

# HortTalk at the Botanic Garden



**6 March**

**Craigieburn Reserve – love, sweat and years**

*Lisa Burton, Programme Leader, Otago Polytechnic and Paul Pope, Environmental Project Manager, Spiralis Ltd*

Lisa and Paul delve into the history, partnerships and people power behind the conservation and regeneration of a native forest nurtured for the Dunedin community by the Dunedin Amenities Society.

**10 April**

**An introduction to NZ's native plants – the launch of new fact sheets from NZ Plant Conservation Network**

*Iain Reid, Diploma in Horticulture (Lincoln)*

Iain knows this material intimately, having researched and written it himself. He will summarise the 10 fact sheets, provide a guide to their use and distribute free copies.

**1 May**

**Blue Mountain Nurseries – the history of a southern gem**

*Denis Hughes, General Manager and New Plant Development, Blue Mountain Nurseries*

One of the country's oldest nurseries, Blue Mountain has seen the swinging of the fashion pendulum, from edibles to ornamentals and back again. Along the way they have bred unique plants, in particular, their acclaimed azaleas.

**5 June**

**New Zealand natives used in the manufacture of Māori textiles**

*Rua McCallum, Public Programmes Developer, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum*

Rua presents an insight into the traditional uses of native plants and an appreciation of the plants used for constructing pre-colonial clothing.

**3 July**

**Spring in the north – a visit to Taranaki Spring Festival**

*Louise Kilby, committee member of the Friends of Dunedin Botanic Garden*

Louise visited six gardens a day for five days. See some of Taranaki's best private and public gardens through the lens of her camera.

**7 August**

**BioBlitz – studying life in Dunedin Botanic Garden**

*Tom Myers, Botanist, Dunedin Botanic Garden*

Last year scientists and citizens researched Dunedin Botanic Garden's biological life as part of the NZ International Science Festival. Come and hear about the plant and animal life that uses this train station of urban biodiversity.

**4 September**

**Delta delights – Dunedin's top-notch bedding displays**

*Rebecca Thomson, Head Gardener, Delta Utility Services*

A pictorial showcase of bedding displays past and present that take street art to ground level. Otago Polytechnic graduate reveals the inspiration and care that contributes to the seasonal displays outside the Dunedin Railway Station and many more picturesque locations in Dunedin.

**2 October**

**Otago Organics – cross the bridge to certification**

*Rayna Dickson, Otago Organics*

Exciting opportunities for people with a passion for an organic lifestyle and more is explained by Rayna when she introduces the goals of Otago Organics and the launch of a mentoring scheme that could be your bridge to local certification.

**6 November**

**Top tree tips – from seed to significant**

*Alvar Del Castillo and Ben Fentiman, Arboriculture Lecturers, Otago Polytechnic*

Tree huggers unite when professional arborists share their secrets to success when it comes to tree selection, purchasing, formative pruning, staking, and general maintenance to ensure tree health.

**2015**

12 noon · free admission  
Information Centre – near  
Duck Pond

