evergreen aspect, but leaves fall all year-round, providing great shade in summer while being a habitat for a variety of urban birds such as the red wattlebird, peaceful dove, tawny frogmouth and southern boobook (no nesting, only a hunting and perching spot). Brush box is safe for walkers, only dropping modest fruit cones and the odd fig-like leaves.



Desert ash bark / Source: T. Miranda 2022

They are planted in intervals with a relatively large spotted gum (*Corymbia maculata*) and two small-sized London planes (*Platanus acerifolia*). Very common to find the odd different species in between brush box trees, where desert ashes and jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) are the main street trees in this area. I even found an Australian hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonia*), feared by many arborists as the itchy pod tree, a few metres away from the desert ashes at the beginning of the road.



Brushbox bark / Source: T. Miranda 2022



London plane bark / Source: T. Miranda 2022



Spotted gum bark / Source: T. Miranda 2022

The diversity continues, as I stroll down Roberts Street towards Greenhill Road, where a mix of mature trees is easy to appreciate. Two old prickly-leaved paperbarks (*Melaleuca styphelioides*) stand firm and tall with dense crowns, allowing a variety of arthropods to live within its bark and birds and mammals to thrive throughout its treetop. A tree renowned for minimum maintenance, the prickly-leaved paperbark still gives a great 'native' impression to the streetscape.

A few metres ahead, an ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) towers over both paperbarks with ease, stretching its rough, dark and flowing limbs towards the sky, which smooth out near the branch tips. Its concolourous silvery-green leaves release a great aroma, offering beautiful red to pink flowers for birds and pollinators to sip freely. I can tell that the Unley council is proud of having a tree of this size on our streets. So are we, the residents.

As you can see, the diversity leaves any walker gobsmacked. But it is crucial to understand why so many exotic trees took over the role of native trees, before being spotted all around the country. Adelaide was initially surrounded by impressive wooded plants, such as the dominant species, the river red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and peppermint box (*Eucalyptus odorata*). Along with the foothills, grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea sp.*), quandong (*Santalum acuminatum*) and native cherry (*Exocarpos cupressiformis*) populated en masse as understory species.



Australian hibiscus pod / Credit: author



Source: T. Miranda 2022

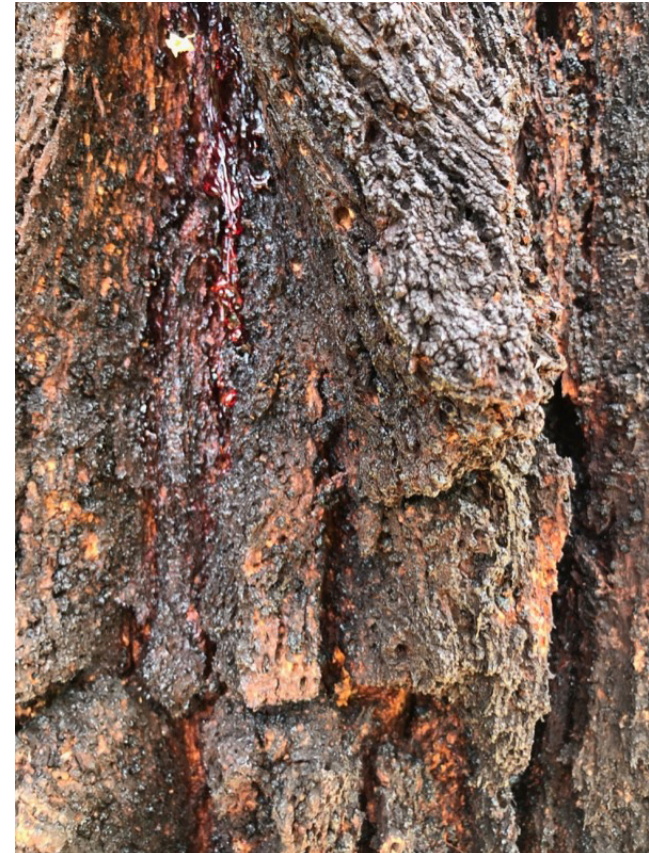
A significant part of Erindale, Burnside, Beaumont and Glen Osmond's western foothill suburbs and further southwest Malvern, Unley, Urrbrae, Mitcham, Goodwood, Wayville, Hyde Park,

Clarence Park and others made up the well-known ancient Black Forest. The name comes from the prominent grey box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) with its dark bark and forest-green foliage. I presume that most of this forest was cleared in 1846, ten years after South Australian official colonisation, when almost everything was cleared for settlement expansion.



Not showy ash flowers / Credit: author

Land clearance was presented as progress, and in the 1840s, woodcutters' camps were established throughout stringybark forest on Mount Lofty and in parts of the ancient Black Forest. Adelaide plains also fell quickly into the hands of Colonel William Light during his survey right after his trek from Holdfast Bay. He and his party initiated "the destruction of the landscape" in the central portion of Adelaide plains, giving several colonists space for plantation and crops.



Prickly-leaved paperbark / Source: T. Miranda 2022

Thanks to the ranges of Mediterranean and south-eastern ecoregions of the Australian landscape, Adelaide is "floristically diverse", with an excellent variety of fauna. Although the constant land clearance made the soil suitable for weedy species, it "potentially contributed to the alteration of species composition, possibly explaining why so many introduced plants have been able to succeed in Adelaide," Daniels and Tait explain.

Like many parts of the world, the discovery, transportation, propagation, re-transportation, hybridisation and cultivation of plants have been essential achievements for the development of plant science. That's why we see that our environment in Adelaide is populated by introduced plants, despite our intentions to re-introduce 'native' plants, often referred to as 'indigenous' or 'Australian'.

The original intention was to create a colony to

Adelaide is now regarded as a dense forest, whereas before it was more like an open woodland community. High numbers of both native and introduced plant species are probably the result of the variations in micro-habitats within the urban environment, as well as the geographic position of the area where the city has developed, write Christopher Daniels and Catherine Tait in Adelaide: Nature of a City.



Ironbark bark / Source: T. Miranda 2022

resemble English landscape and enhance the local cultural and economic values during the colonisation period from 1836 on. Even though we consider some trees like the radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*) noxious weeds, they had vital roles in the nation's development, believe it or not.

However, we cannot ignore Australian Aborigine efforts to retain their land through consecutive fights with colonials, ending in a continuous bloody massacre, with the Native Title Act enacted only in 1995/96. In his book South Australia and its Mines, Francis Dutton does not spare words when identifying the meticulous change of the landscape done by Aborigines as "beautiful park-like scenery".

The landscape that Dutton refers to is an area modified by many generations of skilful Aborigines applying land management with fire. As Dutton writes, "... a degree of elegant landscape

arrangement, not to be exceeded by art" makes us wonder what would have happened if the Adelaide landscape as it was, had been retained to the present? A question that, unfortunately, isn't worth the headache.

Accepting that Adelaide is now a melting pot of incredible biodiversity, a unique ecological fertile ground of opportunities and a mix of diverse plants from all around the world, I think I am ready to face the welcome changes. I cannot deny that from the colonial period up until the Second World War, Adelaide pioneered arboricultural and horticultural experimentations and information diffusion in Australia.

Influential gardeners, botanists and horticulturalists like Thomas Allen, George Francis and George Stevenson were the principals who promoted the advances of horticulture. They expanded the knowledge of tree planting and experimented for decades to find out which plants suited the different areas in Adelaide best.

Although George Francis, who was appointed the director of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens in 1855, claimed that street trees must be "suitable to the climate" and "exclude all deciduous trees", his optimistic intentions were blurred when I saw the opposite happening everywhere. Francis had good intentions to plant native oaks (*Allocasuarina* sp.) and various eucalypt species, including river red gum and South Australian blue gum.

But seeing the variety of plants already settled in Adelaide, I can only think that, ecologically speaking, we must go along with the urban forest changes. It might be the only way to comprehend how to improve fauna and flora, letting private gardens thrive with sometimes exotic species, even though we, as tree professionals, still try to promote the growth of native plants. As Mary Rose Liverani argues in *The Winter Sparrows* (1975), "in the front, an oleander or two and shorn grass, a wild lemon or plum in the back. This was ambitious horticulture."

References:

B. Daniels, Christopher; J. Tait, Catherine. Adelaide: Nature of a City. BioCity, 2018

Sendziuk, Paul; Foster, Robert. A History of South Australia. Cambridge, 2018

N. Laland, Kevin; R. Brown, Gillian. Sense and Nonsense: Evolutionary Perspectives on Human Behaviour. Oxford University Press, June 2011



Spotted gum / Source: T. Miranda 2022

Move to new heights.

The Billennium B1890 Quick-Pro EVO Tracked Spiderboom can move at a height of 9M while self-levelling to adjust to uneven terrain.

Almac Tracked Spiderboom

- 18.0M Working height
- 16.0M Platform height
- Lift Capacity: 250kg
- Moving height: 9.4M
- Max outreach: 8.2M – 10.8M (depending on load)
- Rotation angle: +/- 190°
- Basket size: 1.4M x 0.74M
- Maximum stabilisation area: 3.65M x 4.97M
- Maximum gradeability: 20°
- Engine: Hatz 1B40 diesel
- Weight: 2930kg

NEW
Billennium Spiderboom

ALMAC CRAWLER
ALMAC-PACIFIC.COM.AU

TREE PROTEST ON A SATURDAY MORNING

BY TIAGO MIRANDA

As arborists we can often get caught in the middle between people who are giving instructions about what to do with their tree and protesters who oppose them. I have had some sort of experience in the past with protesters chaining themselves to a tree, but nothing like what happened recently..

The whole story goes like this: a new development site is underway in the Adelaide suburb of Unley in South Australia (SA). This place is owned by the Australian Education Union. Their apparent plan is to clear the whole area and build 200 or more high-rise units. This project will involve massive construction, including the removal of a few trees, and one of them is a lemon-scented gum (*Corymbia citriodora*).

According to SA tree law, any tree in Unley that is 10 metres away from a dwelling is exempt from consent, except for Eucalyptus and Agonis species. It doesn't matter what the trunk size is or how old it is. This tree was clearly exempt from any rule, so it could be removed without council approval.

The Saturday we were down to do the job started as normal, cloudy with fresh air like any early spring morning. Michael my tree partner and I had chatted the night before and he was concerned. Michael didn't know what to expect. The only thing he knew was that everything was legal. Nothing else.

As soon as we rocked up, there were a couple of ladies near the tree. One of them seemed very old, pushing her seat walker near the trunk, having ensured that her car was parked under the crown.

The other had a surprising look, pink hair with a messy fringe, a bit younger but still in her 70s. She seemed rude, very anxious and nervous about the whole situation of that gum tree coming down. It seemed to me that she wanted to blame someone and justify her reason for being there.

Who could you blame for this other than a bunch of arborists ready to cut down the gum tree? She didn't hesitate to confront us. She swore at us with passion.

"Oye, tree killer, come over here. How do you feel about cutting this tree down?"

She gave us her reasons for why we were the offenders, the bad guys, and she didn't back off when

confronted by our questions,, such as "what kind of tree is this?", "how old is it?", "do you know about tree laws in South Australia?".

The pink-haired lady seemed very confident with her rude behaviour and was sure to tell us that she was right, even though she had to use the F word more than once. I found myself questioning her attitude and why she had to be so rude. She didn't answer. That showed to me that she was convinced of her opinion and had decided to act, without what I considered any common sense whatsoever.

As passionate arborists, we don't like to remove healthy trees. Our purpose as professionals is to manage trees and improve our urban forestry. Unfortunately, in certain situations, removals might be necessary to mitigate the housing crisis and improve the inevitable urban growth.

We aren't politicians, so our involvement in decisions like that isn't up to us. We don't have a voice to decide what stays and what comes down. We may have a word to say that it is perhaps good to retain healthy trees, but our power is limited once development is under way.

Coming back to the situation, cameras were rolling and people from all corners started to congregate. The unrest seemed to be growing, and it was only eight in the morning. At some point, the rude pink-haired lady and the 7 News cameraman approached Michael. I don't know what happened there but it didn't look nice.

Michael walked back to us and said, "I think we should go." We both nodded and started moving our trucks. I stood back and nodded to Matt to reverse the truck down a small lane. At that point, I was closer to the tree and the pink-haired lady thought we were doing something dodgy. She then approached and asked me rudely if we were leaving. I didn't answer.

She then yelled at me and the 7 News dude was recording the whole conversation. I found that very invasive, but I couldn't contain myself so I said she had got what she wanted but should review her attitude and show some respect. I then turned back to Matt and continued on securing the gate.

Minutes later, another lady approached me and apologised for any confusion. I thought, finally some common sense. As we chatted, I suspected I knew her from somewhere. And she did too. She said sorry because she knew we were just professionals doing our job and their protest was against the institution we were working for, not us.

This whole situation made me reflect on our role as arborists and how the public still see us as the bad guys. I didn't intend to try changing their mind in the heat of the moment because it wouldn't work. Minutes after the whole situation, I questioned my principles and asked myself, why I am doing this kind of job at all?

For a moment, due to my love of trees, I thought I was actually wrong. But, after cooling down and thinking properly, I realised that I should be proud, again, of being an arborist.

We care about trees. We respect living beings and we want the best result possible to make sure trees are healthy and providing the best assets for us. Apart from what the average public think of us, we know what we do and how we do it. I wish I could be heard, but what we say may not always change people's minds.

The important thing is to follow our principles and continue learning how amazing trees are. Only then may people respect us for what we do. And I bet there are plenty of non-arborists out there clapping and congratulating us for what we do.

They can clearly see our passion. The only thing they have to do is to pull out a chair, sit down and watch us work. That may change their life forever because arborists are awesome.



Simpler · Clearer · Smarter

Tree Risk Training

27 - 28 Feb 2024 | Auckland

www.validtreerisk.com

"VALID will replace current methods because it's much smarter, a lot easier to use and it's more efficient"

"Clearly, VALID is the most evolved approach to tree risk out there"

"Simple, effective, pragmatic"

"Really impressed by VALID! Well done, you're doing the industry a great service"

"An elegantly simple solution to a complex problem all in the palm of your hand!"



NEW HUSQVARNA DIELECTRIC POLE SAW OFFERS UNPRECEDENTED VERSATILITY

NEW PRODUCT UPDATE FROM HUSQVARNA NEW ZEALAND LTD

Specialised work calls for specialised tools, a fact intrinsically understood by Husqvarna over their 334 years in business. Since starting out in 1689, Husqvarna has manufactured a wide range of quality products. Excellent engineering skills, a strong entrepreneurial spirit and a passion for quality products have led to innovative solutions. Successfully taking the company from weapons, via sewing machines, stoves and motorcycles, to today's cutting edge outdoor power products, this focus on producing innovative, advanced tools that meet and exceed industry expectations of safety, performance, reliability, useability and functionality is as strong as ever. Now, turning research and development attention to applications for tree care professionals, skilled line workers and utility workers, Husqvarna is reaching new heights of safety and versatility with its all new 525iDEPS MADSAW dielectric pole saw.

Designed to assist operator safety during use around live wires and bringing new levels of versatility, the 525iDEPS is the first and only dielectric battery-powered pole saw individually tested to meet OSHA standard 1910.269.

Minimum approach distances (MAD) are the closest distance a qualified employee may approach an energised conductor or object by OSHA standards. The Husqvarna MADSAW directly addresses this standard and enables operators to get the job done efficiently. Its non-conductive, lightweight fiberglass shaft ensures ample reach while maintaining safe distances.

Understanding that versatility is key for maximum useability in a range of situations and applications, the 525iDEPS MADSAW can be used in the tree, on the ground or in the bucket. Interchangeable shaft lengths at either 274 cm (9 feet) or 381 cm (12.5 feet) help operators access hard to reach areas, minimising repositioning and climbing aloft. A manageable product weight of 6kg (excluding battery and cutting equipment) means that MADSAW can be used more comfortably for longer, maximising

productivity and minimising user fatigue. It also has a removable hook for optional harness/strap attachment (shoulder strap included) which doubles as an adjustable stopper for boom mount. For added safety, a throttle guard protects operator's hands and prevents unintended throttle press.

Outstanding performance is achieved through the quiet and powerful brushless motor of the 36V Li-ion battery-powered 525iDEPS powerhead coupled with a Husqvarna X-Cut chain on a 30 cm (12 inch) bar. Chain lubrication on the cutting head is automatic and adjustable, enabling high, double-sided cutting capacity, balanced operation and optimal performance.

More productive than a manual saw and as powerful as a hydraulic pole saw, the MADSAW does not emit CO2 during use making it the obvious environmental choice.

And because secure storage in a tree care truck or utility vehicle is critical, the dielectric midsection can quickly disconnect from the cutting head and powerhead. Removeable sections also contribute to portability and transportation, then easy storage. In addition, durable toolless aluminium couplers that can be simply tightened contribute to MADSAW's easy assembly or breakdown. A tether point is attached at the rear to assist the operator, or to allow the MADSAW to hang in storage, in addition to protecting the powerhead.

Summing up this unique product, Carlos Haddad, Vice President of North America, Professional Products at Husqvarna Group states "The 525iDEPS is an incredibly versatile purpose-built tool in an ultra-compact package. No other saw on the market delivers the same performance and versatility as the 525iDEPS MADSAW."

Individually tested prior to delivery with 6 months certification at time of purchase, MADSAW is available through Husqvarna's nationwide network of Authorised Dealers. RRP \$4,150 (incl. GST).

Technical Specs

Maximum length	3.81m (12.5')
Minimum length	2.74m (9.0')
Voltage	36V
Engine type battery	Brushless,
Chain speed at max. power	20 m/s
Bar/chain size	30cm (12")
Drive-shaft material	Fibreglass
Weight	6.0kg*
Part number	970592901

*Excludes cutting equipment and battery



<https://www.husqvarna.com/nz/pole-saws/madsaw/>



NOTABLE TREE STORIES

PHOENIX PALMS: BEGINNING A SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY



BY DR MIKE LLOYD

Notable Tree Stories: In each edition of Tree Matters we will endeavour to feature trees from the New Zealand Tree Register. The idea is to highlight a specimen or group with outstanding attributes and/or a tree with an especially interesting history.

While we love to hate Phoenix Palms, in this article Mike Llyod delves into their social legacy. In the process of his journey, he has documented the history of a large number of plantings on the NZ Tree Register.

Recently I spent a week's summer holiday in Taranaki, and after driving back to Wellington found myself thinking 'there are so many big Phoenix palms in the North Island'. I'd seen quite old palms in Oakura, Opunake, Eltham, Palmerston North, Levin, Otaki, and Paraparaumu. Despite now being a sociologist, I was able to identify them [1] from my earlier horticultural training. That training was in Christchurch, where the palms are much rarer, which no doubt contributed to my noticing so many specimens in the lower North Island. Based on this observation, reinforced by my sociological and horticultural training, I resolved to begin a new investigation into Phoenix palms in New Zealand. There is an academic context to draw upon as environmental sociology has been around for at least 50 years, and more recently there has been much interest in so-called 'plant studies' [2]. However, the aim here is not to engage in theorising. Instead, I wish to describe the way my research has begun by searching for Phoenix palms using Google Maps, which also leads to a broader point to do with scale of inquiry. There is a reasonable impression that sociology is an over-generalising discipline, so by presenting a case study I hope to show that a sociological approach to people-plant connections need not jump immediately to a generalising 'wider' scale. It is worth asking, 'what qualifies as a wider level inquiry, for example, could consideration of plants within a two-kilometre radius qualify?' My answer is yes, and how I arrived at this is communicated via a strong grounding in visual

material. The case is about Foxton, which raises the first question 'why Foxton?'

After discussing some preliminary research with a colleague, the idea arose that 'Phoenix towns' could be identified. For example, Levin has several large 'solo' palms, a main road with a significant group planting, an area of historic significance with another cluster [3], and other large groups of the palms. These factors could qualify Levin as a 'Phoenix town'. My colleague, Michael Brown, suggested moving the search further north by considering Foxton, Feilding and so on. I agreed this would be useful, but delayed a trip from Wellington, sticking with my initial procedure of using Google Maps: I opened Google Maps, located Foxton at a distant scale, and then began focusing down trying to locate any palms. Previous experience of this technique had shown that parks were a good place to begin, which proved to be the case with Foxton, as I quickly made a 'hit' at the Foxton Reservoir Park, as shown in Figure 1.

The plan view shows how easy it is to spot Phoenix palms from above. The 'street view' function is an essential supplement though, as it both confirms they are Phoenix palms and shows variation not visible from above: in the second screensnip we see a mature female and male palm (about 50 years old), and a smaller female to the left of the larger palms. Of course, Google Maps does not provide information on planting history, but from this we have at least located a notable trio of the palms, prompting a search slightly wider in Foxton. The results of a continued search are seen in Figure 2.

The location in the plan view is 700 metres from the Reservoir Park. We see next to the Foxton Pool the crown view of two palms, and then another pair in the tree border of Easton Park. This location is very close to Foxton's well-known tourist attraction, the Dutch windmill. The street view shows that the large size of the palms gives them a visible presence in the skyline. In terms of New Zealand's arboreal heritage, another tree that equally dominates the skyline is the Norfolk Island Pine, and in many coastal sites the two are often planted together for a strong exotic effect (e.g., Pilot Bay Beach, Mount Maunganui). A field visit to Foxton would fill out this observation about skyline presence. Nevertheless, by moving just slightly-wider on Google Maps, we can learn further interesting things. Consider Figure 3.

Sixty-nine Union Street is 700 metres eastwards from the previous location. The Phoenix palms that were here were found on the map view (not shown), indicating large specimens. However, once I switched to streetview, as seen in the two screensnips taken just over two years apart, I realised that the palms had recently been removed – they are what could be called ‘Google ghosts’, visible until the next update of Google Maps is made. As can be seen from the view when the palms did exist, they also had significant skyline presence, partly due to the group planting on a raised section. Their removal emphasises a key point: the continued existence of any tree, despite what might seem to be obvious aesthetic appeal, is far from guaranteed. Cutting them down was a conscious choice, something about which Google Maps tells us nothing, clearly necessitating other types of research. In the meantime, though we can learn something from one last look about in the close vicinity.

Here the plan view alerts us to the presence of a group of 10 Phoenix palms spread out on a larger property. In contrast to the homeowner of 69 Union Street, we can infer that the homeowner here was very keen on the landscape effect of a group of Phoenix palms. The bottom two screensnips cover a ten-year span, graphically showing the growth rate of the palm. This suggests that even 20 years provides sufficient time to develop a significant landscape effect from Phoenix palms, particularly when planted in a group.

There are more Phoenix palms to be found in Foxton, but our move slightly wider from the first sighting is sufficient to establish some key points. First, as the case of removal exemplifies, not everyone highly values Phoenix palms, despite their undoubted visual presence. Second, this suggests that abstractions like ‘Phoenix town’, whilst appealing, need careful thinking through. By classifying Foxton – or any other town – as such, we cannot thereby assume any individual plantings will be highly valued, safe from the threat of the chainsaw [4]. Currently within New Zealand, particularly in the North Island, Phoenix palms are relatively common, and many large specimens can be seen, but this does not assure their easy passage into middle age (at about 100 years old). My future research aims to detail the complexities of this situation. Google Maps is a great place to start, but other research techniques are needed to gain a good understanding of people-plant connections. A key focus of the ongoing inquiry is the contrast and connection between valuing and disvaluing the palms: I want to provide detail on instances where Phoenix palms are highly regarded, contrasted with cases where assent is given to their removal [5]. Sadly, the number of cases of removal is growing. This is not fully surprising, for as Elkin powerfully states, ‘[Humans] plant trees to stimulate meaning, expression, and awareness, provoking poetry, art, and belief. We plant trees by necessity, to secure food, shelter, comfort, and fuel. But there is more to this. Humans also plant trees because we are very good at taking them down’ [6]. By travelling little more than

a few kilometres, using the wonderful resource of Google Maps, we have glimpsed part of this ongoing process.

Coda

On July 4, 2023, I travelled from Wellington to Hawera and took the chance to visit the actual sites where I had located the Phoenix palms on Google Maps, as discussed above. The first stop at Purcell St (Figure 4) found the palms all present and growing well; similarly with the next stop at the Foxton Reservoir Park (Figure 1). But as I drove into Foxton township I discovered what can be seen in Figure 5.

I was not entirely surprised. It is not only Phoenix palms that are removed as people go about redeveloping houses, pools, and so forth. Nonetheless, as the smaller image from Google Street view shows, the palms were of significant size and age. Moreover, as arborists well know, quite old palms can be successfully transplanted - see the New Zealand Tree Register entries on Phoenix palms at Wellington Hospital and CET Arena, Palmerston North. At least the two other palms in Easton Park still remain (see the top left of the bottom panel of Figure 5).

Dr Mike Lloyd, 2023

Mike is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Social and Cultural Studies at Victoria University. His research spans a large variety of topics, but common throughout is an overarching desire to get close to the fine details of social interaction. His current research project picks up the growing interest in 'plant studies' focusing on a case study of the arboreal and social legacy of Phoenix palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) in New Zealand.

Acknowledgments

Many thanks to Michael Brown and Brad Cadwallader for fruitful conversations.

References

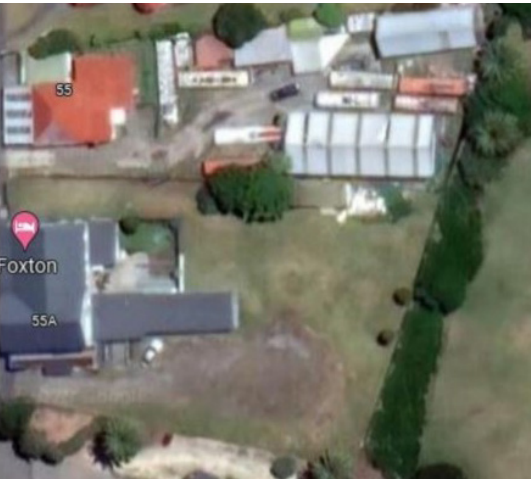
[1] *Phoenix canariensis* is the botanical name. I Identification is relatively easy, partly because there are very few other species of the Phoenix genus, including the true date palm – *Phoenix dactylifera* – in the country.
[2] See for example Ergas, C. & York, R. (2023) ‘A plant by any other name: ... Foundations for materialist sociological plant studies’, *Journal of Sociology*, 59(1): 3-19.
[3] Actually just south of Levin in the old ‘Kimberley Centre’. See Lloyd, M. (2023) MWR/G1887 New Zealand Tree Register entry for Speldhurst Country Estate, available at: <https://register.notabletrees.org.nz/tree/view/1887>.
[4] This accords with Steve Braunias’ impression from Auckland in his recent article, ‘The rise and fall of the Phoenix palm’, *New Zealand Herald*, 15 April, 2023.



Google Map 2023



Google street view Dec 2022



Google map 2023; Google street view Dec 2022



Dec 2009



39 Purcell st, Foxton

Both Google street view



Google street view, Dec 2022; site visit, July 4, 2023

1. First Google search in Foxton
2. Big palms by the windmill
3. Changes at Union Street
4. A Phoenix fan
5. Consequences of the Foxton Pool upgrade

TOGETHER WE STOPPED THE CHOP

BY MELS BARTON



The Tree Council is delighted that the Government's Natural and Built Environment Bill has become law.

The Bill was significantly amended as a result of the thousands of submissions received by the Environment Select Committee calling for urban tree protection to be reinstated - and finally after 11 years in which mature trees have been decimated in our cities - this has been done.

The new law will require councils to make rules in the District and Unitary Plans to protect trees on private land as well as on public land.

The Tree Council and New Zealand Arboricultural Association (NZ Arb) ran two successful publicity campaigns calling for the public to make submissions to the select committee asking for urban tree protection to be restored. The response was incredible and over 3,300 individual submissions were made via the Stop the Chop website over the two rounds of consultation.

The Tree Council's Chair Sean Freeman said "Thanks to our thousands of supporters the Government has listened to the call to reinstate urban tree protection into law. This is a hugely significant day for Aotearoa New Zealand. Future generations will now have the opportunity to live in cities that benefit from the many services provided by mature trees and they will be happier and healthier as a result. The risk of flooding and pollution will be reduced and the mitigation of the effects of climate change will be enhanced."

"The Tree Council thanks the Government for listening and to our supporters and everyone who made a submission for responding to the call. You have all made an enormous difference. The pressure is now on our councils to implement these changes into planning documents as quickly as possible before we lose any more of our urban forests. You can have both intensified urban living and mature trees when urban design is done well. New Zealanders deserve both."

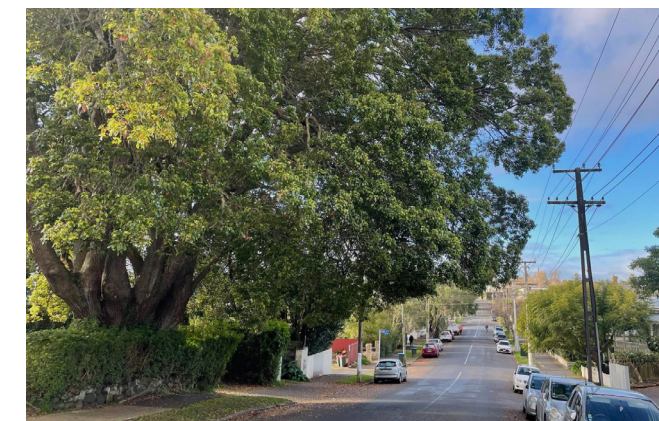
However, this change in the law is not safe yet. The general election delivered a change of government. The National Party have said they

will repeal the Natural and Built Environment Act "by Christmas" in which case we will be back to the status quo with the Resource Management Act preventing councils from protecting trees.

The Tree Council asks you to vote wisely this election if you want to protect our urban forest for future generations.

Notes:

*In a period of 10 days in August 2021 the Stop the Chop website www.stopthechop.co.nz collected and sent 2,348 individual submissions from all over the country to the Environment Select Committee supporting The Tree Council and NZ Arboricultural Association's joint submission, and explaining why protection of trees on private land in urban areas is a priority for inclusion in the proposed Natural and Built Environment Bill. A further 1000 submissions were made via Stop the Chop during the second round of consultation in January 2023.



Sam Mahayni, Camphor Tree (Cinnamomum camphora) at 51 Wynyard Road, Mt Eden, Auckland.

FÖRST
WOOD CHIPPERS 6-9"

MORBARK
BRUSH CHIPPERS 12-20"

RAYCO
STUMP GRINDERS



BOOK PRODUCT DEMO TODAY - CALL 0508 STEVENS



PARTS | SERVICE | HIRE | SALES

293 Landing Drive, Auckland / 3 Outlook Place, Christchurch

www.stevensgroup.co.nz / sales@stevensgroup.co.nz



PARTS
WORLD-CLASS PARTS FACILITY
20,000+ DIFFERENT LINE ITEMS



SERVICE
TRAINED SERVICE ENGINEERS
NEW ZEALAND NATIONWIDE

Chat to Sales Representative Direct
Travis Tschumy - 021 895 498



Jensen 141 XL

A wide range of chippers are now in stock including the Large Format Performance 141 XL

12" x 16" chipping capacity with double inter-meshed feed rollers for maximum infeed pull and turn table.

This machine is a top contender for Arborists and Contractors.

ALFA
CONTRACTS NZ
0800 425 325 | alfacontracts.co.nz

THEY WHO WALK WITH WOLVES ARE TAUGHT TO HOWL

THE ANNUAL SOUTH ISLAND TREE CLIMBING COMPETITION 2023

BY ALVAR DEL CASTILLO

This year the annual South Island Tree Climbing Competition (SITCC) was one to remember. The weather was beautiful at Risingholme Park in Christchurch, and the competition was fierce. The venue offered the perfect arena for our competitors, volunteers, learners, and spectators to enjoy the day and the amazing trees in the park. It was a sight to see the different aspects that our industry can offer together in one place, including a kids tree climbing event (thanks to Ben and Katie from Branch Dwellers).

Our learners at Otago Polytechnic | Te Pūkenga made the trip up to Christchurch to participate and learn from best in the industry. Making opportunity for our learners to observe and meet experienced arborists is one of the main reasons we attend these events every year. After all, 'they who walk with wolves are taught to howl'. This year we had a great participation rate with eight learners competing in the regionals. Six learners also took part in the New Arborist of The Year competition and another three volunteered their time as support workers. A huge pat on the back for all our 2023 learners and especially to Josh Mason who set the bar high by placing 9th overall.

Big ups for the women competitors as well. Our industry is male-dominated in numbers but not in skill. Eight women were competing this year, taking the top places in the New Arborist of The Year competition, which is specifically for new arborists, graduates, and apprentices. Unfortunately, you cannot compete in both the

New Arborist Competition and the National Tree Climbing competition, so our top place-takers had to make the hard choice between the two. Our learners Josh Mason and Nicholas Warmington will compete in the New Zealand National Tree Climbing Competition this year, which is being held in Invercargill from the 9th to the 11th of November alongside the annual conference.

Taking their place in the New Arborist competition are Jordan Sutherland (from TreeTech, Christchurch) and Harvey Penfold (an Otago Polytechnic learner). Sutherland and Penfold will compete against arborists from across NZ to decide who gets the New Arborist title for 2023.

We should be proud of our climbing athletes this year. Arboriculture promotes good camaraderie, and everyone cheers along each competitor in a way that unites us. We are all generally passionate about the outdoors, trees, and climbing, so fierce competition or not, at the end of the day we all have that to relate to and share with each other.

Thank you to all the volunteers and climbers without whom none of the cool moments would have been possible for us all to enjoy.



- 1.** In region top overall places from left: Jim Rose3rd, Andrew Smith 1st, Dominik Ritter 2nd, Rachel Jones 3rd, Ruby McNab 2nd, Pearl Milligan 1st, By Alvar Del Castillo
- 2.** Throwline top places from left, 3rd place (OP Learner) Josh Mason, David McKeich 2nd, Andrew Smith 1st, Ruby McNab 3rd, Pearl Milligan 1st, Courtney Davis 2nd. By Alvar Del Castillo
- 3.** Josh Mason, Work climb landing. Image by: Richard Tregoweth
- 4.** New Arborist of the Year top places, from left: Jordan Sutherland 3rd, Pearl Milligan 1st, Courtney Davis 2nd. By Alvar Del Castillo



Leading The Way in Arboriculture Careers

5 minutes with Dylan & Jak from Treetech



Treetech's Sales Manager Jak has come a long way since climbing trees as a qualified arborist straight out of school. With over ten years of experience in the industry, he has worked his way through various positions at Treetech.

Today, as the Sales Manager at Treetech, he leads a team responsible for growing the company's sales and market share. He also directly manages the larger contracts which Treetech holds and liaises with larger clients throughout the country. His experience in different roles has given him the insight to understand

the different aspects of the industry and the company's operations, from health and safety to customer service.

For Jak, the best part of working in arboriculture is being able to get outdoors and enjoys the fact that every day is different. His journey is a testament to the supportive culture and people around him at Treetech who have been critical to his career development.

As Operations Manager at Treetech, Dylan manages the fleet and personnel behind all of the great work Treetech do.

As Operations Manager, his responsibilities include day-to-day people management, organising subcontractors, coordinating traffic management, and ensuring each job is completed safely and on time.

Starting as a crew member, Dylan became a lead climber for projects, supervised the projects division, and then took over the role of overseeing operations.

"What I enjoy most about my job is working with people, I am fortunate to work with a passionate team that supports each other."

"For those interested in a role like mine, my advice is to say "yes" and be willing to try new things. The challenge is to leave that safe space where you feel comfortable and be willing to learn from others."

Treetech offers a range of career options, including consultancy work, supervisory roles, and working on a variety of different projects. If you're keen to find out more about what Treetech offers, feel free to contact Dylan or Jak.

0800 873 378
working@treetech.co.nz

NZ ARB 2023 CONFERENCE

Waihōpai Invercargill

ILT Stadium Southland | 9-11 November 2023



NZARBTM
New Zealand **Arboricultural** Association Inc.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsor



Supporter Sponsor

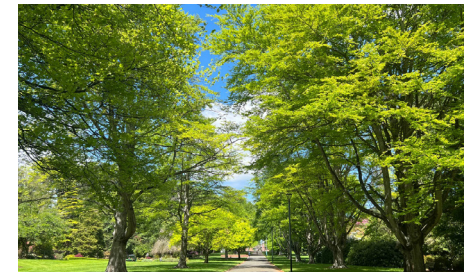


Career Pathways Sponsor



Espresso Lounge Sponsor

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



NZ ARB 2023 CONFERENCE

Waihōpai Invercargill

ILT Stadium Southland | 9-11 November 2023



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Ron Schraven

Ron Schraven works as the development manager at idverde Bomendienst B.V., a Tree Care Company in Apeldoorn, Netherlands. He has over 25 years of experience in arboriculture and is a European Tree Technician with the European Arboricultural Council and Board Certified Master Arborist with ISA. Besides running a team of tree disease specialists he focuses on improving Dutch elm disease control strategies, management and control of new arboricultural pests and diseases, and in developing durable growing sites for trees in the urban landscape. He is also responsible for the international registration and for efficacy studies of DutchTrig. Ron has spent part of his studies in New Zealand and is excited to share his ideas with colleagues in New Zealand.

The 2nd best time to save your Elms is now!



Callum McIntyre

Natural Growth Partners

Callum is the Head of Sales for Natural Growth Partners (NGP), the makers of Tree Coach, and is based in Melbourne, Australia. He grew up in the Dandenong Ranges, east of Melbourne, with the picturesque Sherbrooke Forest, a sub-tropical rainforest, as his back yard. Consequently he loves natural beauty and appreciates all of the benefits a healthy natural environment brings. He has had a wide variety of roles in various industries over his working career including automotive experience, a trade, Sales, Business Consulting, Senior Management within arms of the Healthcare space, and Board memberships of Not-For-Profits. Callum joined NGP in November 2020 and has been soaking up the 60+ years of combined Commercial Landscaping experience behind the company. Since the first national launch of Tree Coach across Australia in February 2021, there are now over 90 Councils across Australia that are either buying or actively trialling the revolutionary Tree Coach solution. In 2022, we teamed up with Stacy Collier, Nick Patterson and the team at Landscape and Grower Supplies and they took Tree Coach across New Zealand. Now we have 10 locations, spanning the country top to bottom, of Tree Coach trials and Wellington and Christchurch have started to purchase. Callum is coming to the NZ Arb Conference to speak about the big picture and how that translates to sustainable results on the ground.

Insights to Build Momentum

Callum has come to share 'Insights to Build Momentum' from high level work in Australia and how that relates to the same high level work being done in New Zealand. He will bring to light the great work being done by the NZ Arb Board in their campaign for green infrastructure consideration and significance. From the Australian side, various Australian Standards relating to Arboricultural works have been collaborated and wrestled over for many years. While that has translated into gains on the ground, there are improvements to be made. The wider industry has ultimately benefited from the multitude of work that's been done- Local Government Organisations, Contractors, and other stakeholders are all still required to do their part to uphold these Standards and they have their different ways of doing so. Further, there has been great study done by Dr Greg Moore AM and the team at Burnley Horticulture, part of Melbourne University, into the ideal tree establishment. These studies of such caliber and detail informed Tree Coach development and now Tree Coach consequently completes the chain of effort and attention required to raise healthy trees in our urban environment. He will share some of the recent success stories and how anyone involved in tree planting can benefit today.



Peter van Loon

Ecology New Zealand Ltd

Peter's presentation at this year's conference is titled "Bats – an Introduction and Arboricultural Perspective". Peter is a Senior Ecologist at Ecology New Zealand Ltd with a joint background in the fields of ecology and arboriculture. Peter has completed Bachelors and Masters degrees in Environmental Science in 2009 and 2012 along with a Diploma in Arboriculture in 2018. Peter is a terrestrial ecologist specialising in native fauna management and is a Department of Conservation Bat Recovery Group recognised bat ecologist. Peter has been involved in numerous surveys for bats throughout New Zealand and his joint discipline background provides a different perspective in managing trees where bats are present or could be present in the future.

Bats – An Introduction and Arboricultural Perspectives

Pekapeka, or bats in New Zealand are rarely seen, but their profile is on the rise. The long-tailed bat, winner of the 2021 Bird of the Year contest, is continuing to be detected in more areas throughout New Zealand, however their numbers are continuing to decline in most regions. Detecting bats is inherently difficult. They are nocturnal, very small and, for the most part, inaudible to humans without specialist equipment. Threats to native bats come from several angles, including introduced predators, urban expansion, and habitat loss.

Native bats are linked to the arboricultural sector through their utilisation of trees for roosting habitat and the presence of bats can have legal implications for tree felling works, and for those managing trees that may provide habitat for bats both now and in the future.

This presentation will detail a background to the ecology of New Zealand's native bats and how they utilise trees at the individual and landscape level. Current knowledge of bat distribution will be discussed along with what is known about population trends, risks, and the difficulties in assessing bat population health.

Preserving bats throughout the country will require management at the local and landscape level. Bat habitat is, in theory, protected through the Resource Management Act; however, where bats are present, their range often extends beyond the legal protection boundaries of Significant Natural Areas. This results in a 'no mans land' where bat habitat is not protected, and tree felling occurs without precautionary measures of bat roost management.

The bats themselves are protected under the Wildlife Act, and this has implications for the arboriculture industry. The felling of a roosting tree with bats inside resulting in injury or death of bats could have disastrous consequences for local bat populations and could result in the collapse of a colony that is already facing local extinction. The Department of Conservation Bat Roost Protocols have been developed to minimise the risk of such an event, however the implementing of these protocols is sporadic and often only takes place where resource consent conditions dictate this requirement.

To help preserve bat populations, accessibility and cost effectiveness to implementing of the Bat Roost Protocols may be required – an opportunity for the arboricultural and ecology industries to collaborate. The arboricultural industry also has the opportunity to consider bat habitat in the management of urban forests for both existing and potential future bat populations.



Nathan Straume

TerraCottem®

Nathan Straume, TerraCottem® Brand Ambassador for Australia and New Zealand, is a driven horticulturalist and avid sports enthusiast. With a passion for ensuring healthier and stronger plant growth, he sets high goals to contribute to the thriving landscaping industry. Dedicated to educating the public on soils and the environment, Nathan aims to increase awareness and knowledge about providing plants with the essential nutrients they need. His commitment to fostering a healthy environment and supporting the community is unwavering. Join Nathan in his mission to create a greener world through education, training, and sustainable practices.

Thriving Planting Schemes with Less Maintenance

The presentation introduces the TerraCottem Soil Conditioner, a revolutionary product developed to improve soil health and plant growth. Its unique formulation harnesses growth precursors, hydro absorbent polymers, fertilizers, and carrier materials to create a synergetic approach. The presentation highlights the key features and benefits of the TerraCottem Soil Conditioner. It explains how hydro absorbent polymers in the product absorb water typically lost to evaporation and leaching. These polymers can hold up to 8 litres of water per 100g and release 95-98% of the water back to plants. This reduces irrigation needs, conserves water, and ensures plants have constant access to stored water through their root hairs. The presentation explores the wide range of applications for the TerraCottem Soil Conditioner across multiple industries. It highlights its effectiveness in ornamental lawns, sports turf, flower beds, hanging baskets, containers, horticulture, and agriculture. Specific examples include its use in green belts, beach rehabilitation, environmental restoration, embankments, hillside planting, and roof gardens.

The presentation addresses the environmental impact of using TerraCottem Soil Conditioner. It mentions the Smart Approved Watermark Scheme, which recognizes the product's direct contribution to water savings. By reducing the volume and frequency of irrigation, the product helps conserve water resources and supports sustainable landscaping practices.

The presentation delves into the financial benefits of using TerraCottem Soil Conditioner. It presents a business case that compares the cost of watering without the product to the cost of watering with the product. This analysis demonstrates significant annual savings in water expenses, making it a cost-effective solution for various projects.

The presentation includes testimonials and case studies from leading arborists and horticulturists who have experienced the benefits of using TerraCottem Soil Conditioner. These real-life examples showcase its impact on improving establishment rates, enhancing the health of plants and trees, and revitalizing older trees that have declined.

In conclusion, the presentation emphasizes the transformative capabilities of TerraCottem Soil Conditioner in promoting healthy plant growth, reducing water usage, and optimizing landscaping practices. With its advanced formulation and proven results, the product offers a sustainable solution for various industries seeking to enhance soil health and maximize plant vitality.



David Swann

Bluff Hill Motupōhue Environment Trust.

David Swann is a trustee and project leader with the Bluff Hill Motupōhue Environment Trust. After a career in the British Army followed by 12 years working for a software company in Southern California, David arrived in Aotearoa in 2008 and has run a number of IT companies in Wellington. In 2019, David ‘saw the light’ and moved south to live in Bluff where he has switched tracks to become immersed in conservation.

Planting Native Trees – A Community Conservation Group Perspective

Motupōhue is te taurapa o te waka o Aoraki – the sternpost of the South Island – and is a tōpuni site recognised in the Ngāi Tahu treaty settlement act of 1998. This special place contains a 200 hectare fragment of mature podocarp forest. The trust has been restoring native habitat on Motupōhue since 2008 because the forest was being killed by possum browse and native birds eaten by feral cats and mustelids.

Our goal is to have created the conditions to reintroduce kiwi and tieke (South Island Saddleback) onto Motupōhue by 2028. In order to do this, we have to create a safe, predator free habitat where these precious taonga can thrive.

This is going to take a lot of effort and requires a strong social license to operate from the Bluff community. Planting is a strong way of building social license – a positive activity to balance out the negative connotations associated with killing predators, gorse and wilding pine.

Of increasing importance is the carbon implication of the mahi we’re doing. Planting natives is an important way of increasing the carbon sequestration capacity of Motupōhue. But it must be remembered that predator control is another important sequestration activity. Each possum across our 1,000 hectares consumes as much as 3kg of vegetation every day. If we weren’t controlling our possum population, Motupōhue has the potential to support a population of around 8,000 possums – so they would be removing 24 tonnes of vegetation a day. Given that the sequestration capacity across Motupōhue is around 10 tonnes of carbon a day, possums are a slow-motion catastrophe in climate terms.



Sarah McGuinness

Revolutionaries of Wellbeing (ROW)

Sarah McGuinness is a mental health champion and one of New Zealand’s leading workplace wellbeing experts. Sarah brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in corporate wellbeing and behaviour change and has supported well-known organisations to improve the wellbeing of their people, including Sealord, the NHS, nib and Weta. She draws on her honours degree in psychology and degree in communication, training in health behaviour, fitness and facilitation, plus a 15+ year career in the corporate sector specialising in leadership and organisational development in Australia and New Zealand which included an award-winning program.

Her research on midlife eating attitudes and body dissatisfaction, published in the New Zealand Journal of Psychology, continues to be cited in leading literature. Sarah is determined to reduce stigma and improve conversations around mental health. Her perspective is informed by her professional expertise and her lived experience of burnout, anxiety, and fibromyalgia. It is also informed by her father’s experience of chronic work stress as a Chief Financial Officer, and his reflections on what he would have done differently to improve his health and wellbeing. She has been featured in the media and regularly presents to workplaces- inspiring and motivating people to take thoughtful steps towards positive change.

Currently, Sarah is the CEO/Founder of Revolutionaries of Wellbeing (ROW). ROW helps wellbeing leaders to be change makers and to create better workplaces, together. With a fast-growing community of wellbeing leaders from organisations around the globe, ROW is dedicated to helping leaders to develop professional expertise, access practical tools and resources, and network with peers and experts to meaningfully improve workplace wellbeing. As an entrepreneur, mum and someone who has worked in large corporations, Sarah understands the challenges of balancing competing demands and can quickly develop a rapport with audiences that leaves them feeling inspired, connected, and understood.

Wellbeing: The issue too important to ignore

Arboriculture, known for its physically demanding labour, long working hours, and high-pressure environments, can sometimes downplay the significance of wellbeing. But the challenges faced by those within the industry are undeniable, impacting individuals both personally and professionally. Mental health issues, stress, and psychosocial factors all play a role in the wellbeing and safety of the workforce.

In this session, Sarah McGuinness, celebrity speaker and Founder/CEO of Revolutionaries of Wellbeing, will bring her powerful message for action, based on the latest evidence, her work with organisations around New Zealand, and her own lived experience. She will take you on a journey to understand how you and your organisation have the power to unlock wellbeing and drive sustainable performance across your business. This keynote isn’t just a talk; it’s an engaging and interactive session, with real-life stories, practical tools and resources, and professional guidance.

As part of the presentation, Sarah will weave in her fascinating lived experience of burnout. Sarah’s burnout story has been featured extensively across New Zealand media, establishing her as a renowned burnout prevention advocate in New Zealand. She will guide you through her personal journey of reaching a crisis point and the subsequent recovery and providing crucial insights into mental health, its profound impacts, and actionable strategies for recovery. While mental health is a central theme, this keynote also delves into broader factors, including psychosocial safety, creating cultures of wellbeing, optimising work practices, and more, all tailored to the distinctive challenges faced by the arboriculture industry.

Crucially, it also addresses the barriers and misconceptions so that you can develop deeper self-awareness and greater self-confidence to unleash human potential on a day-to-day basis.

In a field where the health and safety of staff is critical, Sarah’s keynote is a must-listen. Join us and discover how you can become a champion of wellbeing, driving meaningful change and ensuring the overall health and safety of your workforce.



Meagan Hanna

Montreal Botanical Garden

Meg Hanna joined the Montreal Botanical Garden in 2017 as Supervisor of Living Collections for the Greenhouse Team. Since 2022, she has been managing the Garden's arboriculture programme and select horticultural operations. Meg is also a Sessional Lecturer for the University of British Columbia's Master of Urban Forestry Leadership program. Meg possesses a certificate from Laval University in horticulture and green space management. She is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist and has completed the Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ). Moreover, she has completed Bachelors and Masters degrees in the arts and social sciences. She has been serving as a volunteer for her local chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture for over a decade.

Extreme Climate, Reasonable Measures: Storm Preparedness and Response in the Nordic Urban Forest

The challenge is upon us. Our climate, and our relationship with it, are changing. On a daily basis, arborists and urban foresters address numerous stress factors that trees contend with. Shifting temperature and precipitation patterns contribute to gradual changes in tree growth, development and resilience. But what happens when atypical and unforeseeable weather events occur? Meg Hanna, Living Collections Supervisor at the Montreal Botanical Garden, will share how one multidisciplinary team developed a concerted storm management response, in real time and exceptional circumstances.

How can professionals contribute to the sound management of our urban trees in the wake of extreme weather? What steps can be taken to prepare for extreme weather and how can arborists and urban foresters react effectively? Furthermore, how can arboriculture teams safely involve allied professionals in the storm response effort? What can we learn about trees, and how we care for them, during these episodes? The following case study intends to address these questions through a detailed account with examples of specific actions implemented and lessons learned. This talk will also share North American resources on emergency preparedness and management in the context of urban trees.

This presentation takes us to Canada where the southern regions of the provinces of Quebec and Ontario experienced a severe ice storm on April 5, 2023 causing two fatalities and leaving over 1.3 million people temporarily without electricity. This was the most destructive climate-related event in the area since Canada’s historic 1998 ice storm. This spring ice storm was particularly devastating as millimetres of solid ice accumulated on the branches and swollen buds of trees emerging from dormancy. Meanwhile, ice descended onto Southern Quebec following a significant rain storm leading to loaded trees in heavily saturated soils, creating rare conditions for distinctive tree failures.

The arboriculture and horticulture teams of the Montreal Botanical Garden were tasked with restoring safe conditions to this 120 acre outdoor museum, while working to preserve its diverse living collections. Follow the team through this experience and discover what’s next as they look toward the future!



Simon Strauss

Active Green Services

Simon is new to our industry bringing a unique skill set: a BAppSc and 40 years’ experience in R&D, experimental design, multivariate analysis, consumer and product market research, finance, commercial, sales and marketing. After working in Europe in the 80’s, Simon returned to Australia presenting environmental awards for CASANZ whilst consulting on waste-water management using electronic nose technology. Joining Linfox in the 2000’s, Simon helped pioneer their successful CO2-e reduction program. In the 2010’s, Simon consulted to Glencore in Australia and Africa on waste management and SO2 emissions. Joining Active in 2019, he founded the consulting business Active Green Services.

Tree Risk Assessment – MIS501 2nd Edition

Tree-specific risk assessment using contemporary methods such as QTRA (2005), TRAQ (2013) and VALID (2017) are relatively recent innovations; and they continue to evolve. The Minimum Industry Standards (MIS) series is an NZ Arb and Arb Aus collaboration to provide training resource materials and standards promoting the safety, quality and consistency of arboricultural endeavours. The second edition of MIS501 is a work in progress. Its purpose is to introduce and acknowledge the most used methods. There has also been development of a new system to address areas of new approaches to tree risk assessment. This will be peer reviewed and presented to the Boards of Arboriculture Australia and New Zealand Arboriculture for approval prior to introduction.

The proposed new method aligns to ISO 31000 and ISO 45000 (Occupational Health and Safety). It does this firstly by segregating risk from trees into Risk of Harm and Risk of Loss; and risk to trees – their value- as Risk to Benefit.

Risk of Harm is semi-quantitative method based on well-defined categories for consequence (Negligible, First Aid, MTI/Minor, LTI/Serious, Fatality). These categories, consistent with broad industry practice and aligning with both ISO 4500 and incident reporting requirements under local legislation, support the client. Risk of Loss (asset damage) is a quantitative method with an optional 5 x 5 risk matrix representational output. Risk to benefit is, similarly, a quantitative method, differing from the others in that it does not require an occupancy input and is not time constrained. This enables the articulation of, as examples, the benefits of formative pruning and significant tree retention, on a “risk” platform using risk language.

This presentation demonstrates how MIS501 2nd edition proposes to address the concerns of arborists that led to the AANZAA working group being formed.

The proposed new method will seek to do this, particularly around Risk of Harm, by: moving the risk language around trees from “fatality” to “injury” (it’s estimated there are 20 injuries to a single fatality) by using qualitative injury consequence levels (similar to TRAQ) rather than the single consequence of fatality utilized by quantitative methods; moving from the bespoke language of existing methods to client-familiar representation (the 5 x 5 risk matrix); quantifying in dollars the benefit and lost benefit from tree work (such as removal or pruning); assisting consistency by using arborist-aligned language (through focus group research and method-option capability); being open source and designed to be system-friendly, allowing for integration into 3rd party in-field data acquisition systems and customer management systems, facilitating efficient tree population risk assessment and effective use of casual observation reported by residents, for example; and finally, being free and adaptable.



Caroline Rain

Invercargill City Council

Caroline has been with Invercargill City Council for nearly 3 years. In her role as Manager – Parks and Recreation Caroline supports and oversees the planning, performance and operational teams, including staff safety and wellness. Relationships and partnerships are also an important part of her role with Mana whenua, Sports and Recreation Trusts and Organisations. With a career spanning over 20 years in leadership roles, Caroline’s goal is to provide learning and growth that inspires positive change. Caroline has a passion for providing and enabling safe and fun facilities, spaces and places for the community – Mō tātou, Mā tātou/ for the people, by the people. Outside of work, Caroline enjoys adjudicating or participating in dog agility, spending time at the pool or gymnastics to support her children and generally enjoying time with her husband, three children and five dogs. Caroline is also a Board Member for Otatara School.

Trees are our Taonga – A Tatou Rākau: Invercargill’s approach to a better management of their tree network

Invercargill City Council (ICC) looks after some of our most important natural assets, with more than 6,000 street trees across the City and trees located in approximately 3,000 hectares across our parks and cemeteries. Prior to ICC’s Tree Plan being developed, there was very little documented about our tree network, with maintenance and forward planning being reactive. A tree falling on cars parked in a public car park was the trigger for some urgent planning to ensure the team were confident this would not happen again or, if it did, a process was in place to ensure effective and efficient actions were undertaken.

Understanding the City’s tree network is essential for planning ongoing maintenance, and planning for future tree diversity and development. With an ageing tree network (with many in a state of deterioration), increasing environmental challenges, and financial constraints, it is important that our trees are managed proactively and in the best way possible into the future. Our long term priority is to have an appealing, sustainable network of diverse tree species and tree maturity to deliver high quality public spaces and aesthetically pleasing neighbourhoods.

The ICC Tree Plan 2020 Our Trees – A Tatou Rākau plays a key part in achieving all of this!

A tree network that inspires the vision of Tane

He whatunga rakau e whakaaweoho ana i te tirohanga a Tane!

Connectivity to earth, sky and everything surrounding them.

Te hono ki te whenua, te rangi me nga mea katoa e karapoti ana ia ratou.

A Tatou Rākau is our one stop shop, as it brings together our vision, inventory, policy guidance and action plan into one cohesive story.



Cassie Horton

Invercargill City Council

Cassie is a Senior Open Spaces Planner with the Invercargill City Council which involves providing advice and support that ensures the effective development and future planning for the Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces portfolio to achieve Council’s strategic goals.

As a professional in the recreation industry, Cassie is deeply committed to supporting emergent leaders, and is an active member of the Generate NZ Steering Committee. She is eager to help up & coming professionals develop their careers further through scholarship opportunities and mentoring resources (Tuakana-Teina) for Generate NZ and Recreation Aotearoa members.

Cassie developed the award winning ICC 2020 Tree Plan in partnership with Te Ao Marama, Council departments and external agencies and organisations and is proud to see the plan being implemented around Aotearoa.

Cassie's hobbies include trail running, mountain biking and spending time with her husband, two sons and dog.

Trees are our Taonga – A Tatou Rākau: Invercargill’s approach to a better management of their tree network



Peter Terrett

4D Global

Peter Terrett is an experienced business owner in the geospatial technology industry with over 30 years of expertise. Previously a Geodetic and Topographic surveyor for the state government, Peter became interested in GPS technology and started his own business in 1991, providing hardware, software, consultancy, and training in GPS for land base professionals.

His business gained recognition for its mapping expertise, expanding to include software development for the Australian and American markets. Peter's company has won several prestigious awards, including the Robert Hoddle Award, an AiiA iAward, and 15 Spatial Excellence Awards. Peter has a Master's Degree from Swinburne University and completed the VCAP program at Berkeley University. He shares his knowledge and expertise by writing articles, presenting at conferences, and providing free educational emails.

Outside of work, Peter enjoys travelling, skiing, cooking and spending time with his family.

Recent Innovations have made mapping trees easy, highly productive and accurate

Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) have witnessed exponential growth in adoption across various industries, transforming the way infrastructure and environment experts operate in the field. Recent advancements have elevated GNSS into a valuable tool for non-survey staff, enabling them to collect accurate field data while inspecting and maintaining trees.

This paper focuses on the application of GNSS for achieving sub-meter accuracy through modern GNSS receivers integrated with smartphones, iPads, or Android tablets, alongside suitable software. The technology's ability to map tree assets accurately and input associated attributes into databases has revolutionized the lifecycle management of this most valuable asset.

One of the significant breakthroughs with recent advances in innovation, is the utilization of GNSS by professional arborists who are not surveyors. The presentation delves into the crucial aspects of this technology, emphasizing recent developments in GNSS infrastructure and services. Key topics covered include hardware and its ease of use, the significance of all four Global GNSS constellations, SWaP considerations (Size, Weight, and Power), and the relevance of regional Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) such as SouthPAN, which provides free sub-metre corrections without mobile wireless data in Australia and New Zealand.

Moreover, the paper explores the benefits of Geoscience CORSNet, offering free access to numerous base stations through mobile wireless data. It also highlights the importance of understanding datums and cost considerations when implementing GNSS solutions. The implementation of GNSS technology has significantly boosted efficiency and effectiveness for field users and data managers, leading to improved asset management, increased operational efficiency, enhanced strategic planning through better information, and elevated safety for both people and property.



Menno Kluiters

Dendrologic - Tree Consultants

I have been professionally climbing trees for 25 years, and I've been privileged to work alongside many skilled and passionate arborists worldwide. As a keen young man, I enjoyed nothing more than cutting trees down. That was until I met other weathered role models that made me realise the beauty and value of trees. After five years "under my belt" (harness), my real captivating tree journey only started to begin. Now, after dwelling in canopies for that many years, I recognise and understand more and more tree-related patterns. Even though I'm no spring chicken, I still thoroughly enjoy hanging out with my woody friends, high up in the canopy, and long may it last.

These days my goal is to provide better tree care and pass on the knowledge that trees have shared with me. After all, the trees remain my greatest teacher.

Post Gabrielle Trees in the Tairāwhiti/ Gisborne region

New Zealand endured cyclone Gabrielle on 13 and 14 February 2023. Tairāwhiti/ Gisborne was one of the regions especially hard hit with multiple recordings of rainfall of over 400mm during that time. With the ground already saturated, rivers burst their banks causing unimaginable damage to infrastructure and property. This extraordinary event led to numerous whole tree failures but very little due to high winds as you would expect from a cyclone. The regions geology is the most erosion prone in the country and tops the charts internationally. Indeed, most trees failed due to erosion or more accurately whole hillside collapse. This has led to unique failure patterns and this presentation aims to highlight these. Other than dramatic pictures, this presentation includes a few case studies on single trees, erosion in old growth forest and silt deposits.



Jesse Coleman

Kōwhai Treecare

Jesse Coleman is the Owner of Kōwhai Treecare. With a professional tenure spanning 14 years within the arboriculture industry, Jesse has dedicated a substantial portion of this time to working across various corners of the globe, living out the quintessential arborist's dream.

Throughout Jesse's career, they have been fortunate to engage in and lead extensive projects, often involving the utilisation of cranes and helicopters. However, it must be admitted that the most fulfilling and enjoyable aspect of their work is pruning and taking care of mature trees.

In May 2018, Jesse made the pivotal decision to return to New Zealand and embark on the journey of establishing their own company. Since then, it's been all go as Kōwhai Treecare continues to develop and expand. During their time back in New Zealand, Jesse had the pleasure of meeting their partner, Golde, and together they have recently welcomed a new member into their family, a rescue dog named Moss.

The Mauao Blackhawk Project

The Mauao Blackhawk project was a real adventure that proves thinking outside the box, along with careful planning, can create big things. During our presentation, we will be discussing the reasons behind our methodology, the ins and outs of organising a job of this scale, but more importantly... why?

During this project, the team lifted 26 large trees growing on the remains of three areas of cultural and historical significance. The site's sensitivity, its location, and the sheer size of the trees made it a unique and challenging task for the team, ultimately resulting in the successful completion of the Mauao Blackhawk project.



Mark Roberts

Delta

Mark Roberts is a qualified arborist with over 30 years of national and international experience, he has spoken at over 30 conferences in 12 countries and his written works have been translated into three languages. He is the Tree Services Manager for Delta Utility Services in Dunedin, and he is currently moving houses which his cat finds very distressing.

Fall Distance Trees in a possible future; a question of tree regulations

'Out of Zone Trees' are the biggest threat utility arboriculture has faced in the last 145 years. Or are they? In this talk Mark Roberts will look at the key points of MBIE's review of the Tree Regs. We'll consider the problems, the players and the solutions. It is a complex problem and our problems are not ours alone.

In this presentation we shall look at the Tree Regs twenty years on - the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003. We shall look at what Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment (MBIE) proposed in the latest of many reviews. We shall consider what the Electricity Engineers' Association (EEA) and the Electricity Networks Association (ENA) wish for, what NZ Arb suggested and then just because we can, I shall propose something completely different.



Brad Cadwallader

NZ Notable Trees Trust/Cadwallader Tree Consultancy

Brad likes trees, especially if they are older than he is. In his real job he looks after old trees and in his spare time he reads, talks and writes about them. He has managed the NZ Tree Register for the Notable Trees Trust since it was launched in 2009 and this has enabled him to spend what time he has left hunting down big trees.

Some say that he is to trees as Liam Neeson is to the bad guys. While he doesn't often know where they are, and he doesn't have much money, he does have a very particular set of skills. Skills he has acquired over a very long career. Skills that make him a nightmare for elusive trees. He will look for them, He will find them, and he will measure them.

Tour bus will depart from the ILT Stadium entrance at 8.30 a.m. and will initially travel to Anderson House & Park. Delegates will see several significant trees including the largest Chilean pine (*Araucaria araucana*) in NZ. We will take time to measure this tree to update the NZ Tree Register and also measure the large weeping wych elm (*Ulmus glabra* 'Horizontalis'). The remainder of the tour will focus on visiting several other weeping elms, and hopefully spotting any elusive Camperdown elms.

We will then travel to Otepuni Gardens and walk through to Queens Park (2-3km) where delegates can then independently choose to take in the Masters Final of the NZTCC, and/or further explore the Gardens and then make their own way back to their accommodation. (Come prepared for whatever weather might be encountered!)



Andrew Benson

Urban Tree Ecophysiologicalist

Alan Parker joined the Shady Tree Company in 1976 and with the help of some of his compadres, established New Zealand's first true arboricultural company in West Auckland. Alan later worked for Treescape in Auckland before moving to City Care in Christchurch, and most recently providing technical advice to the Christ Church Cathedral rebuild team. Alan was the recipient of the 2022 Ron Flook Award but tragically passed away in January of this year. Prior to his passing, he prepared a presentation about his time at the Cathedral that he wished to present at the NZ Arb conference. The presentation will be delivered by Andrew Benson in accordance with Alan's wishes.

Christchurch Cathedral Reinstatement: Management of 3 Significant trees on the site 2018-2021

The presentation will describe Alan's involvement in the Christ Church Cathedral rebuild project and the steps taken to protect three significant London plane trees in the courtyards surrounding the cathedral, and will be delivered in a manner befitting of the late Alan Parker.



Rick Jobbitt

Arb Eco

A message from Uncle Rick



Steven Pearce

The Tree Projects

Steven Pearce is an award-winning photographer and filmmaker and is the Creative Director for The Tree Projects. Combining his photography and tree climbing skills, Steve has produced twelve 'Tree Portraits' of giant trees from around the world as well as two documentaries about Tasmania's forests. As an avid tree climber and a passionate naturalist, he has been involved in climbing and measuring a host of newly discovered giant trees in Tasmania. Over the last summer, he enabled over 400 people to experience the canopy of a giant 70m tall tree.

Changing Tasmania's Tree Culture

Tasmania is home to the tallest and biggest trees in the Southern Hemisphere. Now is your chance to journey to the very tip of a 92m, 330 cubic meter giant. Steve with his wife Dr Jen Sanger run The Tree Projects an environmental advocacy group that has focused on the experiences people can have at the base as well as in the canopy of these giant trees. By providing a simple platform for community members to have these experiences The Tree Projects was able to save a forest they named the Huon Valley Grove of Giants. This is an area that includes 300+ trees over 2.5 metres in diameter and 76 trees over 4.5 metres in diameter. By utilising tree climbing as an experiential tool The Tree Projects was able to gather support from the wider local community.

Amongst this community engagement, The Tree Projects invited 13 climbers from Australia and New Zealand to the Huon Valley Grove of Giants. The goal was to conduct a comprehensive forest carbon measurement from the giants all the way down to the soil. From this event, a paper was published in Austral Ecology confirming that the Huon Valley Grove of Giants is Tasmania's most carbon-dense forest ever measured. From climbing and measuring newly discovered giant trees to assisting more than 400 people into the canopy Steve has firmly put Tasmania's giant trees into the spotlight with positivity, exploration and science. This work has helped to bring about a cultural shift in how everyday Tasmanians understand and appreciate these natural wonders.

Steve's presentation will not only document this journey but also provide insight into his latest initiative Big Tree State. A project that aims to develop giant tree tourism into a low-impact, sustainable and economically viable alternative industry.



Brad Harding

Tree Wise Men

Brad Harding has over 20 years' experience as a professional Arborist covering all aspects of arboriculture. After completing secondary school Brad went through Wintec for his arboricultural training, completing his Advanced Cert in Arboriculture in 2001 and then spent 3 years working in Auckland as a climbing arborist for the Specimen Tree Company. Brad has worked at Tree Wise Men based in Tauranga since 2005, initially working as a climber and crew leader before moving into the Arboricultural operations manager role in 2015. There, he has been tasked with undertaking the daily running of the arboricultural team, consultancy and managing large scale arboricultural projects.

The Mauao Blackhawk Project



John Parker

Arboricultural Association, UK

John Parker has been Chief Executive Officer of the Arboricultural Association since July 2021, and previously held the role of Technical Director at the Association from August 2019. John is a member of the European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF) International Steering Group, a UK representative on the European Arboricultural Council and as Association CEO is President of the International Society of Arboriculture's UK & Ireland Associate Organisation. He is a Chartered Environmentalist, Chartered Forester and an Associate Member of the Royal Society of Biology.

He frequently presents at national and international conferences and has delivered a TED Talk entitled Why trees are better than people (available on YouTube). Since spring 2020 John has chaired the Arboricultural Association webinar series, covering a huge range of topics to a global audience. From 2012-2019 John was a member of the Executive Committee of the London Tree Officers Association, which he Chaired in 2016-18, and until 2019 he was a Director of the National Association of Tree Officers.

In 2018 he was named Young European Urban Forester of the Year and in 2022 he was named one of the 25 Most Influential People in Horticulture by Pro Landscaper Magazine. From 2020 until 2022 he was as a Trustee of the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum, the national UK tree collection.

John is interested in public engagement, green equity and promoting the benefits of trees, with particular consideration for their social and cultural value. He is the founder of the Stonehouse Community Arboretum and is a Trustee of the Doverow Hill Trust.

Arbori-what? Raising awareness of the tree care profession

"Very few people know or give credit to the science of tree care, or arboriculture, to give it its proper title." These words could have been written today, but in fact this is a quote from an article by Bill Matthews which was published in the Arboricultural Association Magazine of December 1971. In this presentation, John Parker – Chief Executive Officer of the Arboricultural Association – will describe some of the key challenges facing the arboricultural sector in the UK and will explore some of the ways in which the profession is responding to those challenges. In particular, John will focus on the key challenge of a lack of recognition of arboriculture. Everyone seems to be talking about the importance of trees, but tree care professionals are rarely considered by the general public or politicians. Tree planting remains extremely popular, but tree establishment is often forgotten about. What can we do to bridge these gaps in order to ensure a healthy and sustainable arboricultural profession? John will attempt to address this question through discussing the current situation in the UK and describing what the Arboricultural Association and its members are doing to try to improve the situation.

The challenge of improving standards in an unregulated sector

Arboriculture in the UK remains an unregulated profession. In theory at least, anyone can buy themselves a chainsaw and call themselves an arborist. This situation has serious implications for health and safety, standards of tree work and for the reputation of the sector, and this presentation will explore some of the ways in which the Arboricultural Association and partner organisations seek to raise standards and drive forward professionalism in a difficult environment. This includes accreditations such as the Approved Contractor and Registered Consultant Schemes, professional membership and charterships, continuous professional development and training, best practice guidance documentation, political lobbying and public engagement. There is also an important link here with the succession crisis in arboriculture – where is the next generation of tree care professionals coming from, and how do we attract them to the sector and offer them a clear pathway of career development? Things have certainly improved in many ways over the six decades since the Arboricultural Association was founded, but there is still much to do.



Chris Harrison

Easy Big Trees

A tree man through and through, Chris is the Managing Director of Easy Big Trees and can normally be found somewhere in the shadow of a tree, where he's thinking of a new idea or ways to improve the nursery. It's always been this way too. Chris grew up in the business, which was started by his Grandfather, playing around trees as a child after school, and in the holidays. Benefiting from the wisdom and experience of family members, Chris eagerly soaked up every bit of knowledge he could, and he regularly travels overseas to seek out advancements in horticulture to bring back to Southland. Easy Big Trees remains a family business and Chris' grandchildren can be found doing exactly what he did as a youngster, helping their grandfather and playing around the nursery.

Creating a World of Beauty with Easy Big Trees

Easy Big Trees is a 4th generation family business. For over 100 years they've been planting, nursing and growing trees and shrubs in New Zealand. This presentation will share some of that history, bringing the story up to the present day and where they see the business going in the future as they are driven forward by their collective purpose of 'create a world of beauty'. They'll detail how Create a World of Beauty drives the business forward, as they look to benefit people, places and the planet. This includes how Easy Big Trees has invested in biosecurity, became Plant Pass Certified, and how they nurse and care for the trees at the nursery. Then Chris will take the audience on a 'virtual tour', using videos and images to peer behind the curtain to see what really happens at a tree nursery, adding context and sharing a few secrets from his family's long involvement in the industry.

Have you started saving yet?



Being a member of NZ Arb now gives you and nominated staff members access to dozens of savings on everything you need to run your business at a lower cost.

From fuel to insurance cover, tyres to health & safety products, your NZ Arb Membership now saves you more!

To make this possible, NZ Arb has partnered with the n3 discount programme – a business buying network with over 15,000 members. Their scale gives them the ability to negotiate exclusive pricing with NZ's leading suppliers, which we can now pass on to you.

Visit n3.co.nz/nz-arboricultural to see a full list of available discounts and sign up (NZ Arb member ID required, contact NZ Arb if you need assistance).

Reward your team at no additional cost to the business.

at Tree Wise Men based in Tauranga since 2005, initially working as new leader before moving into the Arboricultural Operations Manager role, he has been tasked with undertaking the daily running of the team, consultancy and managing large scale arboricultural projects.



NZ ARB REGISTERED MASTER ARBORISTS

A Registered Master Arborists is an arboricultural contracting business that has met, and maintains, a minimum stand of professional knowledge and practical ability with a certain level of client service – as required in the NZ Arb Registered Master Arborists Programme. For more information, visit nzarb.org.nz/master-arborists.

Auckland

Treescape® Ltd	Auckland	info@treescape.co.nz	(09) 259 0572
Treesafe Arboriculture contractors	Auckland	nick@treesafe.co.nz	0800 873 3769
Tree King	Auckland	quotes@treeking.co.nz	0800 873 354

Waikato / Bay of Plenty

Treescape® Ltd	Hamilton	waikato@treescape.co.nz	(07) 857 0280
Arbor Care Ltd	Tauranga	info@arborcare.co.nz	(07) 543 1775

Manawatu

Vertical Arborists	Palmerston North	hello@verticalarborists.co.nz	0800 967 528
---------------------------	------------------	-------------------------------	--------------

Central / Wellington

Bark Ltd	Wellington	enquiries@bark.co.nz	0800 227 558
Treetech Ltd	Wellington	office@treetech.co.nz	0800 873 378
Treescape® Ltd	Wellington	central@treescape.co.nz	(04) 569 5813
Arb Innovations	Wellington	enquiries@arbinnovations.co.nz	(04) 2126 366
Wellington City Council Parks & Gardens	Wellington	treeteam@wcc.govt.nz	(04) 499 4444
Downer	Wellington	trees@downer.co.nz	(09) 251 0340
Armes Tree Solutions Ltd	Wellington	info@armestrees.co.nz	(04) 562 8907

Nelson/Tasman

Treescape® Ltd	Nelson	south@treescape.co.nz	(03) 544 0588
-----------------------	--------	-----------------------	---------------

Canterbury

Treetech Ltd	Christchurch	office@treetech.co.nz	0800 873 378
The Tree People	Christchurch	info@fourseasonstreecare.co.nz	0800 4 SEASONS
Fulton Hogan Christchurch	Christchurch	www.fultonhogan.com/contact-us	03 357 1400

UPCOMING EVENTS

NZ ARB AGM 2023

9 NOVEMEBER /INVERCARGILL

NZ ARB HUSQVARINA NTCC 2023

10 - 11 NOVEMEBER /INVERCARGILL

For more info please visit nzarb.org.nz/events

NEW HUSQVARNA 592[®] MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER



HUSQVARNA 592 XP[®]

90cc worth of unparalleled power in an easily manoeuvred and lightweight package. An X-Torq[®] engine with outstanding torque and acceleration and, to top it off, a razor-sharp X-CUT[®] chain perfectly in tune with your saw. The end result is best in class cutting capacity, making you better, faster, and providing you with unparalleled levels of productivity. In short, a better cutting experience. Read more about new Husqvarna 592 XP[®], cutting capacity tests and register your interest in the lead up to the launch in New Zealand, at husqvarna.com/90cc

