

Dunedin City Council



GLAM UPDATE

Dunedin Botanic Garden — September 4th, 2025

This year marks 80 years since the catastrophic Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings and, to mark the anniversary, a ginkgo tree was planted at Truby King Reserve last month.

Organised by the Waikouaiti Coast Community Board, the small planting project aims to honour the resilience of the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki since the bombings.

The planting of the tree acts as a call for peace, and it will join two other ginkgo trees already planted at Truby King Reserve in Seacliff. All three trees are direct descendants of a tree at Tsuruhane Shrine that survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. In 2017, thirty Ginkgo biloba seeds that originated from a surviving tree in Hiroshima came to Dunedin and have been nurtured at the Dunedin Botanic Garden since.

Garden staff have had the honour of successfully propagating 23 of the seeds and helped grow them into healthy trees. Last year, one of the trees was planted at the Market Reserve to mark Hiroshima Day on 15 August.

A grove in the arboretum near the Northern Cemetery has also been planted and trees from it have been distributed to other botanic gardens in the South Island.

Go and visit the trees, and have a walk around the reserve, to see the results of the wonderful mahi of garden staff and the Waikouaiti Coast Community Board.