7 March
Creative Hothouse: What inspires award winning garden designs?
Wayne Butson, Accredited Member of Landscaping NZ, Landscape Industries Association of NZ

Dunedin’s Design and Garden Landscapes is a one-stop creative hothouse for garden design and construction. Find out how a talented team deposits gold in a garden.

4 April
How Did We Get Here?...NZ’s flora
Dr Geoff Rogers, Research Associate, Department of Conservation, Dunedin

A unique combination of driving factors such as isolation in the Tasman Sea, tectonic upheaval, and big birds have melded a variety of plant lineages into the weird and wonderful flora of New Zealand.

2 May
Transient gardens for uprooted lives
Tracey Frisby, Horticulture Student, Otago Polytechnic

Renting a property can be a deterrent to spending energy in a garden that you may have to leave behind you. Be inspired by Tracey’s tips for creating beautiful container gardens that can shift house with you.

6 June
Local Food: Passing fad or secure future?
Andy Barratt, Kaitiaki small farmer

With the growing interest in natural food, a community of locals is establishing a parallel economy to connect growers and consumers.

4 July
The Challenge: Every Otago Polytechnic graduate is a sustainable practitioner
Samuel Mann, Associate Professor in Information Technology at Otago Polytechnic

This is the goal Otago Polytechnic set itself and, as one of the main proponents, Samuel Mann is the go-to-guy for sustainability being a core competency for graduates, whatever their field.

1 August
Birds in the Botanic Garden: and what they eat
Alan Baker, bird watcher

For 4 years Alan studied the birds in Dunedin Botanic Garden. Find out the leaves, flowers and berries that attracted some of our most popular garden visitors.

5 September
Dam it: Water harvesting and a new resilient development in Dunedin
Jon Foote, Permaculture Consultant

Discover how The ReScape Resilience Education Centre will provide hands-on learning experiences for growing food, alternative energy, alternative building techniques and passive water harvesting.

3 October
Plant Symbolism: paeonies, poppies and the Tree of Life
Janice Lord, Curator of Otago Herbarium and Senior Lecturer in Botany, University of Otago

Plants can be deeply symbolic of human emotions, qualities and identity. Janice presents an ecologist’s overview of how, and perhaps why, plants have been used as symbols in art and culture for over 2000 years.

7 November
Ready for the Future: Dunedin Botanic Garden’s latest development
Alan Matchett, Team Leader (Curator), Dunedin Botanic Garden

Although Dunedin Botanic Garden is a Garden of International Significance, its engine room badly needed replacing. Hear about how the commissioning of the brand new nursery and propagation facilities will drive Botanic Garden development into the future.

12 noon · free admission
Information Centre – near Duck Pond