



## Autumn Newsletter April 2024

Our difference is in everything we do.

This supports our vision, values and is what we stand behind, which has led Treescape to become brand strong and continue the legacy of Ed and Brandon as we operate under the Asplundh Group. We held our first all-hands meeting in March 2024, with the aim to deliver key consistent messaging across the business, this includes professional behaviors in our approach, our delivery, our people, and our environment.

Starting the new year with safety reset meetings and having visited depots and workites, it is evident people are engaged to be at work and at Treescape. We currently hold secure long-term contracts and stability leading into 2024, which provides a level of certainty we can all use to focus on our year ahead.

To finish off this note, it must be said and passed on a Thank You and appreciation to everyone for the good work completed on a daily basis. It is extremely gratifying to lead a team that receives good feedback from our clients and the public.

I would like to share one of the many compliments:

Letter received from customer 12/02/2024:

*"To whom it may concern*

*Dear Sir/Madam*

*On February 5 2024, I had Treescape at my property to clear my long, very overgrown driveway. I was fortunate that Dean Lang was able to arrange this work to be done. My drive when completed was perfect and I honestly could not find any areas that were not done exactly as I had hoped for.*

*I have already had two complements. Gordon Hegarty, Songwei Chen and Ethan Poppelbaum were friendly, capable and very professional.*

*Yours,*

*Ma'jan Penman"*

For 2024, look after yourself and your workmates.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Birdsall

General Manager

## Safety Message

We've finally had our first full company all-hands safety meeting in March 2024. These meetings are the ideal platform to communicate unfiltered key company messaging to all employees with a specific focus on Safety, Health, and Wellbeing. Your attentive attendance is appreciated. As a nutshell recap, you're doing brilliantly in managing and controlling your everyday risks, not just the field crews who are exposed to the greatest risk but every employee in every role. Remember, do the simple things first time every time, never feel pressured to hurry a task, never skip a prestart check, do a thorough Hazard Management Form, report your Near Miss incidents, and if you're mind isn't on the job simply stop and refocus. These few reminders are crucial for maintaining and improving our safe work practices. More than most, it is your families that appreciate your unseen efforts.

I would like to remind you all of the risk of complacency. Complacency occurs when we become comfortable in our roles and tasks. Complacency is not isolated to safety but can creep into all areas of business and life. With consistent success comes a degree of gratification that can be normalised. The key to combating complacency is to never rest on our laurels. We must always challenge ourselves, asking "Is there a better way?" and know the reason why. Take the time to reflect and ask why you perform your task and activity the way you do, ask why is it the best way? Just thinking a bit deeper into how we perform each task might just provide another safer and better method.

Treescape's reputation is built from people, and it's our people that make the company a great workplace. With so many characters within our workforce, it's inevitable that lifelong friends are made. But with so many characters also comes the odd challenge. Personalities and characters are varied, some are positive and attractive, others not so. But as a workforce we must always be tolerant and accepting of everyone. If we remember that a human character is made from DNA, experiences, learnings, beliefs, and early childhood influences then we can better understand our colleagues and accept and tolerate the many different characters we are fortunate to have around us. When we think our personalities and characters are molded within our early years of life, it makes it easier to understand the human.

Regards,  
Bruce MacDonald  
National Safety and Compliance Manager

## Trans-Tasman Meeting Key for Future Collaboration

For the first time since the purchase of Treescape by Asplundh two years ago, six senior health and safety managers from across the business group gathered with a goal of better understanding each other's business entities.

The gathering was important, as it provided attendees with new senior safety connections, vital to ensure that as a group, we are making the most of the knowledge and experience that exists to improve worker safety and systems utilisation.

The discussion points over the two days in February were wide and varied, all with the common goal of improved collaboration. The group looked at ways to streamline functions across operations using software solutions that are already in play, and we looked at other alignment opportunities including digitising of existing paper-based reporting, audits and checklists.

In 2024, Treescape New Zealand are rolling out the "FastField" platform, a portal that (among other things) will enable us to digitize our Daily Hazard Management form. This is already in trial and results are positive. Fleetio is another example of a successful collaborative system roll out.

The collaborative talks will continue, as the group meet every Tuesday via Teams to share their learnings and discoveries. It is hoped that over time the benefits of this collaboration will show through more productivity, reduced costs, and most importantly, more engaged employees at all levels of the business.

## SHEQ Champs

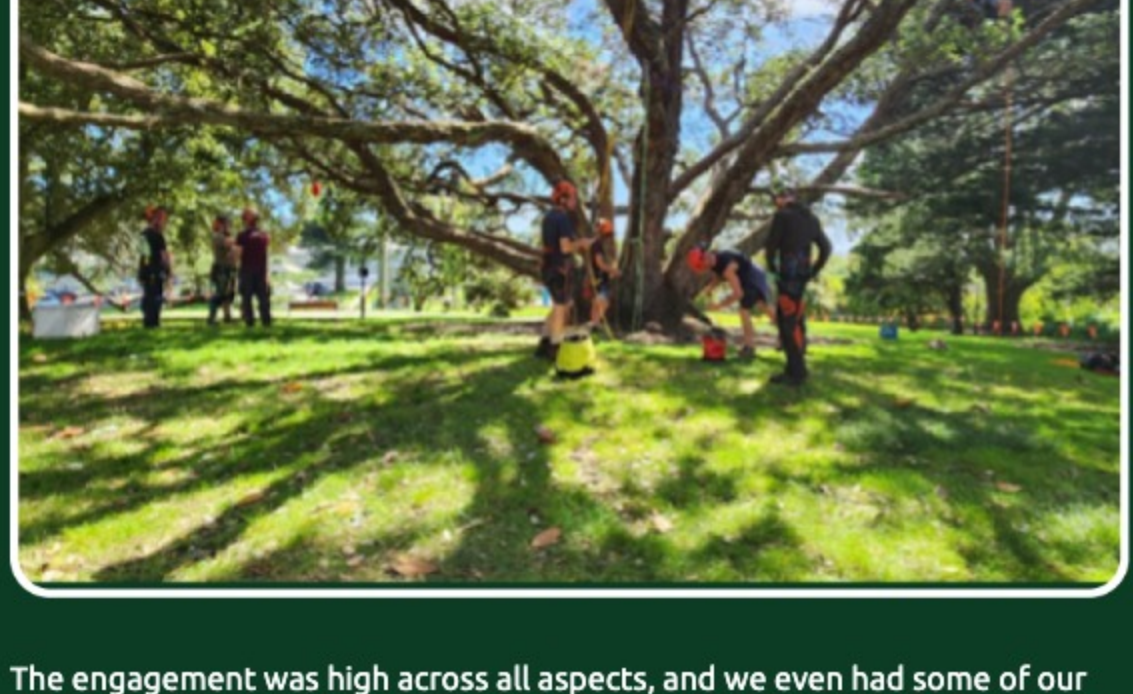
Do you have any health and safety feedback or concerns?

Your SHEQ Champs are here to represent you!

MR – Zak Gordon  
NU – Ryan Lewis, Iain McGillivray, Heath Waugh  
RS – Martin Blackman  
CH – Phillip Isherwood, Clayton Stevenson  
WN – Timothy Mason, Jaden Skipper  
AK – Nathan Coughsey, Soslua Fou, Edward Smith  
CA/PV – Corin Splittles  
HM – Antony Adams, Damian Silby  
TM – Laumua Konelio, Jarrod Wilson

## Training Workshops

Treescape Auckland had their first training workshop at Jellison Park Onehunga in December 2023. The turnout was fantastic and included staff from multiple divisions who are keen to give climbing a go. The day was spent teaching trainees and skilled climbers how to access and work a tree more efficiently using a DRT System (see details below).



The engagement was high across all aspects, and we even had some of our experienced field staff passing on different methods of their own. Aside from it being a successful training day it was a fantastic wellbeing exercise for everyone to be able to catch up outside of work socially and talk about arboriculture. We are looking forward to the upcoming Aerial Rescue workshop in late April 2024.

Training and demonstration points:

- Hazard ID and Toolbox.
- Buddy check equipment.
- Double Rope Climbing systems.
- Methods of access – Throwline, monkey fist and go through a safe chingover.
- Methods for ascent – Body thrust, foot lock tail, poor man's Pantin O-rig.
- Selecting safe anchor point and types of anchors (cambium saver/pulley saver).
- How to plan your climbing route and using redirects (ponytail redirects other redirects).
- Work positioning – Rope angles, utilising lanyard and using tail of rope for 2nd system.
- Descending – Adding Friction (figure 8, Munter's and ring + carabiners), enough rope to get to ground and STOPPER KNOT.
- Retrieving methods – Throwline.
- Other techniques – V-rig and traversing across anchors.

## Hackfalls Camp

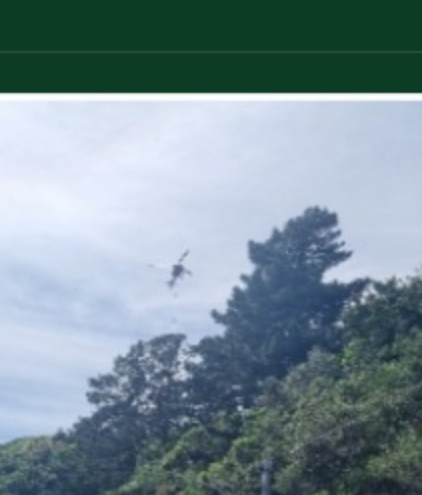


The second weekend of February saw the Hackfalls Arboretum in the Hawke's Bay hold their annual working bee arbor camp. The event is an opportunity for arborists to get together and share knowledge, try new gear or techniques, and meet other passionate arborists from around New Zealand and the World.

5 Treescape staff from across 3 divisions attended this year, volunteering their time to support the arboretum. Crews completed a variety of work from pruning and dead wooding, to rigging out storm damaged limbs.

A great weekend was had by all who attended, and we look forward to more Treescape staff attending next year.

## KiwiRail Removal



A large pine tree uprooted on the bank above the Johnsonville Line on Christmas night, taking down the overhead traction lines and blocking the tracks. Fortunately, during that time, the lines were closed for 2 weeks for maintenance work.

Treescape initially cleared the tree back so the tractions lines could be repaired, and a QRTA tree risk assessment was completed on the remaining trees effected by it. The risk was deemed unacceptable and KiwiRail authorised the removal of the trees using a helicopter to fly the debris out.

Dion, Nigel & Mark assisted the Wellington team Ryan, Tobi and Cody processing and Aaron, Ryan, Tobias and Alex in the tree removal over Wellington Anniversary Weekend.

## NZ ARB Throwline Prelim Event

Treescape are proud to secure another 3 year partnership supporting tree climbing and the Throwline prelim event. We see this as an opportunity to support the industry as a whole. We have many climbers participating at local and world championship levels and it is a fantastic achievement NZ can be proud of. We encourage all arborists, both new and experienced to enter their regional climbing events to not only win titles, learn and develop new skills, but to also showcase our industry within our communities.

Kevin Birdsall,

Treescape

## Retirement

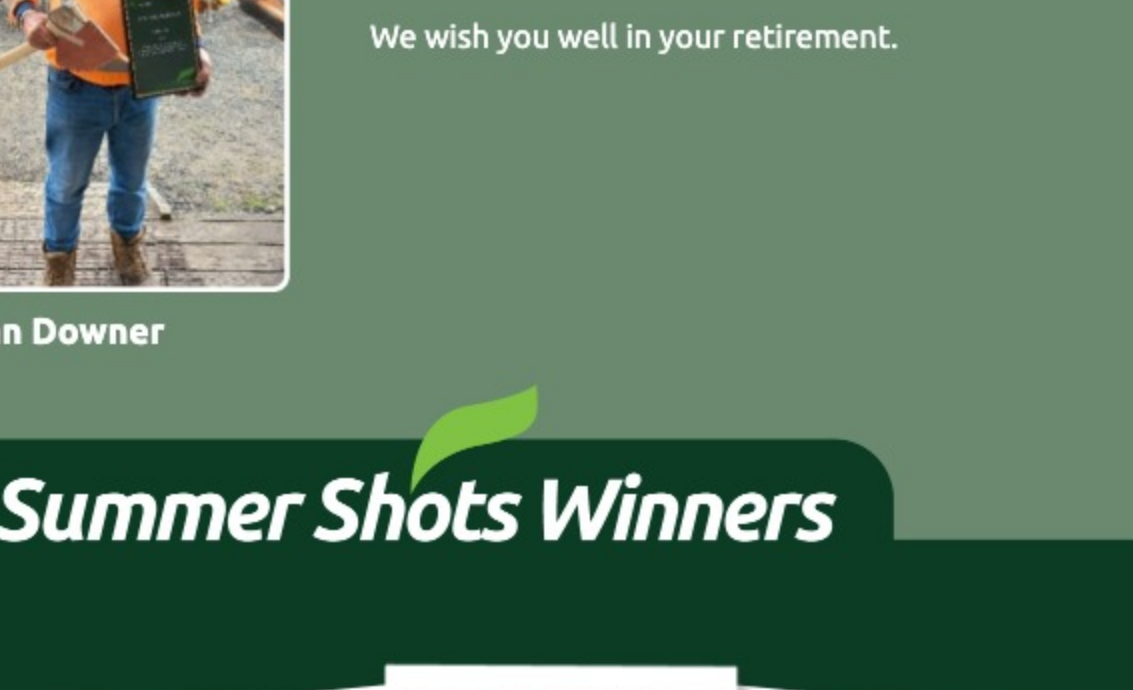


Ian Downer

A big thank you to Ian Downer (13 years service) and Kawharu Talbot (19 years service) for your valued contribution and support to Treescape over the years.

We wish you well in your retirement.

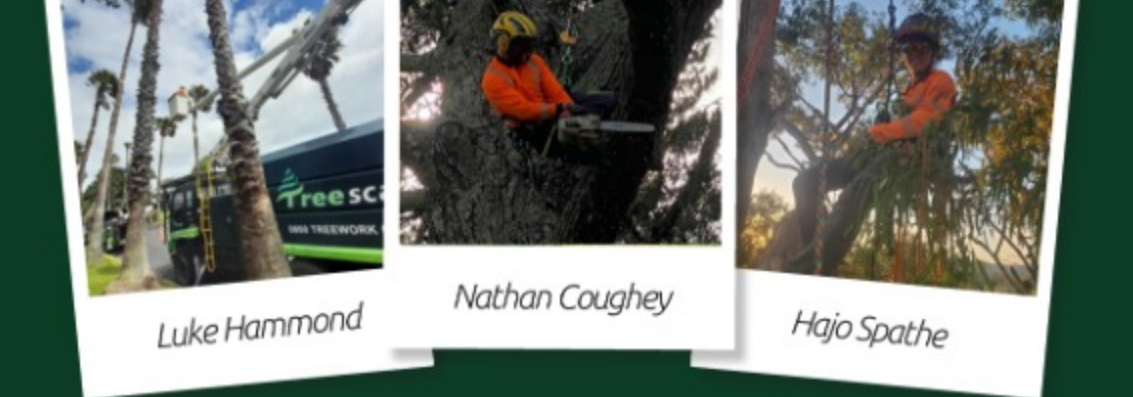
## Summer Shots Winners



Luke Hammond

Nathan Coughsey

Hajo Spatke



## Company News



## Refer a friend

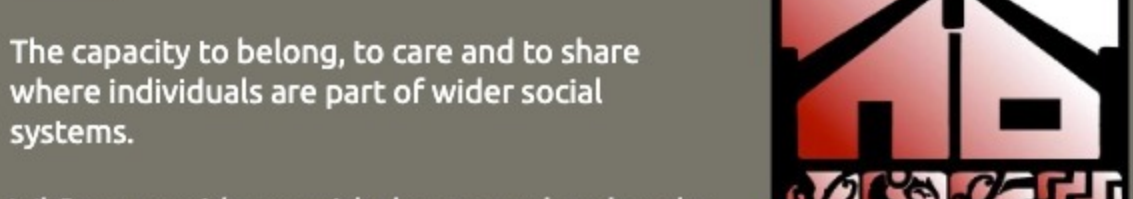


## EAP reminder

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is here to help with any work or life issues and to improve your health and general well-being.

To request an in-person, phone or video appointment visit [eapservices.co.nz](mailto:eapservices.co.nz) or call NZ 0800 372 669 | AU 1800 726 474...

EAP Health App [habithealth+](#) | EAP for me | EAP Services Limited



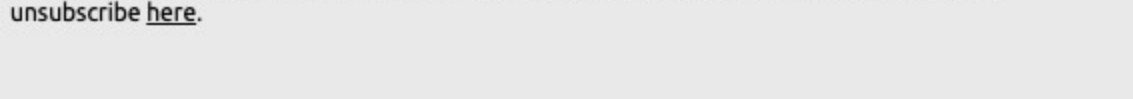
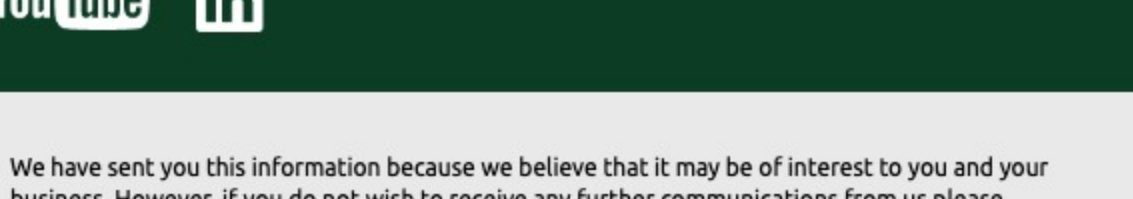
## Wellbeing

Te Whare Tapa Whā - Taha Whānau (Family Health)

The capacity to belong, to care and to share where individuals are part of wider social systems.

Whānau provides us with the strength to be who we are. This is the link to our ancestors, our ties with the past, the present and the future. Understanding the importance of whānau and how whānau (family) can contribute to illness and assist in curing illness.

For more info: [Māori health models](#) – Te Whare Tapa Whā | Ministry of Health NZ



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