

# 15 Horticulture

## Autumn 1980

in New Zealand

Bulletin of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)



**HORTICULTURE**

IN NEW ZEALAND



BULLETIN OF THE ROYAL NZ INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE  
NUMBER 15, AUTUMN 1980

In this issue :

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Editorial .....   | 1                    |
| Annual General Meeting Registration .....                 | 2                    |
| Annual General Meeting Agenda .....                       | 3                    |
| Accounts for year ended 31/12/79 .....                    | 5                    |
| Chairman's Report .....                                   | 9                    |
| Know your Turfgrass 7..... D.E. Aldous                    | 13                   |
| Plant Conservation .....                                  | G. Paterson 15       |
| Loder Cup Award 1979 .....                                | 16                   |
| Buying Fertilisers & Manures .....                        | "Handyman Which?" 17 |
| Templin Travelling Scholarship .....                      | 20                   |
| Letter to the Editor, Report on Plant Tissue Short Course | 21                   |
| 1979 NDH, NCH graduates & prizewinners .....              | 22                   |
| 1979 NDH Theses, & Seed & Plant Exchange .....            | 23                   |
| District Council News .....                               | 24                   |
| Christchurch Horticultural Festival .....                 | 27                   |
| New Members .....   | 28                   |
| Cover by Janet Hart, Teaching Aids Unit, Lincoln College  |                      |

---

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INCJ).

*Patron* : His Excellency the Governor-General,  
Sir Keith Holyoake.

*Vice-Patron* : The Hon. Duncan MacIntyre,  
Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries.

*President* : Dr J.D. Atkinson, O.B.E., D.Sc., M.Sc., AHRIH.

*Chairman of Executive* : Mr J.O. Taylor, MBE., NDH, AHRIH, FIPRA.

*Chairman of Examining Board* : Dr R.C. Close, M.Sc., Ph.D.

*National Secretary* : Mr R.A. Foubister,  
P.O. Box 12, Lincoln College.

*Bulletin Editor* : Mrs Barbara McCartney.

The Editor welcomes articles, letters and news items for consideration for publication. Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln College.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of RNZIH.

Registered at Post Office Headquarters, Wellington, as a magazine.

# ~ Editorial ~

Autumn has come very early this year in Canterbury (causing problems for farmers still trying to harvest) and already the *Liquidamber* we can see from the RNZIH office is turning colour.

This is also the time of year for the rustle of leaves in the office - the rapid sorting and compiling of papers for the Annual General Meeting, in order to have the annual accounts and A.G.M. Notice in members' hands by the due date. We are at present awaiting the final Accounts from the accountant, and we fervently hope we will have these in time to pass the copy on to the printer before he heads off for his Australian holiday.

You will find the Annual Accounts, Chairman's Report and A.G.M. programme on the next few pages. It is hoped that all Waikato RNZIH members and many from further afield will be able to attend at Hamilton on May 24th and enjoy the functions thoughtfully arranged by the Waikato District Council, as well as sharing in the Annual General Meeting and listening to the 1980 Banks Lecture, which will be presented by Mr Eric Toleman of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Hamilton.

Please use the registration form on page 2 if you intend to go.

BARBARA McCARTNEY,  
Editor.



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE -  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1980

DATE : Saturday May 24th

VENUE : Methodist Centre, London Street, Hamilton

PROGRAMME :

Saturday : 9.00 am Registration

9.30 am A.G.M.

\* 12.30 pm LUNCH - to be provided at a small cost

The A.G.M. will continue, if necessary, after lunch.

Morning and afternoon teas will be provided by local members.

There will be opportunity for members interested in specialist fields (eg show judging) to meet for discussion.

\* 5.30 pm Drinks and buffet DINNER - at the  
'Top of the Town', Victoria Street North.  
Tickets will be pre-sold, as numbers will be  
limited.

8.15 pm 1980 BANKS LECTURE in the Methodist Centre.

The Banks Lecturer for 1980 is Mr Eric Toleman, of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Hamilton, who has chosen as his subject :

"the promise of great returns....."

- Journal of Sir Joseph Banks, 1770"

- a review of the potential of NZ to become a major producer of horticultural crops.

Sunday : 25th May - Morning tea in a local member's garden  
at 10.00 am.

This will be followed by a guided walk (approx. 2.5km) along the bank of the Waikato river, through an area of historic and interesting trees, and ending at the 'Ferrybank Lounge' for LUNCH.

ALL MEMBERS intending to attend the A.G.M. and/or associated functions are asked to complete the form below and post BEFORE APRIL 15th to :

Mrs R. Towers,  
Secretary, Waikato D.C., RNZIH,  
9 Clark Place, Hamilton.

-----  
I will be attending the RNZIH Annual General Meeting in Hamilton on May 24th 1980 :

I will require \_\_\_\_\_ ticket/s for \*LUNCH on Saturday (\$2.50)  
\*DINNER on " (\$7.50)  
\*LUNCH on Sunday (\$6.00)

*Please tick the functions you wish to attend and enclose the appropriate amount.  
Receipts will be posted to members, and tickets issued upon registration.*

AMOUNT ENCLOSED : \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER'S NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For motel accommodation see next page -

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE A.G.M. IN HAMILTON -

Block bookings have been made at the following motels, all of which are within walking distances of the A.G.M. and dinner venues :

"Southern Cross", 212 Ulster Street, Hamilton, (81-623)  
"Motel Six", corner Ulster and Abbotsford Streets, Hamilton, (82-854)  
"A 1 Motel", 174 Ulster Street, Hamilton. (85-569)

Persons requiring accommodation are asked to confirm bookings DIRECTLY WITH THE MOTEL OF THEIR CHOICE. The Waikato District Council cannot accept responsibility for confirming bookings. When confirming bookings, please state that you are an RNZIH member.

---

---

TO ALL MEMBERS - NOTICE OF MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1980

In accordance with Rule 9(f) of the Rules of the Institute, NOTICE is hereby given that the 1980 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc) will be held in the

METHODIST CENTRE, LONDON STREET, HAMILTON, commencing at 9.30 am on SATURDAY MAY 24 1980.

All members of the Institute are cordially invited to attend, to take part in the discussion, and, if entitled, to exercise a vote.

ORDER OF BUSINESS :

9.00 am - Registration  
9.30 am - Meeting commences

AGENDA :

1. Welcome to Members
2. Apologies
3. In Memoriam - tribute to deceased Members
4. Adoption of Minutes of AGM held in Tauranga 28 April 1979
5. Matters arising from Minutes of 28 April 1979
6. Presentation of Annual Report and Statement of Accounts -  
Chairman
7. Presentation of Examining Board Report
8. Presentation of District Council Reports
9. Consideration of the following remits :

Remit No. 1 - That National Executive investigate the production of an Institute letter-card with a selection of appropriate illustrations for sale through Members to promote and publicise the RNZIH.

MOVED : Miss J. Dingley  
SECONDED : Mrs J. Veal

Remit No. 2 - Northern District Councils note with concern growing trends in the development of the Horticultural Industry, particularly in northern regions, and ask that National Executive take appropriate steps to publicise and investigate these problems.

MOVED : Mr M. Steven  
SECONDED : Mr D.H. Bull

NOTE : Factors relating to this Remit include :

- (a) Escalating prices of horticultural land, often beyond its real productive value, and the impact of these prices on the ability of younger horticulturists to own their own property.
- (b) Earthworks and contouring to facilitate the cultivation of otherwise unsuitable land, and consequent soil conservation problems.
- (c) The sale of inferior seedling plant material, with the implication that it is suitable for commercial production.
- (d) Lack of adequate professional horticultural advisory services to guide and advise on development and management.
- (e) The increasing trend by businesses to use horticultural enterprises as tax deductions and the consequent instability to the Industry.

10. Election of Officers :

Patron : His Excellency the Governor-General

Vice-Patron : The Hon. Duncan MacIntyre

President : Dr. J.D. Atkinson

Vice-President : Mr T.H. Warburton

National Executive :

- Mr J.O. Taylor - Chairman
- Mr G.G. Henderson - Deputy-Chairman
- Mrs R.W. Shepherd, Wellington
- Mrs M. De Castro, Blenheim
- Mr M. Steven, Hamilton
- Mr R.J. Ballinger, Blenheim
- Prof. R.N. Rowe, Lincoln
- Mr I.D. Galloway, Wellington
- Mr G.D. Mander, Tauranga
- Mr R.J. Nanson, Wellington
- Prof. J.A. Veale, Massey
- Mr A.L. Mason, Feilding

Auditors : Messrs Clarke Menzies & Co., Christchurch

Editors : Annual Journal - to be elected  
Bulletin - Mrs B.V. McCartney

- 12. Presentation of Awards : Associates of Honour
- 13. Any other business
- 14. Close of Meeting

---

EVENING PROGRAMME - BANKS LECTURE :

The 1980 Banks Lecture will be presented on Saturday evening 28th May, at 8.15 pm in the Methodist Centre, London Street, Hamilton, by Mr E.E. Toleman. Details of Mr Toleman's subject are contained in the A.G.M. programme (p.2) and all members are cordially invited to attend.



AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL NZ INSTITUTE  
OF HORTICULTURE INCORPORATED.

We have examined the attached balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts which in our opinion give a true and fair view of the state of the Institute's affairs as at 31 December 1979 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

- CLARKE MENZIES & CO., Chartered Accountants, CHRISTCHURCH.

---

Notes to the Accounts :

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following polices have been adopted :

Inventories

Books on hand are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Depreciation

Fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis which will write off cost over a period of five years.

Interest received

Interest receivable has been included in the accounts on a cash basis.

NOTE 2 PUBLICATIONS RESERVE

This reserve is available for general publications of the Institute.

NOTE 3 EXAMINATIONS FUND

The receipts and payments in respect of the Examinations work are recorded through a separate bank account. An annual grant is made to this account by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

As from 1979 the Examinations Fund is accounted for by an Income and Expenditure Account. All costs relating to the Examinations Account are charged to that account and if expenditure exceeds income for the year, the deficit is charged to the General Account. In those years where income exceeds expenditure the surplus is to be retained in the Examinations Fund for the benefit of subsequent years.

NOTE 4 DISTRICT COUNCIL FUNDS IN SUSPENSE

These are funds receive from District Councils which are no longer operating. Interest is compounding and the funds are held separately in the Bank of New Zealand Savings Bank.

NOTE 5 NOTABLE & HISTORIC TREES COMMITTEE

This committee had funds of \$1168.72 at 31.12.79 (\$681.83 at 31.12.78) representing the unexpended portion of grants.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE - BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1979

|   | <u>1979</u> | <u>1978</u> | <u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>            | <u>1979</u> | <u>1978</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>                  |             |             |                                  |             |             |
| Accounts payable                            | 4,366       | 2,247       | Cash on Hand                     | 6           | 6           |
| District Council Funds in Suspende (Note 4) | 822         | 798         | Cash at Bank of New Zealand      |             |             |
| Subs received in advance                    | -           | -           | Current Accounts & Term Deposits | 33          | 33          |
| Subs held for Careers Manual                | -           | -           | Books Account                    | 465         | 2,220       |
| Total Current Liabilities                   | 5,188       | 3,045       | General Account                  | (35)        | 580         |
| <u>PUBLICATIONS RESERVE (Note 2)</u>        | 3,147       | 3,147       | Examinations Account (Note 3)    | 463         | 2,839       |
| <u>EXAMINATION FUND (Note 3)</u>            |             |             |                                  |             |             |
| - represented by cash at B.N.Z.             | -           | 580         | Cash at Savings Banks            |             |             |
| - represented by B.N.Z. Term Deposit        | -           | 4,000       | P.O.S.B. - General Funds         | 1           | 1,351       |
|   | -           | 4,580       | B.N.Z. Savings Bank Ltd (Note 4) | 822         | 798         |
| <u>ACCUMULATED FUND</u>                     |             |             | P.O.S.B. - Deposits              | 2,343       | 2,551       |
| Balance 1/1/79                              | 4,829       | 4,101       | B.N.Z. Term Deposits             | 12,000      | -           |
| Add adjustments                             | -           | 1,061       | B.N.Z. Term Deposits             | 400         | 400         |
| Add excess of income over expenditure       | 3,008       | (333)       | Debtors                          | 61          | 646         |
| Balance 31/12/79                            | 7,837       | 4,829       | Books on Hand for sale           | 1,581       | 1,180       |
| <u>TRUST ACCOUNT BALANCES Capital</u>       |             |             |                                  |             |             |
| Endowment Fund (comp) 1,088                 | -           | 1,277       | Investments(at cost)             |             | 1,826       |
| F. Cooper Memorial Fund (comp)              | 899         | 798         | Debuture-Wellington City Council |             | -           |
| J.A. Campbell Memorial Prize Fund           | 500         | 561         | -Christchurch "                  | 1,050       | 800         |
| Junior Memorial Prize Fund                  | 500         | 554         | -Palmerston City Council         | 500         | 300         |
| D. Tannock Memorial Prize Fund              | 500         | 624         | -General Finance                 | 1,350       | 10,000      |
| P. Skellerup Prize Fund 1,100               | 212         | 1,210       |                                  | 2,900       | 11,100      |
| R. Skellerup Prize Fund                     | 20          | -           | <u>FIXED ASSETS</u>              |             |             |
| D. Mackenzie Memorial Prize Fund            | 500         | 377         | Office Equipment at Cost         | 1,546       |             |
|   | 5,087       | 5,401       | Less Depreciation                | 309         | 137         |
|   | -           | -           |                                  |             |             |
| <u>Total Trust Funds</u>                    | \$ 21,814   | \$ 21,002   |                                  |             |             |



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

GENERAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

|  | <u>1979</u> | <u>1978</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| <u>INCOME</u>                                |             |             |
| Subscriptions                                | 9,898       | 9,350       |
| Donations                                    | 129         | 104         |
| Sale of Nomenclature Codes                   | -           | -           |
| Secretarial Services - Tree Crop Association | 332         | 389         |
| - N.Z.I.P.R.A.                               | 810         | 695         |
| Sundry Receipts                              | 127         | 105         |
| Interest                                     | 637         | 328         |
| Depreciation Recovered                       | 23          | -           |
|  | <hr/>       | <hr/>       |
| <u>Total Income</u>                          | 11,956      | 10,971      |
| <u>Less EXPENDITURE</u>                      |             |             |
| Capitation paid to District Councils         | 926         | 742         |
| Salary, wages & secretarial services         | 2,198       | 3,737       |
| Audit fee                                    | 440         | 500         |
| Depreciation                                 | 309         | 33          |
| Service & office facilities                  | -           | 193         |
| Net cost of publications                     | 2,104       | 3,883       |
| Printing and stationery                      | 700         | 806         |
| Postages, telegrams, telephone charges       | 262         | 243         |
| General expenses                             | 132         | 92          |
| A.G.M. expenses                              | 140         | -           |
| Travel Expenses                              | 468         | 368         |
| N. & H. Trees Committee Grant                | -           | 707         |
|  | <hr/>       | <hr/>       |
| <u>Total Expenditure</u>                     | 7,679       | 11,304      |
|  | <hr/>       | <hr/>       |
|  | 4,277       | (333)       |
| Deficit Examination Account (Note 3)         | (1,269)     | -           |
|  | <hr/>       | <hr/>       |
| <u>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</u>     | \$ 3,008    | \$ (333)    |
|  | =====       | =====       |

NOTE

The 1979 Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year, prior to deficit from Examination Account, contains \$2,416 relating to 1978 owed by Examinations Account Hence the true surplus for the year is reduced by this amount.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE - EXAMINATIONS ACCOUNT  
INCOME & EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31 December 1979

\$

BALANCE 1 January 1979 581

INCOME

|                     |            |        |
|---------------------|------------|--------|
| H.T.C. Enrolments   | 115        |        |
| Registration        | 1,273      |        |
| Examination Entry   | 3,422      |        |
| Interest            | 72         |        |
| Sale of Exam Papers | 51         |        |
| Government Grant    | 11,616     |        |
| Loder Cup Committee | <u>750</u> |        |
|                     |            | 17,299 |

EXPENDITURE

|  |              |               |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Exam Board Expenses                    | 2,051        |               |
| Exam Fees and Expenses                 | 1,993        |               |
| Fees & Sundry Refunds                  | 104          |               |
| General Expenses                       | 67           |               |
| Loder Cup                              | 750          |               |
| Office Expenses                        | 5            |               |
| Oral and Practical Exam                | 655          |               |
| Postage and Telephone                  | 594          |               |
| Printing and Stationery                | 731          |               |
| Secretarial & Office Stationery        | 10,643       |               |
| Travel                                 | 396          |               |
| General Account (Subs & Journals 1978) | <u>1,160</u> |               |
|  |              | <u>19,149</u> |

Excess of Expenditure Over Income 1,850

BALANCE TO GENERAL INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT \$(1,269)

=====

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE - PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT  
For the year ended 31 December 1979

SALES 2,686

Less

Costs of Publication 5,042

Adjustment for increase in stock  
on hand 31/12/79 (252)

4,790

NET COST OF PUBLICATIONS FOR YEAR \$2,104

=====

## RNZIH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY, 1980

Ladies and Gentlemen -

On behalf of the National Executive I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 1979. The Institute has enjoyed another year of relative success with total membership, including students, increasing to over 1600. Financially, the 1979 year was better than previous years, but it is becoming increasingly apparent that additional Government assistance is required to meet the cost of administering the Institute's examinations. The year has been one of progress in most facets of our operation and we continue to play an important role in horticultural education, and as a national focal point for horticultural interests.

### 1. Financial

The Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet are published in this issue of the Bulletin and I would like to make some comments on these results.

(a) General Account - to maintain the viability and purpose of the Institute, it is essential that a reasonable surplus of funds is available each year to carry out our aims and objectives. This has not always been achieved in recent years and it is pleasing to note a surplus of \$4277 in this year's general account. This was brought about partly by a reduction in secretarial costs resulting from a credit from the 1978 accounts and partly by an overall increase in income. There was also a substantial reduction in nett publication costs, the higher level of which in 1978 was attributable to the "Flowers for Shows" booklet.

Other items of general expenditure increased this year, notably A.G.M. expenses, National Executive travel, capitation, and depreciation. Income rose by \$1000, a figure which in reality is not sufficient to maintain the viability I mentioned earlier. Costs of most items listed in the accounts have been reduced to the minimum possible and in today's economic climate can only rise from their present levels. It is essential that some steps are taken to increase annual income.

(b) Examinations Account - in this year's examinations accounts, transactions have been recorded on the basis of income and expenditure on behalf of examinations, as opposed to the method used last year of recording receipts and payments to and from the Examinations Account. This gives a clearer picture of the financial situation pertaining to the examinations side of the Institute's operation. This system is being carried through to 1980 when, since the beginning of this year we have been operating only one bank account for all receipts and payment purposes, both General and Examinations. As a result, the problems of recording transfers from one account to the other have been eliminated. During 1979 there was an excess of expenditure over income amounting to \$1850. Part of this deficit was offset by the \$581 remaining in the Examination Fund from 1978 and the balance of \$1269 has to be provided from the General Account. The nett result, therefore, is an overall surplus for both accounts of \$3008 which is recorded in the Balance Sheet under Accumulated Fund.

The Examining Board and your National Executive have already taken steps this year to recoup and improve this situation by approving increases in student registration fees and examination entry fees for 1980, and also by recommending an increase of \$3.00 per capita in both categories of students which form the basis of our application for the annual Government Grant.

These measures are expected to increase Examinations Fund income to \$23250 in 1980 as compared with \$17300 in 1979. Expenditure will no doubt increase also this year if only for inflationary reasons but it is planned to ensure that the Examinations Fund at least maintains a slightly better than break-even situation.

(c) Trust Accounts - the capital sums of these accounts are now well invested, returning sufficient income to meet prizes to the annual value of \$50 each and to permit a small surplus as a hedge against inflation. During the year we were pleased to receive a \$100 donation from Mr P.J. Skellerup to increase the capital of the Skellerup Prize Fund. This donation is acknowledged with appreciation and demonstrates Mr Skellerup's continued generosity and support of the Institute.

(d) Publications Account - nett cost of publications at \$2104 is regarded as being normal and represents the approximate cost of publishing and distributing the quarterly Bulletin. Again it was not necessary to use any of the Publications Reserve. A contribution of \$250 was recently received from Otago University for the Annual Journal, and we have also received a grant of \$400 from the Internal Affairs Dept. These sums will go towards the 1980 publications and are not included in the 1979 accounts. The Minister of Internal Affairs has advised that this will be the last such grant from the Lottery Board because it is the policy of the Board to phase out the funding of technical journals.

## 2. Membership

Total membership stands at 1607, of which 985 are general members and 622 are students. Not all students are financial members and at the time of preparing this report, 469 were financial for the 1979/80 year, making a total of 1454 financial members. While the number of students paying current subscriptions is increasing, many of them become financial only for the year they actually sit examinations. It is apparent that "student members" should be treated in the same way as "general members" and the category of "student" eliminated. Methods of achieving a situation whereby all students are financial members on a continuing basis will be considered by your Executive, and it is hoped that Rule 3e, as amended in 1978, can become fully effective.

## 3. Fellowships

During the year, Fellowships were conferred on Mrs D.H.Menzies, and Mrs B. Brown, both of Wellington, and both of whom have contributed significantly to the Institute on a local and national basis.

## 4. Associates of Honour

At the Annual General Meeting in April 1979 the award of Associate of Honour (AHRIH) was conferred on Professor J.A. Veale, Palmerston North, Mr A.G.Scott, Morrinsville, and Mr D.G.Anyon,

Wellington. Each of these gentlemen has contributed significantly in his own way to the Institute and to Horticulture, and the awards fittingly mark the contributions made.

Three nominations for this honour have been approved for submission to the 1980 A.G.M.

#### 5. District Councils

The National Executive again places on record its sincere appreciation of the work done by District Council executives and members during the year. It is at this local level that the Institute operates in a practical sense and an example of this is seen in the combined meetings of the Northern District Councils. This type of co-operation lends strength at members' level and is to be encouraged in other areas of New Zealand.

#### 6. Publications

Annual Journal - the expected high standard of the Annual Journal was maintained again this year under the editorship of Mr Richard Stevens. We are indeed grateful to him for accepting the role of Journal Editor on this occasion and he is to be complimented on the standard of this year's issue.

Bulletin - "Horticulture in NZ" - thanks are again extended to Mrs Barbara McCartney for her excellent production of the quarterly Bulletin. Having stepped into the breach last year on a temporary basis it is pleasing to know that she will continue as editor this year. It is widely agreed that "Horticulture in NZ" has attained a high standard under her guidance and I wish to record the appreciation of the Institute for the valuable work she has done.

Floral Art Handbook - a lengthy and detailed review of this booklet was undertaken during the year, much of the work involved being done by Mrs Winsome Shepherd. Expert assistance was given by Mr David Anyon, Miss Margaret Watling and Mrs Barbara Cave, and there were no doubt others who contributed their time and knowledge to this task. What started as an up-dating turned into a review and then almost into an entire revision. Even with this amount of work, it seems apparent that within the next two or three years this guide for those involved in Floral Art Competitions will need to be completely rewritten.

RNZIH Publicity Brochure - a new publicity brochure was produced and distributed during the year. It contains up-dated and more detailed information about the Institute and fills a much needed requirement in our public relations activity.

Guide for Students - a comprehensive guide for students was printed and has been available for issue to new students during the latter half of the year. This issue filled a gap at the time, but there is room for improvement in its content. The Examining Board will be looking at this publication again this year with a view to including more information for students.

#### 7. Sub-Committees

Regional Horticulture - this committee continues its good work under the chairmanship of Mrs R.W.Shepherd. The Plant Evaluation and the Notable and Historic Trees sub-committees have made a good deal of progress throughout the year, details of which will be reported to this Meeting by the Chairman of this committee. I wish to record the appreciation of the National Executive and all

members of the Institute for the untiring and dedicated effort put in by the members of these sub-committees, upon whose shoulders falls the full responsibility of making the schemes viable.

#### 8. Election of National Executive

It is with regret that we have received notice of resignation from Mr K. Davey, who has been a member of the National Executive since coming on to the caretaker Executive as Manawatu representative in 1975. One new nomination has been received to replace Mr Davey. Two sitting members have been retired by rotation and being eligible, have been nominated for re-election.

In the absence of any other nominations there is no requirement for an electoral ballot for the National Executive this year.

Members of the National Executive for 1980/81 are :

Mr J.O. Taylor - Chairman  
Mrs M. De Castro  
Mrs R.W. Shepherd  
Mr R.J. Ballinger  
Mr I.D. Galloway  
Mr G.G. Henderson  
Mr G.D. Mander  
Mr A.L. Mason  
Mr R.J. Nanson  
Prof. R.N. Rowe  
Mr M. Steven  
Prof. J.A. Veale

Formal election of Professor Rowe, the new member of the Executive, will occur later in the Agenda of this Meeting, together with the re-election of Mrs M. De Castro and Mr G.D. Mander, who retired by rotation this year.

#### 9. Honours

Congratulations are extended to Mr P.K. McCliskie, of Nelson, on being awarded the C.B.E. for services to the fruitgrowing industry in the New Year Honours List.

#### 10. In Memoriam

We record with regret the passing of 14 members of the Institute during the year :

Mr J.A. McPherson, AHRIH, NDH, of Auckland  
Mr E. Taylor, AHRIH, NDH, of Christchurch  
Mr F.W. Lokan, FRIH and Life Member, of Invercargill  
Mr G.F.A. Fillmore, FRIH, of Auckland  
Mr J.C. Muirhead, FRIH, of Palmerston North  
Mr L.V. Phillips, Life Member, of Greytown  
Mr E.S. West, FRIH, of Taupo  
Miss M. Wood, FRIH, of Eastbourne  
Mr J.L. Dance, member since 1948, of Millers Flat  
Mrs P. Moncrieff, member since 1949, of Nelson  
Mr F. Edlin, member, of Tauranga  
Mr J. Eiberg, member, of Auckland  
Mrs O. Boyd, member, of Hamilton  
Mrs J.W. Kinsella, member, of New Plymouth.



## 11. Examining Board

A report from the Chairman of the Examining Board will be presented to this Meeting, covering the activities of the Board during 1979. I take this opportunity of expressing the sincere appreciation of the National Executive to all members of the Examining Board for the time and knowledge they have devoted to this function of the Institute. We welcomed the return of Dr Close from overseas later in the year to take up the chairmanship of the Board.

Board members play an important role in administering the examination policy of the RNZIH and the guidance given to the many students who have recourse to the Board for a variety of decisions, determines the horticultural future of these young people.

## 12. Conclusion

To the members of the National Executive I express my grateful appreciation for their ready assistance and guidance at all times.

Thanks are also expressed to the executives of District Councils and particularly to their chairmen and secretaries, all of whom continue to make substantial contributions to the welfare of the Institute. There is evidence this year of growing strength and participation at District level and we will encourage this as much as possible.

Finally I cannot adequately express my gratitude to our Secretary, Mr Ashley Foubister, and to his assistant, Mrs McCartney, for their wonderful co-operation and untiring attention to their duties. It is they who really "run the ship" and no one could have a more loyal and friendly association than exists at head office in Christchurch than I do.

Thank you, one and all.

J.O.TAYLOR,  
Chairman,  
National Executive, RNZIH.

---

## KNOW YOUR TURFGRASS - 7

Chewings Fescue - *Festuca rubra* ssp. *commutata*

- A. Venation - leaf folded in the bud; blade bristle-like and seldom open.
- B. Ligule - minute (0.3 mm approx. long), membranous, truncate.
- C. Auricles - absent
- D. Collar - medium broad, glabrous, distinct.
- E. Sheath - not split, hairless.

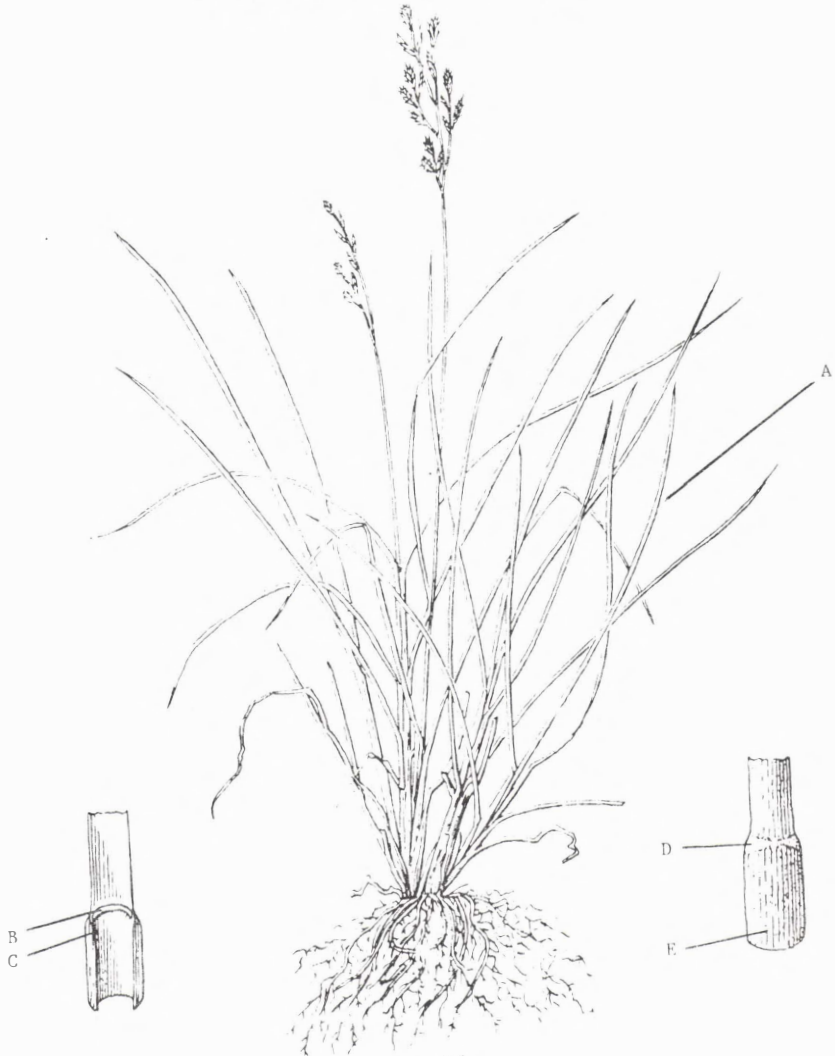
REMARKS : Chewings fescue is an introduction from Europe and is now widely distributed in most temperate countries. Does not tolerate extremes in temperature. This fine textured, cool season, perennial grass prefers light textured and fairly acid soils. Often combined with brown top. Cutting height 1.2 - 1.8 cm. Major Chewings fescue cultivars in New Zealand are Dawson and Barfella.

# Know Your Turfgrass - 7

D.E. ALDOUS

CHEWINGS FESCUE

(*Festuca rubra* ssp. *commutata*)



## PLANT CONSERVATION -

### A STRATEGY FOR THE PROTECTION OF RARE AND ENDANGERED PLANTS :

In January 1979, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources invited interested organisations to join the Threatened Plants Committee of the Botanic Gardens' Conservation Co-ordinating Body based at the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew.

The Dunedin Botanic Garden has become a member of this body with the aim of fostering the protection of rare and endangered species and their habitats in New Zealand and also to provide an alternative and complimentary conservation effort, to the natural functioning eco-systems.

With estimates being given that 25,000 higher plant species are at risk throughout the world and 250 of these are plants indigenous to New Zealand, the matter is viewed with some urgency and great importance.

The growing concern for long-term conservation of native flora was highlighted during a symposium at the 49th Congress of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.

The matter has been followed up by the Nature Conservation Council who called for written submissions which were discussed at a one-day symposium held in Wellington on 16 November.

Points covered included proposals for future reserves, management options, research, staff and funds, legislation, education and publicity.

A strategy would include the classification of flora as an inventory of plant communities which when plotted would form a national vegetation map. Threatened plant communities and species would be identified and protection of the sites by various means implemented.

With the firm conviction that a Botanic Garden has a role to play in such conservation efforts, the Dunedin Parks and Recreation Department were represented at the symposium.

In addition to our membership on the Threatened Plants Committee, it would appear most desirable that other Parks Departments form a network of stations throughout New Zealand in representative areas. Indeed, I see every reason that the proposed liaison should encompass all botanical matters of mutual interest.

It is intended to seek the interest of individual Departments and organisations in taking part in conservation programmes which would be complementary on a nation-wide basis.

The importance of the interdependence of specific flora and fauna which make up a community, is basic. The answer to the protection of rare and endangered plants lies in the involvement of people from numerous disciplines and it is considered that Parks Departments are staffed by many people who have a valuable contribution to make.

The cultivation and propagation techniques known to both amateurs and professionals will enable the maintenance of a plant resource in various parts of New Zealand.

## PLANT CONSERVATION CONT -

A back-up system for the plants in the wild is an obvious part of a conservation strategy, and one which will be a challenge to meet. The lead shown by Dr D.R. Given of the Botany Division, DSIR, Lincoln, must be followed through in practice by Parks Departments and a role established for Botanic Gardens and allied institutions.

- Graeme Paterson,  
Deputy Director of Parks, Dunedin.

---

## LODER CUP AWARD - 1979 :

Advice of the award of the Loder Cup for 1979 to Mr and Mrs Roger Sutton of Lorneville, Invercargill, was received too late for inclusion in the 1979 Annual Journal, so we precis here the nomination put forward by the Southland Branch of the NZ Forest and Bird Protection Society :



"For many years Mr and Mrs Sutton have collected seeds and cuttings from native trees and propagated them in their own garden, with the intention of raising trees suitable for planting out to beautify selected road-side areas.

As a member of the Invercargill Conservation Committee Mr Sutton realised their supply of small trees could become a source of raising funds for Conservation Week activities, and in the first year some 1500 trees were sold. This has increased each year, and in 1977 the trees were sold throughout Southland, with the help of the Ranger Guides.

From seed Mr and Mrs Sutton grow : *Dodonia viscosa*, *Aristotelia serrata*, *Carpodetus serratus*, *Clianthus puniceus*, *Podocarpus spicatus*, *Pseudopanax crassifolium*, *Metrosideros umbellata*, *Clematis puniculata*, *Parsonia heterophylla*, *Myosotidium hortensia*, *Hoheria*, *Phormium*, *Cordyline*, *Sophora* and *Pittosporum*  
From cuttings : *Hebe*, *Olearia*, *Senecio* and *Fuchsia*.

Mr Sutton is often called upon to speak to schools, youth groups and other organisations on planting native trees to attract native birds, and also conducts nature walks through the Waituna Wetland Management Reserve. His knowledge of the flora and fauna of this area is second to none as he and Mr Owen Marshall were instrumental in having the area gazetted as a wet land reserve. It has subsequently been given world status.

In 1977 Mr and Mrs Sutton were successful in their endeavours to be allowed to plant a good selection of their trees on the embankments of the road/rail bridge at Lorneville."

## BUYING FERTILISERS & MANURES -

The following is selected from "Handyman Which?" G.B.1975, and is a very authoritative review of manures. The substance of the article is relevant in New Zealand :

### SOIL ORGANIC MATTER -

You won't have a fertile soil unless it has a high enough level of organic matter. Soil organic matter is the remains of plant and animal life. It exists in various stages of decomposition; the most decomposed part is known as *humus*.

Organic matter does two jobs :

- \* it improves the physical properties of the soil - clay soil becomes easier to work, plant roots find it easier to grow and water can move through soil better. It also makes soils (particularly sandy ones) less likely to dry out. Humus darkens the soil and tends to make cold wet soils warm up earlier in the spring giving a longer growing season.
- \* it provides a source of plant nutrients, particularly nitrogen, and supports the life of many of the soil's organisms (especially earthworms) which contribute towards highly fertile soils.

Soil organic matter decomposes and needs replacing. You do this by adding bulky organic manure. The most readily available source of bulky organic manure is garden compost. If you don't want to be bothered with a compost heap or if you've inherited a piece of ground which needs urgent treatment, there are a lot of other bulky organic manures widely available.

### FARM ANIMAL MANURE -

Animal manure with a lot of undecomposed straw is called long manure, and is very useful for opening up heavy clay soils, but you have to put it on a few months before you want to plant. Well-rotted manure is called short manure.

Be careful about using any manure mixed with wood shavings or sawdust. As manure rots down, some of its plant nutrients are changed into forms easily washed out of the manure by rain. If you are buying a lot, it's worthwhile checking whether you are being offered long manure or short manure. If it's short manure, make sure it has been rotted down under cover.

The easiest type of animal manure to buy was horse manure. This is fibrous and quickly rots down and is known as hot manure. It is the best manure for clay soils. We found horse manure easy to buy from riding stables and through local newspaper advertisements. You might get it free from a riding stable but have to collect it yourself.

Cow manure is wetter than horse manure and pig manure is wetter still. They are known as cold manures. Both take longer to rot down than horse manure and are not as good for opening up heavy soils.

### POULTRY MANURE -

Manure from battery hens is basically hen droppings. Fresh hen droppings can damage young plants and are fairly difficult to handle. The best way to use them is on the compost heap.

## BUYING FERTILISERS & MANURES (CONT) -

### SPENT MUSHROOM COMPOST -

Mushrooms are grown commercially on a well-rotted, strawy compost usually containing some horse manure. Because mushrooms are grown under carefully-controlled conditions and growers don't want to run the risk of passing on disease from one crop to another, they use compost only once before it's spent. Many mushroom growers advertise spent mushroom compost for sale. This is well rotted so is generally not as useful as long horse manure for clay soils. Before you buy, you should ask the mushroom grower whether he has used any insecticide or fungicide on the compost which could affect other plants.

Mushroom compost is a useful bulky organic manure but there is nothing special about it, so don't be tempted into paying ridiculously high prices for it by extravagant claims.

### PLANT NUTRIENTS IN BULKY ORGANIC MANURES -

In Table (a) we tell you how much nitrogen, phosphate and potash bulky manures contain. Our figures are averages - individual samples can vary a lot.

You can use these figures to give a rough guide to whether or not you need to use a fertiliser as well as a bulky manure. For example, if you spread around a lot of soot, you shouldn't need to add a nitrogen fertiliser. But you have to treat the figures with caution - not all of the nutrients are in forms which plants can use quickly, and the proportion which is available varies from manure to manure. In animal manure, for example, only about one-third of the nitrogen is freed for plants to use in the first year. On the other hand, most of the nitrogen in poultry manure can be used. As a rough guide you could take it that about half of the main nutrients present can be used quickly.

### OTHER BULKY MANURES -

If you live near the seaside you may be able to collect seaweed. All seaweed is worth collecting, particularly *Ulva*, which has a lot of nitrogen. Seaweed is rich in potassium and the trace elements iron, manganese and zinc, and is a particularly useful manure for potatoes and members of the cabbage family.

Don't stack the wet seaweed in uncovered heaps - the potassium is readily washed out of it by rainwater. Instead, dig fresh seaweed into the soil a few months before you expect to set out your plants.

### SAWDUST -

It must be well rotted before you use it as a manure, but you can use fresh sawdust as a mulch around trees and bushes.

### LEAF MOULD -

Leaf mould made from leaves out of your own garden or from a local authority, is a useful source of organic matter. The quality of the organic matter depends on the type - oak and beech are particularly good.



## BUYING FERTILISERS & MANURES (CONT) -

### SOOT -

Soot can be obtained from chimney sweeps - domestic chimneys give the best quality. It contains up to six per cent nitrogen as sulphate of ammonia. Because it is black, it can help the soil to warm up earlier. Fresh soot contains tars which may damage plants, so it is best to store soot for three to six months under cover before you use it.

### PEAT -

Peat is a good source of organic matter, but unless you can find a cheap source it's a very expensive bulky manure.

### USING MANURE SAFELY -

Farm animal and poultry manures can contain *Salmonella*, farm animal manures may also contain *Tetanus*, but provided you apply reasonable standards of hygiene when you are using these manures - handling them as little as possible, washing your hands after use, not eating while you are using them, and so on - the chances of picking up either disease are very low. Children are most at risk so it is best to keep them well away from fresh manure.

---

TABLE (a) - BULKY ORGANIC MANURES

---

| FARM ANIMAL MANURES - | percentage of nutrients |           |        |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------|
|                       | nitrogen                | phosphate | potash |
| horse                 | 0.7                     | 0.5       | 0.6    |
| cow                   | 0.6                     | 0.3       | 0.7    |
| pig                   | 0.6                     | 0.6       | 0.4    |
| <hr/>                 |                         |           |        |
| POULTRY MANURES -     |                         |           |        |
| battery chicken       | 1.7                     | 1.4       | 0.7    |
| broiler chicken       | 2.4                     | 2.2       | 1.4    |
| deep-litter chicken   | 1.7                     | 1.8       | 1.3    |
| turkey                | 1.9                     | 1.5       | 0.9    |
| <hr/>                 |                         |           |        |
| OTHER MANURES -       |                         |           |        |
| garden compost        | 3.5                     | 3.5       | 1.8    |
| mushroom compost      | 0.6                     | 0.5       | 0.9    |
| leaf mould            | 0.4                     | 0.2       | 0.3    |
| peat                  | 1.0                     | -         | -      |
| sawdust               | 0.2                     | 0.06      | 0.07   |
| seaweed               | 0.6                     | 0.3       | 1.0    |
| soot                  | 3.6                     | 0.1       | 0.1    |
| spent hops            | 1.1                     | 0.3       | 0.1    |

---

### CONCLUSIONS -

For most people, the priority will be to improve the condition of the soil by increasing the amount of organic matter, so the first thing to think about is buying *bulky organic manure* - which you dig in at about a bucketful to the square metre. You may have to buy what's available in your area. If you do have a choice, animal manures are expensive, but generally worth the investment,

## BUYING FERTILISERS & MANURES (CONT) -

particularly if you are growing vegetables. Long horse manure is particularly useful on clay soils. Poultry manures are generally more difficult to handle, the nutrients are not quite so well balanced and they can be very smelly. But you can get them very cheaply.

If you are buying animal or poultry manure it is worth looking around a bit for the farmer who offers you the best deal. Always try to look at what you are getting before you buy these manures. If you want a lot, buy by the load and not by the bag.

Mushroom composts, peat and spent hops can be expensive and have no special properties - buy these only if you can't get anything else.

In future years you will still need to use bulky organic manures but you should make a compost heap and use this as your main supply. If you see manures going cheaply (or free) buy them and add them to your heap.

If you are growing fruit or vegetables it's unlikely that you would get your best yields by using bulky organic manures alone - you may need to use a fertiliser. The simplest way to buy fertilisers is to get compound fertilisers. If you want to try making your own fertilisers and using the right balance for different plants, then you will need to buy three or four simple fertilisers.

For nitrogen, organic fertilisers are very expensive and unless you find that they improve the quality of your fruit, vegetables or flowers, they are not worth the extra cost. Inorganic fertilisers are much cheaper - on most soils you can use Nitro-chalk; on alkaline soils use sulphate of ammonia.

For a phosphate fertiliser, choose superphosphate if you are setting out young plants or sowing seeds.

For potash you will probably have to buy sulphate of potash.

Unbranded fertilisers generally offer the best value. Shop around for the best price - we often found 100% variations (UK).

---

## TEMPLIN TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP IN ENGINEERING AND HORTICULTURE

The New Zealand Insurance Company Limited, as trustees of the John Richard Templin Travelling Scholarship Trust, is now calling for applications for the Travelling Scholarships to be made available to Engineering, Horticulture or Botany graduates of the the University of Canterbury, or graduates who have obtained a National Diploma of the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture through the Reserves Department of the Christchurch City Council, as selected by a Committee specially appointed for the task.

The Scholarships are for study in the United States of America and are normally tenable for one year. It is desirable that applicants should intend to study at Ohio State University.

Application forms are available from the Trust Dept., the NZ Insurance Co. Ltd., Private Bag, Christchurch. Completed forms should be forwarded to that address to be received not later than 31st May.

# Letters to the Editor

"When looking through your Bulletin "Horticulture in NZ" No. 13 (Spring 1979) I noticed one statement which is rather misleading. On page 4 under Johnson grass you mention three weeds classified as C4 species. The next sentence implies that those species are hard to kill with herbicides *because* they are C4 plants. This is not so. Johnson grass and nut grass are difficult to control because of persistent underground rhizomes and corms that are difficult to kill and regrow readily after the tops are killed.

There is no problem killing redroot, which you misnamed pigweed, with many herbicides, though it is a prolific seeder and drops seed early, thus being difficult to control."

- Dr Jennifer Hartley,  
Secretary, NZ Weed & Pest  
Control Society.

---

It has also been brought to our attention that the article "Conventions in Writing Plant Names", as in Bulletin 13, originated with the NZ Weed and Pest Control Society, and not Lincoln College, as stated. Our apologies to the said Society for this error.

---

ANNUAL JOURNAL : Editors' headaches include those caused by mix-ups occurring somewhere between the typing and printing of copy, and one such has occurred in the 1979 RNZIH Annual Journal. Prior to publication three page numbers were inadvertently transposed. The correct order is :

P. 139 to read 141  
140 " " 139  
141 " " 140.

---

## REPORT ON THE PLANT TISSUE CULTURE SHORT COURSE -

### LINCOLN COLLEGE - 22-23 JANUARY 1980.

This short course was a combined project of Lincoln College and Crop Research Division, DSIR, Lincoln. It was taught by personnel from both institutes, the mornings consisting of lectures at the College and the afternoons of practical exercises in the Calder Laboratory, DSIR.

A total of 13 attended the course, comprising 7 nurserymen, 3 scientists/technicians, and 3 orchid hobbyists.

Of these, 7 were from Christchurch, 5 from Southland and one from Gisborne. All were very enthusiastic about the course and considered that they achieved all they had hoped to in two days. Some however suggested that additional time could be allotted to practical work. Should future courses be held, it may be possible to extend them to three days to accommodate this.

Thanks are especially extended to those involved with the teaching : Prof. R.N. Rowe, Drs M.H. Quazi, J.D. Ferguson and D. Cohen, and Sandra Martin.

It is hoped to hold another such course in the future. If you are interested please contact the Dept. of Horticulture, Landscape and Parks, Lincoln College.

# NDH graduates

from the 1979 examinations are :

Allan H. Buxton, Christchurch )  
Peter F. Cody, Invercargill ) Schedule One  
Neville W. Struthers, Dunedin )

Graeme R. Bethwaite, Blenheim - Schedule Three (Vegetable)

Students who reached NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN HORTICULTURE level  
(Subjects 1-14) are :

Wayne L.Allan, Hamilton - )  
Michael K. Burtenshaw, Christchurch - )  
Mark R. Daniels, Christchurch - ) Schedule One  
Peter R. Grundy, Christchurch - )  
Graeme W. Hall, Timaru - )  
Mrs J.C.N. Horne, Wellington - )  
Craig S. Newton, Hamilton - )  
Mrs Lorraine Thompson, Lower Hutt - )  
Miss Carol S.Thornton, Christchurch- )  
John Walker, Upper Hutt - )

Alec F. McErlich, Christchurch - Schedule Three (Vegetable)

Stephen E. Parr, Tokoroa - )  
Keith R. Grinter, Hastings - )  
David S. Lamb, Auckland - ) Schedule Four (Nursery  
Miss Wendy B. Smith, Napier - ) Management)  
Gary J. Taylor, Timaru - )

---

## Congratulations ~

to the following students who were awarded prizes following the  
1979 examinations -

Allan H. Buxton - the Cockayne Gold Medal for the student completing  
(Christchurch) NDH Schedule I, with the best marks for Subjects  
15 - 22 inclusive.

Neville W.Struthers - the Dugald Mackenzie Prize for the best  
(Dunedin) thesis presented for NDH Schedule One.

Michael J.Reece - the David Tannock Prize for the highest marks  
(Wellington) in Oral and Practical Stage III (NDH 1).

Mrs J.C.N.Horne (Wellington)- ) share the J.A.Campbell Prize for  
Mr Keith R.Grinter (Hastings) - ) the best average marks in subjects  
10-14 (NDH all Schedules)

Mark G. Tomlin (Auckland) - ) share the Junior Memorial Prize for  
R. John Gillespie (Waimate) - ) attaining the highest marks at first  
attempt for the Stage I Oral and  
Practical Examination (all Schedules).

Miss Raewyn G.Keymer (Auckland) - the Peter Skellerup Prize for the  
best average in subjects 1-9 (NDH  
all Schedules).

R. John Gillespie (Waimate) - the N.Z Vegetable and Produce Growers'  
Federation Prize for the best record  
for the year in NDH Schedule III.

THESES

presented by the 1979 NDH graduates were on the following subjects :

A.H.Buxton : "Some Aspects of Natural Revegetation in Southern  
New Zealand"

N.W.Struthers : "Tree Planting in the Urban Areas of Otago,  
New Zealand"

P.F.Cody : "The Role of Quarantine in the Protection of Horticulture  
in New Zealand"

G.R.Bethwaite : "Allium Sativum - Garlic"

These are lodged with the George Forbes Memorial Library,  
Lincoln College, and are available through Inter-Loan.

---

SEED AND PLANTS EXCHANGE -

BUY, SELL OR EXCHANGE.

A proposal from the Northern District Councils to incorporate a regular feature page in the Bulletin, to promote the exchange or sale of seeds and plant material, was endorsed by the National Executive at its Meeting in February. We are happy to comply with this proposal, and hope that members will use this column to their mutual benefit.

If you have seeds or plant material to offer in exchange or sale, or wish to obtain something in particular, please notify the Editor, clearly stating the basis upon which the material is offered, and your name and address. This will be printed in this column, and readers can make direct contact with advertisers.

PLEASE DO NOT forward seeds or plant material to us - we do not have facilities to store or tend to them.

We will include all requests to hand in each Bulletin, and any received after copy goes to the printer, will be kept for the next issue.

This is your column - please use it. The address to write to -  
The Bulletin Editor, RNZIH, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln College,  
Canterbury.

---

A new Application Form for Registration as a Judge has been designed and approved, and copies are available from the National Secretary, or, in Auckland, from Mrs K.J.Veal, Secretary, RNZIH Auckland District Council, 9 Gray Crescent, Torbay, Auckland 10.

---

# District News

## WHANGAREI :

It was announced recently by the government that approval was given for a large experimental and research orchard to be established at Kerikeri. This will allow the planting and evaluation of some of the new and unusual fruits and nuts which it has been suggested could be successfully grown in Northland. On completion of the large irrigation scheme (15 million dollars) approximately 3000 hectares will be suitable for planting and some interesting and unusual fruits and nuts are sure to be planted which could include the following :

Barbados cherry, blueberry, Casimiroa white sapote, Cherimoya, Cocna peach (tomato), Jaboticaba, Lychee, Longan, Mango, Pepino, Narajilla, Almonds, Butternut, Cashew, Chilean hazel, Pecan, Pistachio, Carob, Jojoba, etc.

The February meeting of the Whangarei District Council featured a talk on Spring flowering bulbs by Mr John Grant of Dargaville.

## AUCKLAND :

1979 was productive for the Auckland District Council. There has been a marked increase in attendance at Institute functions, and we welcomed the regular attendance of a small group of students during the winter. A Sunday luncheon was also well attended by some of the older members who no longer join in the evening meetings. Classes in Show Judging for the Institute's Certificate were held throughout the year in conjunction with the Auckland Horticultural Council.

Autumn is fast approaching and if you wish to preserve leaves for use later, here are a couple of methods : gather the leaves when they have first taken on their autumn colours and are still full of sap. Melt some paraffin wax just hot enough to keep fluid. The leaves should be dipped in the mixture one at a time, held by the stalks and moved about for a moment to remove the air bubbles. (Remember paraffin is highly flammable and the safest way is to stand the container in a pot of hot water.)

The other method is the glycerine way - have the leaves as fresh as possible and free from moisture. Stand the sprays or bunches in a long narrow jar containing equal parts of glycerine and water (other recipes give 1/3 glycerine, 2/3 water). They should be allowed to stand in this for a few weeks, the jar being refilled as the stems slowly absorb all the liquid they want.

Rhubarb spray - boil rhubarb leaves for half an hour using 2 pints of water to each 1lb leaves. Strain and cool the liquid, then add a handful of soapflakes dissolved in 2 pints water. (They're not all metric yet in Auckland!) This is a safe insecticide that kills many insects on contact.

Another old fashioned remedy - for mildew on roses, mix ½oz of washing soda plus a little soft soap to each gallon of water and spray infected leaves.

"Tom's Weeds" is the story of Rochford and their house plants, and the history of this well known firm is told by Mea Allen (Faber). From small beginnings and with a lot of hard work, many setbacks and a certain amount of flair, this family business has become synonymous with houseplants. They also grew other things - Tom III's first job in the nursery under his uncle's direction was to create a windmill, a yacht, a gazebo and a gateway, all by training roses - in the first three instances from canes growing



## DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS CONT -

in a single pot! From the illustration, it would appear that none of these creations was under 7' high. In appendix II botanical and common names are given for many of the plants they grow. Some of the common names have strayed as far as NZ but what a surprise we'd get to find that Desert Privet is *Peperomia magnoliaefolia* and Mallow Marsh is *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*! *Aralia sieboldii* is called Castor oil plant. *Cacti* spp. grown have all been given highly imaginative names, and probably this helps sales, but can you imagine *Mammillaria decipiens* being a 'Tender Tortilla'?

### NORTH TARANAKI :

The Institute's outings have been well supported again in 1979 - the last outing was a day trip, in November, to the Inglewood home of Mr and Mrs W.J. Messenger, who arranged a tour of gardens and parks in the locality. These included the property of Mr and Mrs Ludeman who have a beautiful garden in Konini Street. This garden features a wide variety of trees and shrubs - the juxtaposition of weeping willow, a pyramidal *Picea* and purple leaved cabbage trees near the pool show their striking foliage to advantage. Here too were Dawn redwood, flowering cherries and a tulip tree. The iris and primulas along the stream were repeated in the bush setting behind the house. The large Golden elm *Ulmus procera* 'Louis van Houlte' formed a great canopy to frame a view of the home, and a standard Wisteria bore witness to careful pruning and training.

Other gardens visited were those of Mrs Hopson, in Mahoe Street, Mrs Meads, Mr Hammond. The garden of Mr and Mrs Messenger displayed a very fine show of hybrid tea roses, shrubs, trees and bulbs.

The tour also included the Inglewood garden of the year and two other rose gardens. All in all, an outstanding day.

The 1980 programme includes Mr A.D. Jellyman, speaking on "The interpretation of open spaces in the U.K.", on April 19th, Mr G. Rogers on "NZ Flora and Fauna", on May 17th, and Mr L. Bublitz on "Gardens and plants of the Northern Hemisphere" on June 21st.

It is also hoped that these meetings will include 10 minute talks by apprentices on horticultural topics.

### SOUTH TARANAKI :

A holiday weekend was planned for March 8-10, to travel via Wanganui to the Rose Trial Grounds at the Palmerston North Botanic Gardens, a drive through Massey University Grounds, then via the Pahiatua Track route to Pahiatua, Eketahuna, Masterton, for the night. Morning garden visiting and afternoon trip to Te Whanga - programme arranged by the President of the Masterton Rose Society. Visit Mt. Bruce, return via Woodville-Whariti Peak - Ashhurst, Feilding, Marton, Wanganui.

In 1980 circuit meetings will be arranged at five or six different venues as the opportunity offers and meeting places are available. South Taranaki members donated plants to beautify Manaia School, and the Eltham Eventide Home, towards the end of last year. We have also agreed to provide some assistance with the improvement of the Manaia Domain.

## DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS CONT -

### WELLINGTON :

The Wellington D.C. Christmas 1979 party was an enjoyable gathering attended by many members, friends and invited guests from other societies in the Wellington region. After being presented with his Associate of Honour award, David Anyon gave an outstanding display of Floral Art interspersed by a lively commentary on his overseas experiences. He mentioned the difficulty he had at the Interflora World Cup Competition at Melbourne of bodily transporting a large, heavy exhibit from the staging room, by lift up to the 27th floor, to be judged, and then back down again to the bottom floor for display. He had not envisaged having to move it at all!

On his American visit, he spoke of attending an early morning street market, where the city's flowers were all bought direct from growers' trucks. There was a tremendous selection and everywhere you looked there were flowers.

A collection of Wellington's roadside flowers was turned into a charming arrangement. David used a large flat glass container and quickly created a delightful picture with flowers and grasses which gave the appearance of being gently windblown. Flowers used were white foxgloves, Queen Anne's lace, various grass heads, and grey leaves of *Hosta*.

One of the other arrangements was more complex - a hardboard backing was painted a deep lilac and had grey branches fixed in place with Oasis placed in the angles of the branches. Into these areas David proceeded to group clusters of flowers with deep lilac tones of the background, highlighted by a vivid yellow-green. A cluster of cicadas in this colour and the use of butterflies hovering in two areas gave a unique charm to the finished piece.

A visiting group from the North Taranaki District Council area arrived on March 3, and were met and welcomed by the Wellington D.C. President, Graeme Nind, and Mr Harry Hall. They visited Todd Park, Aotea Lagoon and the Porirua Council Nurseries, Whitby, Titahi Bay, Churton Park, Hutt Valley and Percy Reserve, and the garden of Miss Todd at Melling. They left for home on March 6, calling in at the Golden Coast Nurseries on the way. Many Wellington members helped plan and accompany visitors on the trip.

Sunday March 23 was the date of the first outing for 1980, to Te Karaka, Waikanae. Our hosts - the Kapiti Horticultural and Beautifying Society, and the Chrysanthemum Society. Southward Museum and gardens, and finally Raumati, before the return home.

### CANTERBURY :

The Canterbury D.C. is conducting a one-day seminar on Vegetable Growing for the home gardener, on Saturday May 10th, in the P.C.Browne Hall, Canterbury Horticultural Society building. An excellent line-up of speakers will speak for half an hour each on a selected topic, and ten minutes' question time will be allowed after each session. Canterbury members have been circularised about this seminar.

---



HORTICULTURAL FESTIVAL 1980 - CANTERBURY COURT, CHRISTCHURCH,  
MARCH 11 - 14, 1980.

This Festival, the biggest ever presented in New Zealand, attracted many viewers. The extensive variety of exhibits ranged from local Horticultural Societies (Lyttelton had a harbour of *Hydrangea* and flower-covered models of ship and container crane) to commercial growers.

Among the commercial growers RNZIH members stood out - John Thompson's fuchsias, Leo Clark's chrysanthemums and Lewellyn Mitchell's maples and Cox's begonias attracting much attention. The NZ Nurseryman's Association display featured begonias, crotons, alocas, aurelias, and cordylines.

The Fruit and Vegetable Circle of the Canterbury Horticultural Society displayed healthy attractive banks of vegetables and fruits, as did the Dunedin Horticultural Society. The North Canterbury Hospital Board featured "gardening for the disabled" - nifty adaptations to garden implements for those whose green fingers are not so nimble.

The furthest exhibitor was the New Guinea Botanical Gardens' Mrs Anne Millar, whose orchids and ferns attracted the crowds. Mrs Millar had rescued many varieties of orchids and ferns from a valley about to be flooded for hydro works - battling snakes and creepy-crawlies in the effort.

The tallest entry was a pillar of carnations, proteas, statice, foliage and white peacock feathers - a magnificent edifice exhibited by the Judges' Panel of the Canterbury Horticultural Society.

Herbs, Roses, Orchids, Begonias, Gladioli, Bonsai groups vied with one another in presenting their choice specimens, and the Summit Road Society had mounted an impressive montage of botanical specimens - the sort of camouflaged beauties that mere mortals trample gaily underfoot without noticing.

My eye was well caught by the display of the Canterbury Alpine Garden Society. This was a Lilliputian world of charm - on tables so one could stand and admire the tiny crocuses, snowdrops, conifers, and all the other delicious looking things which make one want to go home and redesign one's garden. I overheard a comment from an equally dazzled onlooker - "They look nice, but the names put you off."

- Barbara McCartney.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS :

Mr G.G.Hunter, Christchurch  
Mrs V.E. Martin, New Plymouth  
N.M.Charteris, New Plymouth  
Mr & Mrs D.V. Gordon, New Plymouth  
Mr Drew Brownson, Keri Keri  
Mrs J. Rossiter, Tauranga  
Mr H.A. Shaw, Tauranga,  
Mr B.A. Lewis, Dargaville  
Miss D.M. Christiansen, Australia  
Miss S.J.Eves, Christchurch  
Mr R.S. Innes, Pukekohe  
Mr K.G. Julian, New Plymouth  
Mr D.J. Murray, Christchurch  
Ms B.M. Versloot, Patumahoe  
Mr L. Walley, Christchurch  
Mr G.H. Woodward, Auckland  
Mr H.H. Anderson, Auckland  
Miss L.A. Blair, Christchurch  
Mr W.J. Dalgleish, New Plymouth  
Miss J.E. Hawken, Hamilton  
Miss J.C. Newlands, Wellington  
Mr A. Williams, Papakura  
Mr R.K. Borsboom, Nelson  
Mr S.P.Colquhoun, Wanganui  
Mr J.N. Hubbard, Auckland  
Mr C.I. McPherson, Hastings  
Mr A.M.S.Petrie, Palmerston North  
Miss D.E. Budge, New Plymouth  
Mr G.G. Goodwin, Auckland  
Miss T. Greally, Petone  
Miss M. Hamilton, Pokeno  
Miss A.J. Picot, Huntly  
Mr R. Shelton, New Plymouth  
Mr K.A. Amos, Auckland  
Miss C.S. Burns, Wellington  
Mr N.H. Eveleens, Whakatane  
Mr G.B. Downer, Hastings  
Mr R.E. Evans, Roxburgh  
Mr R.W. Garbett, Auckland  
Mr A.L.A. Graham, New Plymouth  
Mr P.C. Hall, Rotorua  
Mr C.C. Ralfe, Auckland  
Miss S.F. Telfer, Invercargill  
Mr M.W. Thompson, Auckland  
Mrs P.J. Wilkins, Whakatane  
Mr W.J. Quedley, Dunedin  
Miss J.R. Bilkey, Hastings  
Mr T.F. Costello, Lower Hutt  
Miss G.F. Cullen, Auckland  
Mr P.C. de Wys, Christchurch  
Mr J.K. Galloway, Christchurch  
Mr G.M. Jensen, Hamilton  
Mr S.M. Joblin, Hamilton  
Mr M.S. Lodder, Lincoln  
Miss L.J.Moffatt, Christchurch  
Mr A.F.Simmons, Christchurch  
Mr C.L.Stent, Havelock North  
Mr N.J.Stewart, Invercargill  
Mr W.T. Wright, Christchurch  
Mr P.L.Absolum, Auckland  
Mr M.A.Bracewell, Masterton  
Mr J.A.R.Geelen, Nelson  
Mr A.L.Gibbs, Auckland  
Ms S.L.Hamilton, Christchurch  
Mr B.W.Harkness, Wellington  
Mr H.M.Haslop, Auckland  
Miss M.J.Law, Feilding  
Mr A.D.Macnab, Christchurch  
Ms S.M.Main, Invercargill  
Ms J.E. Orchard, Christchurch  
Mr L.J.M.Overton, Hamilton  
Ms P.F.Robertson, Ruakaka  
Mr S.B.Smith, Christchurch  
Mr P.J.Stenning, Invercargill  
Mr C.J. Vernon, Hastings  
Ms C.A. Walter, Te Awamutu  
Mr G.S.Bloomer, Christchurch  
Mr G.J.Brunsdun, Rotorua  
Mr C.Fluit, Dunedin  
Mr R.J.Garner, Te Puke  
Mr J.L.Holmes, Hastings  
Mr P.D.Newland, Palm.North  
Mr K.P.Smith, Hamilton  
Mr R.M.Walker, Christchurch  
Mr J. Cartman, Christchurch  
Mr & Mrs A.W. Elliott,  
New Plymouth



DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARIES

AUCKLAND :

Mrs K.J. Veal, FRIH,  
9 Gray Crescent,  
Torbay, AUCKLAND 10.

POVERTY BAY :

Poverty Bay Hort.Society,  
P.O. Box 1275,  
GISBORNE. (Liaison only)

BAY OF PLENTY :

Mrs D.A. Hardwick, FRIH,  
Minden Road,  
Te Puna, TAURANGA.

SOUTHLAND :

Mr G.A.R. Petrie, AHRIH,  
Rochdale Road,  
INVERCARGILL.

CANTERBURY :

Mr Roy Edwards,  
Dept. Horticulture, Landscape  
& Parks,  
Lincoln College, CANTERBURY.

SOUTH TARANAKI :

Miss E.A. Free,  
23 Egmont Street,  
HAWERA.

MANAWATU :

Dr E.O.Campbell, FRIH,  
26 Frederick Street,  
PALMERSTON NORTH.

WAIKATO :

Mrs R.P. Towers,  
9 Clark Place,  
HAMILTON.

NORTH TARANAKI :

Mrs Marie Ward,  
52 Lyn Street,  
NEW PLYMOUTH.

WELLINGTON :

Mrs Diane Menzies, FRIH,  
"Abthene", Main Road,  
Akatarawa, UPPER HUTT.

OTAGO :

Mr G.G. Henderson, AHRIH,  
P.O. Box 5195,  
DUNEDIN.

WHANGAREI :

Mrs M. Kennedy, AHRIH,  
14a Takahe Street,  
Tikipunga, WHANGAREI.

---

RNZIH Notable & Historic Trees Committee - P.O. Box 11-379,  
WELLINGTON.

RNZIH Regional Horticulture Sub-Committee - P.O. Box 11-379,  
WELLINGTON.

---

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC).

Annual Subscription rates :

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| General Members and Fellows .....       | \$ 7.50 |
| Husband/Wife Joint Membership .....     | \$10.00 |
| Small non-commercial societies .....    | \$ 7.50 |
| Firms, companies (commercial) .....     | \$ 7.50 |
| National non-commercial societies ..... | \$15.00 |
| National commercial organisations ..... | \$30.00 |

Subscriptions should be sent to : the Secretary, RNZIH,  
P.O.Box 12, Lincoln College,  
Canterbury.

---

Get in touch with your District Secretary and become involved  
with local RNZIH affairs.



