

# NurseryNews

AN UPDATE FROM THE FOREST & BIRD NATIVE PLANT  
RESTORATION PROJECT (HIGHBURY & WAINUIOMATA)

SPRING 2023

## The weather



This spring is behaving even more like spring than usual. With global heating and el niño in the mix, it's hardly surprising.

It remains to be seen whether we get the drought or the downpours over the summer.

## Home improvements

The old shadehouse 3 has been dismantled and Chris is constructing a replacement. Once the framework is finished, it will be covered with new green shadecloth and, of course, furnished inside with benches.



## FAUNA CORNER



Spring is here and kaka are again taking an interest in the roof space. Is it the same one as last year?

And in predator-free news, Tahi has caught 5 mice and 10 rats since the winter Newsletter went out. Great work, Tahi!

## Plants, plants and more plants

We're still catching up after Covid interfered with collecting but we have distributed over 7000 plants this year. Twenty groups received orders of over a 100 plants and another 20 groups took a smaller number.



Plants being collected for the SEA, Southern Environmental Association (<https://tawatawa.nz/>).

## Security improvements

The A-Team has been busy with security measures. You may have seen some of the new signs up around the Nursery.

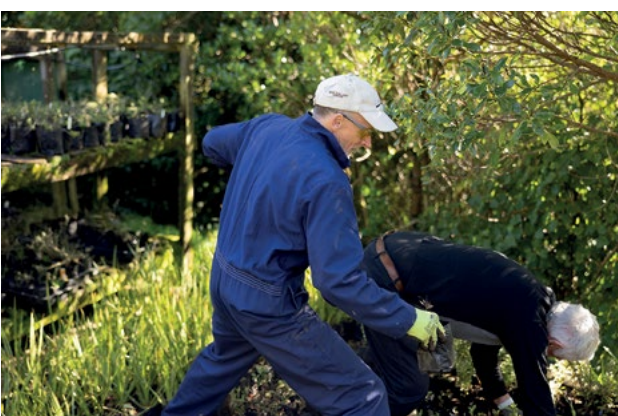


For further information contact Richard ([fbnurserywn@gmail.com](mailto:fbnurserywn@gmail.com)) or Gary ([mistletoe1957@gmail.com](mailto:mistletoe1957@gmail.com))



# A morning in the life of the Nursery

In September, photography student Connor Williams took some marvellous photos at the Nursery for his project. Here is a selection. You will recognise some or all of the people.



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## Looking for something to do?

**Saturday 23 October–Sunday 5 November ■ 8 am–8 pm**  
**Historic Halfway House Heritage Garden**

*Enjoy a walk around the heritage garden at the historic Halfway House, Glenside Reserve. Spring flowers and spacious lawns with park benches to sit on. A kitchen garden beneath orchard trees. Pretty plants from the past, selected as growing in New Zealand before 1900. Garden certified as a moth and butterfly habitat.*

Free

<https://wellingtonheritagefestival.co.nz/event/historic-halfway-house-heritage-garden/>

**Monday 27 October ■ 11 am–12 pm**  
**Water, Wind and Wood – Music in the Garden**

*Join a musical tour of the Botanic Garden, listening to music and discussing the plants that are used to make musical instruments.*

Meet above the Playground for this 75 to 90-minute walk.  
 Cost: \$5 (cash only, please).

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2023/water-wind-and-wood-music-in-the-garden/wellington?>

**Saturday 28 October ■ 2–3.30 pm and**  
**Saturday 4 November ■ 2–3.30 pm**  
**Heritage of Ōtari-Wilton's Bush – The gardens and gardeners**

*From forest to farm to internationally acclaimed botanic garden. Walk through the fascinating story of Ōtari-Wilton's Bush. Hear the rich history of this special garden while enjoying a stroll through the beautiful surroundings.*

Booking required. Cost: \$10

<https://wellingtonheritagefestival.co.nz/event/heritage-of-%C5%8Ctari-wiltons-bush-the-gardens-and-gardeners/>



### RECYCLING AT THE NURSERY

We are reinstating the collection of foil bags for the Chip Bag Project and the box will be back in the “lounge” at the Nursery. We will only take the larger chip (or other snack) bags, i.e. nothing smaller than a 40gm packet. They need to be clean, dry, opened at the bottom and cut from top to bottom.

One of your fellow volunteers will then iron the bags together and take them to the drop-off point at the Johnsonville Community Centre. They will be turned into blankets for the homeless and for emergency events, e.g. recent cyclones.

So how many bags of chips do we eat in a month or year?  
 Well our volunteer ironer will keep a running total.

**Happy munching.**

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/checkpoint/audio/2018836345/chip-packets-recycled-to-make-foil-blankets-for-homeless>

## News from Wainuiomata

- The shadehouse and potting shelters have stood up well to the recent weather.
- We are looking forward to having a group from local mormon church coming to help pot up in early November. This is part of the plan to involve the local community more.
- A pair of swallows is again nesting in the main potting shelter. We're looking forward to seeing the chicks fledge.
- The standing-out area is filling up fast as we are finally potting up seedlings that have been growing in the shadehouse for a year or so now.
- The greater regional council has agreed to fund our potting mix for another year, which is great news.



Some tiny little rimu seedlings doing well.



Open both ends of bag and cut down long side to create landscape shape, as shown above.

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