Horticulture

in New Zealand

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



49 Autumn 1989



Bulletin of the Royal N.Z. Institute of Horticulture Number 49 Autumn 1989

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ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

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EDITORIAL

WHERE HAVE ALL THE PLANTSMEN GONE?

One of the greatest tributes that can be paid to a horticulturist is to refer to that person as a plantsman. A plantsman, or plantswoman, as the case may be is a person who has acquired a detailed and comprehensive knowledge of plants, particularly of a specialised group. In order to avoid being unduly repetitious or having to resort to the impersonal "plants person", the term "plantsman" will be taken to import the feminine.

More young people than ever before are training as horticulturists, but it is an undeniable fact that their knowledge of plants is very limited and will probably remain so right throughout their careers. They appear to lack that genuine feeling for plants which characterises the true plantsman. Sadly such people now appear to have become an endangered species.

One must question the motives of many people who take up horticulture. They appear to be quite content to learn the basics of how to grow plants, propagate them and how to operate machinery, but when it comes to building up a more detailed knowledge of the very raison d'etre of their horticultural careers, many appear to be quite content to acquire the bare minimum of knowledge.

I have seen supposedly keen apprentices walk past a beautiful flowering shrub, up to eight or more times per day and it would never occur to them to enquire as to what its name was. While it is difficult to understand this apparent lack of desire to improve one's knowledge, among intelligent young people, it is even more difficult to try to assign a reason or reasons for it.

Does our method of apprenticeship training encourage this apparent lack of interest in plants? Apprentices enrol with the Technical Correspondence Institute and, over the following three or four years, receive a series of assignments which mainly deal with the technical aspects of horticulture. Quite understandably, the Technical Correspondence Institute cannot teach anything more than the principles of propagation, soil structure and mechanics, pests and diseases, the broad use of plants in ornamental horticulture and horticultural botany. Building up an extensive knowledge of plants is something that apprentices are expected to do through daily contact with various plants.

Perhaps apprentices unintentionally, or otherwise, labour under the misapprehension that once they have their course of correspondence assignments they have then completed their learning process. Nothing could be further from the truth because their learning has only just begun.

Possibly the employers are at fault. How many really take an interest in their apprentices diaries and ensure that they are written to a high standard? A well kept diary is probably the main vehicle for building up a good knowledge of plants. Recently the New Zealand Nurserymen's Association expressed concern about this very topic. However, with nurseries growing more of less and less and, with the majority growing practically the same range of plants, it is not to be wondered that apprentices and qualified gardeners do not know many plants. In fact it has been not unknown for candidates arriving for the oral and practical papers of the N.D.H. to have the attitude that, if it is not grown in our nursery we should not be expected to know it.

Employers in all branches of horticulture have interesting vacancies for "plantsmen" but it is extremely difficult to find suitable people to fill those positions. While I feel that a cer-

tain amount of onus lies with the employer, I am also mindful of the old adage which says — "you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink". No matter what the reason, it behoves us all to make a concentrated effort to instil a desire to learn more about plants in our staff and particularly the apprentices.

L. J. Metcalf

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Botanic Gardens Strategy

At a recent Committee meeting the matter of a National Botanic Gardens Strategy was raised by Mick Reece, Curator of the Dunedin Botanic Gardens.

As the recent article Bulletin [Page 2] was unsigned, we were curious as to who the author was and from where it originated, not that we are opposed to the concept. In fact a notion was passed requesting that I write to you urging a broad framework of principle be set up by the Institute as soon as possible. In other words a great idea — let's get on with it!

Yours faithfully, Robert Scott Hon. Secretary Otago District Council

Mungavin Homestead

The editorial by Ron Flook in the spring issue of the bulletin in support of tree registration and preservation was to be commended. His sentiments will be strongly supported by most members.

A point in his piece that I wish to correct however is reference to the Mungavin Homestead in Porirua. Prior to work commencing on the motorway interchange when it had become apparent that the gardens laid out by A. W. Buxton were to be lost and after Porirua City Council had purchased the house and surrounding land for restoration, a rescue operation was necessary. The Porirua City Council removed from the threatened area all significant trees that were able to be relocated. Included in this group were Ulmus, Fraxinus, Acer, Camellia species and a particularly large *Meterosideros excelsa*. The intention was that as many as possible would be returned to the site if the changed conditions after reconstruction made this possible. It is certain that the large Pohutukawa will find its way back to the front of the homestead.

These trees today are enjoying their second summer in a temporary location and all have survived the upheaval. Porirua City Council has a commitment to relocating large trees around our city. Every year a considerable sum of money is spent relocating trees that would otherwise be cut down from private property to public areas.

Yours faithfully G. A. Simpson Director of Parks & Recreation

Dr Don McKenzie Memorial Fund

Fruit industries in New Zealand and throughout the world suffered a tremendous blow with the tragic death of Dr Don McKenzie. Don will be remembered as a caring person who was always willing to share his knowledge.

I write to inform you that the N.Z. Fruitgrowers Federation Directors have responded to

a call from the industry to remember Don for the generous contribution he made to the fruit industry during his distinguished career.

A memorial fund is being established in Don's name and will be used to continue the activities he was involved in. It is also hoped that the fund will provide Don's family with ongoing moral support in knowing the activities he cherished and worked hard on, continue to be advanced by a fund established in his honour.

General objectives of the fund will be:

- To continue and to foster the development of scientist and fruitgrower exchange schemes.
- To continue and foster plant breeding programmes providing fruitgrowers with new varieties and in turn new marketing opportunities.
- To provide assistance for industry related tertiary education.

My fellow Directors and I hope to hear from Don's friends throughout New Zealand and the world. I ask that you convey this message to appropriate members of your organisation. Donations can be made to:

"Don McKenzie Memorial Fund"

C/- Paul Shipley

N.Z. Fruitgrowers Federation

P.O. Box 2175, Wellington

New Zealand

Contributors can be assured that all funds received by the Federation will be held in trust and will be used only to promote the general objectives set out in this letter.

I look forward to receiving any funding assistance that you as an individual or your organisation may care to donate.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Yours faithfully P. W. Taylor President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This issue of the "Bulletin" contains the 1988 Financial Accounts and Balance Sheet which will be considered at the Annual General Meeting in Tauranga on Saturday, 20 May. Perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the 1988 accounts is the fact that our subscription income was considerably higher than many expected.

As you all know, as from 1 January this year, our students were no longer required to become members of the RNZIH. So far, over 400 of them have chosen to take out student membership for 1989 and to all of those people might I say 'thank you' for your continued support of the Institute. As a result of the large number of student members it is likely that the National Executive will be recommending to the Annual General Meeting that the 1990 subscription increase be only a very small one; it is even possible the 1990 subs could be held at the 1989 figure.

The winds of change are blowing harder all the time. Mike Oates has detailed elsewhere the new publications structure at present being put in place, and I am sure that the result will be an improved service to all our members.

On the examinations front, we know that the Government will be introducing a "Vocational Qualifications Board" whose job it will be to validate programmes and assessments

carried out by various teaching institutions around the country. What role the RNZIH Examining Board may have in respect to horticultural courses is not yet clear, but the Board has advised the Government that it is willing to undertake an appropriate role in the new structure. As I understand it, the new set up is meant to be in place by October this year so we can expect changes in the very near future.

The 1988 Examination cycle was our first fully computerised operation and it was pleasing to have very few problems. Over the next few years the Institute will really benefit from the computer software that we have developed over the last two years.

This year the Annual General Meeting and Conference will be hosted by the Bay of Plenty District Council and the venue will be Tauranga. Details are included elsewhere in this Bulletin and I do hope a large contingent of our members are able to attend. I look forward to seeing many of you at that time.

Dave Cameron Executive Officer

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

Awards for 1988.

The following people completed Certificates and Diplomas in 1988.

Certificate in Horticultural Management

Mr J. C. Aubin	Tauranga
Mr W. C. Bridges	Tauranga
Mr F. W. Bristol	Wanganui
Mr R. S. Buckland	Papamoa
Mr G. R. Davis	Havelock North
Mr M. C. Dudley	Keri Keri
Mr C. W. Eggers	Nelson
Mr D. B. Fikkers	Keri Keri
Mr J. R. Godwin	Hastings
Mr R. J. Knight	Tauranga
Mr I. Ř. D. Mackenzie	Hastings
Mr D. A. McNeilly	Te Puke
Mr B. G. Morgan	Nelson
Mr N. S. Parish	Motueka
Mr D. J. Robinson	Blenheim
Mr M. T. Robinson	Keri Keri
Mr S. D. Rudland	East Cape
Mr T. R. Smallman	Tauranga
Mr M. A. Tetteroo	Nelson
Mr A. M. Wood	Tauranga

Certificate in Horticultural Theory

	- ' /
Ms R. H. Biss	Nelson
Ms W. R. Brooks	Wellington
Mr G. J. Douglas	Upper Moutere
Mr R. N. Galbraith	Whangarei
Mr S. P. Gillum	Napier

Mr S. W. Hann Mr P. T. R. Heaslip	Wellington Hamilton
Mrs V. I. Jones	Hamilton
Ms G. I. Loughrey	Dunedin
Ms E. V. Miles	Hamilton
Mr M. Reid	Dunedin
Ms S. V. Schwed	Auckland
Ms M. Stoppel	Christchurch
Mr A. G. Tombs	Dunedin
Ms A. Widdowson	Te Anau
Ms R. A. Willemsen	Napier
Mr T. Yerbury	Timaru

Certificate in Parks Practice (Groundkeeping)

Mr N. A. Houghton	Auckland
Mr J. I. Israelson	Whakatane
Mr D. B. McPherson	Marton
Mr D. R. Munn	Upper Hutt
Mr J. E. S. Olsen	Napier
Mr T. R. Oram	Auckland
Mr W. L. Veale	Te Awamutu

Horticultural Sales Certificate

Ms S. D. Allen	Upper Hutt
Mrs D. E. Berger	Okaihau
MIIS D. D. Deigei	Ckaniau

Mr I. N. Bullock Mr O. J. Carson Ms J. Gower Wellington Christchurch Stratford Mr B. A. J. Richards Miss N. M. Quirke Christchurch Wellington

National Certificate In Horticulture (Amenity)

Ms M. A. Adamski
Ms P. J. Bollond
Mr D. J. Brown
Ms D. M. Christiansen
Mrs C. D. Dagnall
Mr H. R. Gardiner
Ms C. P. Leach
Mr R. H. Main
Mr P. W. Marshall
Mr R. D. Matthews
Ms K. J. Millane
Mr B. J. Millane

Ms L. F Rich
Mr H. Roelofs
Ms T. F. Smyth

Mrs M. M. Steens
Mr A. D. Thomson
Mr W. P. Thomson
Mr M. A. White

Mr C. J. Parkin

Mr A. R. Wild

Ms K. M. Passev

Christchurch Auckland Dunedin New Plymouth Auckland

Auckland
Palmerston North
Wellington
Auckland
Taupo
Auckland
Wellington
Mt Maunganui
Tauranga
Ashhurst
Christchurch
Christchurch
Melbourne,
Australia

Whakatane Dunedin Auckland Te Puke Auckland

National Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production)

Mrs S. E. Ewer Mr N. P. Hoskins Mr C. B. R. Maxwell Mr D. J. Wilson

Wairoa Martinborough Te Puke Hamilton

National Certificate In Horticulture (Vegetable Production)

Ms A. C. Berridge Kaiapoi

National Certificate in Horticulture (Nursery Production)

Mr M. D. Arnold Gisborne Mr G. P. Canham Palmerston North Mrs L. A. Dreadon Auckland Ms M. V. Duncan Auckland Mr G. F. Henry Surrey, England Mr R. G. Johnson Kaikohe Miss A. N. Lloyd-Fitt Auckland Ms J. E. Orchard Christchurch

National Certificate in Horticulture (Floriculture)

Ms G. A. de Gouw Christchurch

National Diploma in Horticulture (Amenity)

Mr P. J. Alloway Canterbury Mr C. N. Beard Whangarei Mr D. E. Clayton-Greene Lower Hutt Mr S. R. Currie Hamilton Mr M. Dewar Auckland Mr W. P. Dymond Auckland Mr C. B. A. Eade Hamilton Ms P. I. Gibbons Christchurch Mr C. W. Hannan Wellington Christchurch Ms S. K. Hughan Mr D. L. Jenkins Papakura Mr E. W. M. Lautenslager Auckland Mr I. K. Mackwell Thames Mr I. A. L. Maclean Wellington Mr S. F. E. Martin Hamilton Ms C. R. McGeady Kati Kati Mrs A. M. Patterson Nelson Mrs A. M. Sloog Auckland Mr P. C. Watson Hamilton

National Diploma in Horticulture (Fruit Production)

Mr P. T. Devine Nelson Mr G. W. Russell Keri Keri

National Diploma in Horticulture (Vegetable Production)

Mr E. W. Corfield Tauranga Mr J. M. Follett Hamilton

National Diploma in Horticulture (Nursery Production)

Mr J. L. Dean Nelson
Mr V. C. Kerr Opononi
Miss N. M. Quirke Wellington

National Diploma in Horticulture (Floriculture)

Ms M. G. Slater New Plymouth

Prize Winners 1988

J. A. Campbell Memorial Prize for the candidate completing N.C.H. in Schedule I or IV with the highest average mark in subjects numbers 10 to 14, awarded to: Ms K. M. Passey, Ashburst.

David Tannock Memorial Prize for the candidate gaining the highest mark in subject No. 20 in Schedule 1, awarded to: Mrs A. M. Sloog, Auckland.

Junior Memorial Prize for the candidate gaining the highest mark in Subject No. 14, awarded to: Mr G. P. Canham, Palmerston North.

Rita M. Skellerup Memorial Prize for the candidate completing N.C.H. in Schedule II or III with the highest average mark in Subjects numbers 10 to 14, awarded to: Mrs S. E. Ewer, Wairoa.

- Peter J. Skellerup Prize for the candidate gaining the highest average marks in Subjects numbers 1 to 9, awarded to: Ms R. McLean, Auckland.
- N.Z. Vegetable and Produce Growers' Federation No. 1 Prize for the candidate with the best overall record for a first year student in Schedule III, awarded to: Ms W. J. Folkhard, Auckland.
- N.Z. Vegetable and Produce Growers' Federation No. 2 Prize for the candidate, other than a first year student, with the best overall record in Schedule III, awarded to: Mr E. W. Corfield, Tauranga.
- N.Z. Nurserymen's Association Prize for the candidate with the best record for the year in Schedule IV, awarded to: Mr K. R. Luff, Wanganui.
- **F.** Cooper Award for the best record for a student completing the Horticultural Sales Certificate, awarded to: Ms J. Gower, Stratford.

TWO SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE GARDENS

by Neil Leitch

Neil Leitch trained with the Dunedin Parks Department and is presently working in South Africa. This article was originally published in the Botanical Society of Africa magazine 'Veld and Flora', June 1988, Vol. 74 No 2.

I have often been asked about the differences between Kirstenbosch and Dunedin Botanic Gardens, New Zealand, where I worked and undertook my horticultural training. As most people are familiar with Kirstenbosch, I shall mainly describe Dunedin's Botanic Garden and allow you to draw your own comparison.

The garden is New Zealand's oldest, established on 4 June 1863, on what is now the site of the University of Otago; this was transferred to the present 27 hectare site in 1868 after a severe flood.

Numerous microclimates

The garden enjoys an equable climate; the mean annual rainfall of 775mm is evenly distributed throughout the year. There is an average of 1,700 sunshine hours annually, although temperatures are lower (January average 17°C, July 7°C). It has the added advantage of a varied topography offering numerous local microclimates. It is ideally suited to growing a wide range of temperate zone plants. Proteas and rhododendrons do equally well.

Dunedin Botanic Gardens, like all such institutions in New Zealand, is financed by the City Councils, unlike Kirstenbosch. This I consider leads to very important differences between the two. This enables the garden to carry out the aims and objectives, which are similar of those of Kirstenbosch but not restricted to the indigenous flora, and also, as part of the parks and recreation department, the nursery raises some 160,000 bedding plants annually and propagates 10,000 trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants every year for use around the city. It also provides and maintains indoor plants in civic buildings and operates a decorative service for private functions/conferences.

All this takes place as well as maintenance and development of specialist plant collections e.g. cacti and succulents, orchids, tropical and subtropical plants. The garden also produces flowering plants for display, and grows plants from seed received as part of an exchange system with 130 botanic gardens throughout the world, including Kirstenbosch. It is also involved in the propagation of a range of plants for use in Dunedin Botanic Gardens collection.

The Dunedin gardens have not the finances or resources available at present for much research into horticultural potential of plants. Such resources as are available are generally used for education.

Education has always been an important part of the gardens. There are 16 full-time horticultural trainees/apprentices in the parks and recreation department, seven of whom are working in the gardens at any one period. Part of the educational programme consists of guiding school groups and the general public. In addition, an in-depth article related to the flora appears in the Botanical Forum and a "plant of the week" from the Botanic Garden is highlighted in the press. The botanist and horticulturists provide information by giving talks, lectures, writing informative handouts and undertaking tours of the garden and facilities.

Since the gardens cannot possibly grow all the flora of the world, it tries to provide a geographical representation of as much as possible.

Rhododendron dell

The garden has a large aboretum, rock garden, display glasshouses, a relatively new section growing native plant cultivars, a sunken scree garden, herbaceous borders, camellia, rose and alpine collections. There is a woodland garden and the garden is probably best known for its rhododendron dell with over 120 species, 300 cultivars and many unnamed hybrids, many of which have been produced in the gardens. The awareness of conservation is increasing and emphasis is being placed on growing rare and endangered plants with a preference for New Zealand's flora. In the future, it is hoped, the Dunedin garden will place as much emphasis on this as Kirstenbosch has done.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE BOTANIC GARDEN WELLINGTON. A NEW ZEALAND HISTORY 1840-1987

by Winsome Shepherd and Walter Cook

Millwood Press Ltd, with the Wellington City Council, in association with the National Museum of New Zealand, and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, 1988. 396pp. Available from leading booksellers for \$79.95 and from the publishers Millwood Press Ltd, 291B Tinakori Road, Thorndon, Wellington (add \$5.50 p and p). The publishers welcome overseas enquiries.

Reviewed by Charlie Challenger

Until recent years the history of New Zealand horticulture and landscape has not been well served by those who sought to document its evolution. The limited number of studies available have been relatively shallow and uncritical, tending to rely on secondary sources or tradition for their data, rather than digging in the original documents themselves. Certainly, in many cases these sources are difficult to find, but even when available the collection of their facts into a readable text takes more time than most authors are willing to provide. But this study, published to mark the centenary of management of the Wellington Botanic Garden by the Wellington City Council, is a landmark in more ways than one, and reflects credit on all involved in its production. It is much more than a local history about the evolution of a garden; it is a well-researched and interesting social document, which places its scientific, horticultural and landscape content firmly within the context of the times. It is also a very attractive piece of book production, pleasant to handle and easy to read.

The authors have split the content equally between them, Winsome Shepherd dealing with the history of the Botanic Garden as the "Colonial Botanic Garden", under the control of the New Zealand Institute, and Walter Cook discussing its history from 1891 onwards, when control was taken over by the Wellington City Council. Despite the slightly different format of the two halves, and the fact that they are also divided by placement of the colour plates, the parts marry well. If the reader is aware a division, it is due more to the visual heaviness of unbroken text in parts of the second section than to differences of style between the authors. Mrs Shepherd lightens her 186 pages of text with 9 tables and 172 illustrations, as well as text facsimiles, whilst Walter Cook provides 112 illustrations for 145 pages of text. Undoubtedly, the authors have been fortunate in the archive available to them, in the records of the New Zealand Institute and its allied organisations and the Wellington City Council, but much hard work has gone into digging out and collating the significant facts, and finding appropriate illustrations to accompany them.

The contribution of Sir James Hector and the New Zealand Institute to the early development of the Garden is unknown to many. Even an "historical" account of the Garden, in "New Zealand Plants and Gardens" September 1965, does not mention it. Mrs Shepherd's meticulous research gives proper weight to the significance of this work, and demonstrates very convincingly the solid foundation it provided. Although Hector, as the premier scientist of the Colony, was accused in later years of "empire building", there is no doubt that he took his obligations regarding the Garden very seriously. These were in addition to his other commitments, for Hector was also Director of the Geological Survey, the Colonial Museum and the Colonial Laboratory, as well as being Chancellor of the University and Manager of New Zealand's major scientific body, the New Zealand Institute. The Institute

was founded in 1867, and in 1869 was given control of what became known until 1891 as the "Colonial Botanic Garden". Its day-to-day affairs were controlled by Hector as Manager.

The function of the Botanic Garden was primarily scientific, concerned with the importation, testing, and distribution of seeds and plants of potential economic merit. The records of this activity are very widely spread, but from this fragmented and scattered data Mrs Shepherd develops a fascinating story, which adds much to our body of knowledge on plant introduction into New Zealand. In particular, the importance of the Botanic Garden in promulgating the widespread distribution of conifers throughout New Zealand is very clearly shown — literally "from North Cape to the Bluff". One aspect remains a puzzle, however. Hector made only limited use of local nurserymen who were already engaged in this work, and two of the most important nurserymen in the country — David Hay, in Auckland, and William Wilson, in Canterbury, were not utilised by him at all. Possibly there was a measure of antagonism to what could be seen as "unfair competition". Certainly, nurserymen in Dunedin protested in 1874 when the Dunedin Botanic Garden received seed of Californian pines from the Colonial Botanic Garden, and Thomas Kirk stated in 1875 that "these seeds and plant could be purchased in the country at low prices".

Perhaps the most poignant part of the story, however, is one that carries a familiar ring today — the problems created for the Botanic Garden when its grants were slowly and inexorably withdrawn. Funding was never lavish — the TOTAL funding between 1870 and 1891 is shown to be 8,461 pounds, which compares somewhat unfavourably with the ANNUAL grant for Melbourne Botanic Gardens of 7,220 pounds in 1876 — so that what was achieved is all the more creditable. The expectations of those who control the purse strings always appear to be in excess of the attainable; for Hector to be criticised for lack of control of gorse and the need for repairs to fencing, when at the same time he was deprived of the funds to do so, has all the appearance of creating a ready-made excuse. Such are the methods of bureaucrats, both yesterday and today.

Control and funding of the Botanic Garden was taken over by the Wellington City Council in 1891. Hector stated that "I did not even get thanked for over 27 years supervision in making the Garden and planting the Domain out of the wilderness" — a not uncommon fate, and experienced by many who have faced redundancy today. Nevertheless, without that change of control, from Government to local body, the Garden would now be a memory. In these 98 years the Botanic Garden has been transformed from what was primarily a scientific body into one much more broadly based. The efforts of W. T. L. Travers, during the period of transfer, ensured that the original 13 acres of Botanic Garden is in perpetual management as a true Botanic Garden, but otherwise the Garden, incorporating the Domain, serves the population of Wellington as a recreational resource in its broadest sense.

Walter Cook traces this development through its succession of supervisors — not until J. G. MacKenzie came on the scene in 1918 was such a person dignified with the status of "Director" and permitted a freer rein in deciding his own activities — and through the changing pattern of response to social needs which the life of the city initiated. Cook is rightly critical of the "given" wisdom that "The overall composition of the Main Garden reflects the nostalgic memories of the early settlers for a British designed landscape of the Victorian era" — a quotation from one of the Park and Recreation Department pamphlets on the Garden. The story which shows fairly clearly through this whole study is one of pragmatism. The early layouts of Hector HAD to be responsive to the topography; later, the provision of facilities responded to social needs, not to any grand plan or philosophy of design. The harsh surrounds developed by the cut and fill which created Anderson Park, the sports facility within the Garden, are only now, 80 years later, beginning to soften under the hand

of time. Capability Brown, that great mover of earth and water, whose finished work could not be distinguished from that of nature herself, would have squirmed in his grave at such insensitive treatment. The response was to social need plus available finance, not to any "nostalgic memories", a fact which shows in more than one park and garden throughout New Zealand, and I am glad to see that Walter Cook faces this clearly, without indulging in any more nonsensical romanticism.

It is only natural that the various styles of design which have been seen in the garden through its long existence should reflect those which were acceptable at the time; we cannot judge by today's standards. Equally, one needs to be reminded of changes in what has been currently acceptable social behaviour — I haven't seen a "Keep off the Grass" sign since I was a youth. But they are all part and parcel of the design controllers to which the Parks Director has to respond. Running between the lines of Walter Cook's narrative is a keen awareness of these factors, turning what could be a prosaic account of who did what, when, into a very human document.

Between them, the authors and their various helpers have done a very fine piece of work. They have produced a well-researched, interesting and workman-like story on one of the most important Botanic Gardens in the country, and in the process have added a new dimension to our knowledge of plant introduction, horticulture and landscape design in New Zealand.

FLOWERS FROM THE ROYAL GARDENS OF KEW

By Ruth L. A. Stiff. University Press of New England, Hanover and London, 1988.

Paperback only, 80p, £9.95 (England).

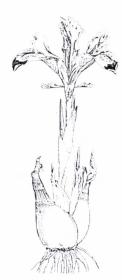
Reviewed by J. O. Taylor

This is a book of botanical illustration in colour at its best. Precisely it is a presentation of water colours through two centuries selected from the renowned Curtis's Botanical magazine. Grenville L. C. Lucas, Keeper of the Kew Herbarium acknowledges the author, "Ruth Stiff's dedication to sensitive selection from the great wealth of material available from the collections at Kew gives a most valuable insight into every facet of the artist's skill and the wonders of the plant kingdom which have thrilled gardeners and scientists alike for over two hundred years".

There is a very interesting story on William Curtis's career and his creation of the Botanical magazine followed by a chronology of the magazine up until it became the Kew magazine in 1970. Also there are brief biographical sketches of contributing artists and concise notes on each of the 47 plates.

But most of all it is the sheer magnificence of the colour quality and the delicate detail of the plates which make this book a prize for all lovers of plants.

Iris Persica Bot. Mag. Plate 1. 1787. Hand coloured engraving by James Sowerby.



PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF JOHN SALES WORKSHOP ON THE CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC GARDENS

by Dr Rupert Tipples

For me personally John Sales visit to New Zealand in late November was extremely fortuitous as I was attempting to write the last chapter of my biography of Alfred William Buxton, the country's most prominent landscape gardener, and was addressing the question of whether Buxton gardens merited preservation. Sales, as Chief Gardens Adviser for Britain's National Trust, has been faced with this type of question on many occasions. He was the principal speaker at a whole day workshop organised by the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust on Garden History at Highwic House, Auckland, on 28th November 1988. The aim of the workshop was to discover the philosophy behind the conservation of historic gardens and landscapes and its practical application in planning and management. Those attending had a surprisingly wide range of interests, from craftsmen gardeners to landscape architects and from archaeologists to curators of historic properties and museums. Both public and private interests were represented.

John Sales began by recounting the history of the British National Trust, for which he works. It is ninety years old and was established with the legal duty not to sell its property. It has only had to sell property on about three occasions and then following Acts of Parliament. In the 1930s a new act was passed which enabled it to receive not only houses but also the estates surrounding them and their contents. Thus the country house as a whole, Britain's most valuable contribution to 'art' in Sales words, with an endowment might be the subject of a tax free gift.

The Trust really got going after 1945 in terms of gardens with the endowment of Hidcote, Sissinghurst and other gardens such as Sheffield Park. With inflation endowments have often been inadequate so the National Trust went recruiting new members particularly on the properties themselves. When John joined the Trust there were 300,000 members while there are now some 2,000,000. This membership generates income because there is no government support for maintaining gardens although there is for historic houses. Sales succeeded Graham Stuart Thomas as Gardens Adviser in 1974 and operates with a team of three other Advisers from a base at Cirencester. The team is supported by a Gardens Panel of informed lay-people and a few professionals with a broad view of landscape and a range of different views. Previously there was a Gardens Committee which consisted of ten eminent gardeners, with ten different opinions, who could never agree about anything. In Sales' opinion good gardens were never made by committees and he made unfavourable reference to Australian experience at this point. Dynamic gardens need dynamic management. The National Trust have only one policy, not to have a policy. Each garden is treated uniquely.

For conservation it was necessary to know what gardens were like in their prime, so a learning process was needed on how to look after them. Detailed research has been found to be invaluable and has been actively supported by the Garden History Society founded in 1965. In Sales' opinion great gardens are nearly always made by two or two and a half people, with the half being the head gardener! All the best designers were owners, for example, Harold Nicholson and Vita Sackville-West at Sissinghurst. In Britain since 1983 historic gardens have been listed and classified like historic houses. They have no actual protection but listing does mean that official bodies tend to avoid them. Otherwise

conservation does not have many teeth in Britain because the financial benefits of development far outweigh the costs of fines for infringing the law.

Education has developed as one of the ways in which conservation is promoted. There are M.Sc degrees at York University and at Wye College but funding is problematic. Sales felt that reports were not much help and a real problem in Australia. He thought Landscape Schools had been quite disastrous because they had rejected historical study on the grounds that it might cramp an individual's style. Without a good historical knowledge there cannot be adequate respect for the land and the landscape architect's training has hindered many modern landscape architects. They suffer from the problems of those who are not good conservation architects. The value of historical knowledge is perhaps exemplified by the fate of Petworth Place, a noted Capability Brown landscape badly affected by the October 1987 gale which devastated southern Britain. The planting was believed to be by Brown but most of the trees felled in the gale were not planted in his time and thus subsequent planting must have adopted his style.

Sales suggested the following stages when a new garden is acquired for conservation:

- 1. Physical survey and documentary research. What exists on the ground must be checked with documentary sources. Plant life matters most in a recent development, especially what is left of tree stumps and holes etc. The execution of the survey may depend on the type of place. At Biddulph Grange in Staffordshire the problem has been to establish what of botanical introductions from abroad (eg China) are still there and thus the employment of a botanical expert may be necessary.
- 2. A proper philosophy is needed for each place. This should be based on what you can afford to do and what will work. Finishing all national survey work before acting is not recommended. You need to find out what was the motive of the people who planted the place.
 - 3. The motivation of the agency carrying out the work needs to be considered Why are we doing it?

What are we keeping this place for?

To represent a period or commemorate a date?

Three processes were identified — preservation, restoration and reconstruction. Sales suggested the following points of interest:

Preservation: Only possible for inanimate structures, but impossible with growing things which are subject to normal biological laws.

Restoration: A continuous process, ongoing all the time, incorporating design, redevelopment etc. The continuous process of change needs recording. This approach works best in very formal gardens with very definite structural features.

Reconstruction-Recreation: Making a bogus garden on a site where nothing existed. If you do not know what was there it may be a legitimate strategy as long as nothing is lost or damaged.

One of the problems the National Trust has encountered frequently has been that of a garden from one period overlaying a garden from a preceding period. Many of the Trust's Georgian houses are overlaid with very good Victorian gardens. You then have to decide what the predominant period for the house and garden was, and decide how to follow it with the funds available. To quote Sales: "Gardens are not aided by plans which are not financially viable."

All garden advising is about talking to people. For most a piece of paper is a real turn-off. In Britain the Trust's garden advisers have to establish a 'rapport' with the property manager and the head gardener. Sales recommended proceeding very slowly with much initial listening and finding out. You may know the answers but you should wait until they ask for them. When you have achieved their trust you are then in a position to help. In terms of staffing the National Trust has now established a sufficiently large labour force that it is able

to recruit from among them. Internal promotion has the advantage that employees know the Trust's approach and thus do not have to receive the extensive briefing that outsiders do. Outsiders may say that they understand but to have absorbed the philosophy of the Trust takes time.

With few representatives from outside the Auckland and Northland areas, the workshop may have been thought not to have concerned a wider group of gardeners and horticulturists. The expense of travelling to Auckland alone may have precluded many interested parties from participating. The concerns discussed do not just concern these two areas. Many interesting historical gardens are found far away from the centres of population in rural areas on the east coast and in Canterbury, Otago and Southland. Garden conservation may be the secret to establishing viable tourist industries in those areas. Nevertheless, the organisers are to be congratulated on taking advantage of John Sales' presence in Australia, and on bringing him to New Zealand for a most worthwhile speaking tour.

THE NEW ZEALAND GUARDIAN TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

TEMPLIN TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIPS IN ENGINEERING AND HORTICULTURE

The New Zealand Guardian Trust Company Limited, as Trustee of the John Richard Templin Travelling Scholarship Trust is now calling for applications from Engineering Graduates of the University of Canterbury and Horticulture or Botany Graduates of Lincoln College or Graduates who have obtained a National Diploma of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture from Lincoln College or through the Reserves Department of the Christchurch City Council.

Total funds available for scholarships this year is up to US\$6,500 and any recipient must complete study in the United State of America or Canada. The scholarships are tenable for one year.

Application forms are available from Mr Kelvin Glen, The New Zealand Guardian Trust Company Limited, P.O. Box 9, Christchurch. Closing date for applications is 31/5/1989.

THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.) BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1988

1988	8,457		75,089		17,339				\$100,885
\$ 4,986 853 2,618		75,089		29,577 12,238					\$1
CURRENT ASSETS Bank of New Zealand Books on Hand for Sale B.N.Z. Autocall Accrued Interest		TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS DEPOSITS HELD FOR FUNDS (Note 5) B.N.Z. – Autoaccess Account B.N.Z. Finance Co. B.N.Z. Finance B.N.Z. Finance	TOTAL DEPOSITS HELD	FIXED ASSETS Office Equipment (at cost) Less: Accumulated depreciation					
1987 \$ 5,080 4,343 5,633	15,056	7,791 4,300 22,800 6,800	41,691	24,140 (7,056)	17,084				\$73,831
1988 \$	12,655	29,830						58,400	\$100,885
\$ 3,194 6,159 3,302		8,933 14,355 6,542	Income	731 1,162 437	408	1,253 1,281 526	97 4,375	10,800	. ↔
	LIES	12.88	Capital Income	1,750 1,050 500	500	2,000 2,000 500	200	47,600	
LITIES nds	LIABILII	UNDS t (Note 2) UNDS 31		und ial	Fund	l d al	rd		
CURRENT LIABILITIES G.S.T. Accounts Payable District Council Funds Suspense (Note 3)	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	ACCUMULATED FUNDS Balance 1.1.87 Examinations Account (Note 2) General Account ACCUMULATED FUNDS 31.12.88	TRUST ACCOUNT BALANCES	Endowment Fund F. Cooper Memorial Fund J. A. Campbell Memorial	Junior Memorial Prize Fund D. Tannock Memorial Prize Fund	P. Skellerup Prize Fund R. Skellerup Prize Fund D. MacKenzie Memorial Prize Fund	Sir Victor Davies Award D. D. Baker Bequest		

THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.) GENERAL ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

INCOME	\$	1988 \$	1987 \$
Bequest — D. D. Baker	15,800	Ψ	22,800
R. M. Skellerup	1		250
P. J. Skellerup	_		250
Subscriptions (Note 5)	60,385		57,997
Donations	1,925		767
Sundry Receipts	1,986		93
Interest	3,806		4,153
Sales — 'Flowers for Sale'	475		671
TOTAL INCOME		84,377	86,981
LESS EXPENDITURE			
Bank Fees and Interest	817		509
Accident Compensation	298		1,115
Advertising	1,659		858
Capitations paid to District	4.015		2 077
Councils (Note 6)	4,015		3,077
Staff Salary, Wages	7,930 200		17,300 430
Audit and Accountancy Fees	466		688
Depreciation Printing and Stationery	2,723		5,014
Postages, Telegrams, Telephone	2,(2)		5,017
Charges	2,820		2,165
General Expenses	1,469		180
National Executive Travel & Expenses	6,009		6,830
Grant — Notable and Historic	0,007		0,030
Trees Committee	1,000		1,000
Office Rent	(306)		680
Typewriter Expenses	323		163
Bulletins & Journals	31,337		32,635
Insurance	301		335
Computer Software Development	974		3,639
Ian Galloway Memorial Lecture	-		560
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	_		2,652
Printing — Careers in Horticulture	_		4,790
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		62,035	84,620
I D		22,342	2,361
Less Bequests transferred to Trust Accounts: — D. D. Baker	15 900		22,800
— D. D. Baker — P. J. Skellerup	15,800		250
- R. M. Skellerup			250
— K. M. Skellerup			230
		15,800	23,300
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		\$6,542	\$(20,939)
2.10200 Miconib C i Bit Bit Bit Bit Off			====

The notes on page 17 form part of and are to be read in conjunction with these accounts.

THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.) EXAMINATIONS ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

INCOME C.H.P. Enrolments Registrations Examination Entry Sundry Income Government Grant Loder Cup Committee Donations	\$ 11,580 12,464 107,452 2,985 27,000 1,000 80	1988	1987 \$13,039 9,917 81,914 802 30,785 1,215
TOTAL INCOME		162,561	137,672
EXPENDITURE A.C.C. Levy C.H.P. Expenses Audit and Accountancy Fees Exam Board Expenses Examiners Fees and Expenses General Expenses Loder Cup Committee Postage and Telephone Printing and Stationery Secretarial and Office Wages Office Rent Depreciation Computer Software Development Repairs and Maintenance Insurance	1,218 11,180 1,745 7,315 25,469 2,691 777 6,329 3,142 75,676 (3,094) 4,716 9,483 1,559		10,167 1,715 11,722 18,739 1,215 5,917 10,329 69,382 2,740 2,754 3,147 180 250
		148,206	138,257
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		\$14,355	\$(585)

The notes on pages 17 form part of and are to be read in conjunction with these accounts.

THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies 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 received has been included in the accounts on an accruals basis. In 1987 interest was accounted for on a cash basis. The effect has been to increase income in the current year by \$2,618.

NOTE 2 EXAMINATIONS FUND

As from 1979, the Examinations Fund is accounted for by a separate Income and Expenditure Account. All costs relating to the Examinations Account are charged to that account. Some items of expenditure relating to both the General and Examinations Accounts, namely salaries and audit fees, have been apportioned between the two accounts on a basis determined by the Executive.

NOTE 3 DISTRICT COUNCIL FUNDS IN SUSPENSE

These are funds received 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 4 TRUST ACCOUNT BALANCES

The funds in Trust Accounts are represented by investments and bank accounts. The capital portion represents the unexpended portion of accumulated income to date.

	1988	1987
	\$	\$
District Council Funds in Suspense	3,302	2,925
Trust Account Balances	58,400	37,190
Notable Trees Grant		_
	\$61,702	\$40,115

THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

NOTE 5 The National Executive introduced a policy during the year ended 31 December 1984 of converting the timing of subscription payment from an 'arrears' situation to an 'advance' situation.

Subscriptions in relation to the period ended 31 December 1988 are levied on members in September 1988 and are taken to income in the year in which they are received.

NOTE 6 Further to the National Executive policy as per Note 5, capitation fees are calculated and paid to District Councils six months after billing of subscriptions, and are recorded in the accounts on a cash basis.

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

We have audited the attached balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts in accordance with accepted standards, and have carried out such procedures as we considered necessary.

Some sources of publications income cannot be verified prior to entry in the records, and our examination of these has been confined to testing recorded receipts to the bank accounts.

In our opinion, but subject to this limitation, the balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the Institute's affairs as at 31 December 1988, and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

TOUCHE ROSS & CO Chartered Accountants

Christchurch, N.Z. 13 March 1989

FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILS

Auckland

On Tuesday April 18th, David Irwin will be giving a talk called 'Landscape Design'. David is a member of ISTHMUS GROUP, Landscape Architects and Planners. This group is involved with residential, industrial, commercial and town planning projects in which all members of the group are involved. A 'character study' of Devonport has recently been completed and this will be discussed together with the history of landscape design. David will be accompanied by other members of the group who will also participate in the discussion.

Meetings are held in St Paul's Methodist Church Lounge, 12 St Vincent Ave, Remuera, starting at 7.30pm. Visitors are welcome.

From 'Arborea' No 8 Eucalyptus trees native to N.Z.?

At one time Eucalyptus trees were common in N.Z. So too were Casurina trees. Mike Pole, a palaeobotanist, reports that his studies of Central Otago pollen from the early Miocene (17 million years ago) show that our flora had quite an Australian look to it. Many of the other plants present at that time however come from large leaved genera not found in Australia. So why aren't gums and she oaks growing in N.Z. now? Mike's theory is that fire, an ever present factor in the Australian bush, is needed to maintain the vigour of Eucalyptus populations. Otherwise they grow old and die out. At least once every 300 years a good blaze will clear the ground for a new generation of seedlings. Without this clearance the light demanding seedlings just don't get started amidst the undergrowth of other species.

It seems that since 17 million years ago N.Z.'s climate became wetter and the gum trees reached old age and died with no regenerating fires having taken place. Beech trees took over. This has happened in the wet areas of Australia and Tasmania where drier sclerophyll (eucalypt) forest has been replaced by wetter rain forest, mostly beech.

Now that the climate is predicted to become warmer and drier in the South Island it will be interesting to monitor progress of such areas as the Waitati Eucalyptus regans forest (home of N.Z.'s tallest tree). Perhaps the Eucalypts are back to stay.

North Taranaki

In March 1988 Chris and Peter Haywood spoke to the North Taranaki District Council about Shitake mushrooms. The Shitake mushroom, a basidiomycete, originated in China. Shi is a tree in the fagaceae family. In China where it is described as the 'Elixir of Life' it is grown on Paulownia, in the U.S.A. on chestnuts and in N.Z. on Tawa or Nothofagus sawdust mixed with bran. It was introduced into Japan where the name change occurred. There dowels of the mycelium were put into holes in wood stacked in the open and waxed over. The mushrooms, light to dark tan with white gills, were seasonally produced for 2-3 years. In Hong Kong development of controlled cultivation techniques took place.

Here the sawdust bran mix is sterilised in an autoclave, then inoculated with the mycelium which, in a controlled 30°C temperature darkroom, takes 2 months to reach the bottom of the plastic bag. The bag is cut away and the block allowed to dry out in a tunnel house. The wet initiates fruiting. Light and cold chilling are required at this stage. Harvesting is in 4 to 5 flushes; after each one a period of dry and wet is required, the block eventually rotting to mush.

Present prices are between \$40-\$60 a kilo within N.Z. Export of this product could follow if quality and quantity are built up. The shitake mushroom stays firm when cooked and has a spicy rather than earthy taste. It is rich in vitamin D_2 , helps to remove serum cholesterol, is anti tumour and viral. At present an extract to help combat AIDS is being developed.

One of the lesser known activities of the RNZIH is its role as an International and National Cultivar Registration Authority. Plant registration is only concerned with the naming of plants which, in some way or another, owe their origin to horticulture. Registration is at two levels — international and national. As an International Registration Authority (I.R.A.) the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture has the responsibility for compiling Registers of cultivar names, wherever they may originate, of those genera for which it has accepted responsibility. The Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture has also become a National Registration Authority and is now responsible for registering all New Zealand plant cultivars at a national level. It accepted responsibility for the latter in 1986.

At the International level the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture is responsible for cultivars of *Leptospermum*, *Hebe*, *Coprosma*, *Phormium* and *Pittosporum*. International Registration Authorities are non statutory bodies appointed by the International Society for Horticultural Science.

In 1958 the International Society for Horticultural Science appointed the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture as the International Registration Authority (I.R.A.) for the genera *Leptospermum* and *Hebe*. Several years later it was also confirmed as the I.R.A. for Coprosma, Phormium and Pittosporum.

Objectives of Cultivar Registration

The aims and objects of cultivar registration are to establish a precise, stable, and internationally accepted system for the naming of cultivated plants. The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature governs the use of botanical names, in Latin form, for both cultivated and wild plants, and the aim of the Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants is to promote uniformity, accuracy and fixity in the naming of agricultural, horticultural and silvicultural cultivars, which are normally given fancy names in non-Latin form. Thus the registration of cultivar names is of the greatest importance for nomenclature stability.

Apart from cultivars of those genera for which the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture is the International Registration Authority, many cultivars of other New Zealand genera are being produced in this country. If the problems of the past are to be avoided it is important that they be correctly named, according to the International Code, described and documented.

Registration of Cultivars

Registration is a simple process which only involves filling in an application form, giving details of the origin of the cultivar, a brief description of it and how it may be distinguished from related cultivars. Coloured photographs and a reference specimen are also required.

The receipt, if possible, of live material which can be propagated and grown in a living reference collection is appreciated. Propagation material of cultivars will not be released if the registrant expresses a wish to that effect.

Eves and Ears

With the great proliferation in the production of cultivars, of our native plants, by nurserymen and others it is becoming more and more important that every attempt is made to properly document them. Many that are now being produced, are being retailed without

any publication of the name or details of their origins. The demise of the nursery catalogue has hastened that. It does not take long before the origin of the cultivar is forgotten and it becomes difficult to even discover who was the originator.

Cultivars are still being given names in Latin form, which is in Contravention of the Code. Obviously, if those cultivar names were submitted for registration, the Registrar could advise the applicant that the name was not acceptable and discuss suitable alternatives.

All of this is dependent upon the originators of cultivars being aware of the R.N.Z.I.H.'s role as a cultivar registration authority. Members of the Institute can assist by making that fact known to anybody who may have an interest in producing new cultivars.

Finally, as Registrar I would make a plea for people in various parts of the country to be my eyes and ears. If you know of a new cultivar, of a native plant, which has just appeared it would be appreciated if it could be suggested to the originator that, in the interests of horticultural science, it can be registered. Alternatively, a letter advising me about the new cultivar and the name and address of the originator, will enable me to make an approach concerning registration.

This work is important and, for the sake of future authors, historians and plant breeders, all cultivars of our native plants should be properly documented.

Anybody who is interested in helping with this scheme should contact:

L. J. Metcalf Parks & Recreation Department P.O. Box 58 Invercargill

A.G.M. AND CONFERENCE, 19-21 MAY 1989

At this meeting at the Otumoetai Trust Hotel, Tauranga, members and delegates should find much of interest in the programme with the theme of "Look to the 90's", which will be set by R. G. Lowe of the D.S.I.R. Research Orchard, Te Puke. The session on Future of District Councils leads in another direction, with discussions on Garden History, Botanical Gardens, and Notable Trees giving yet another aspect of the Institute's concerns. The tours are intended to supplement these three sessions in a practical manner. Mark Dean is building up a collection of rare native plants in his nursery.

The Banks lecturer, Dr B. R. Cook, is a retired veterinarian of wide experience with an absorbing interest in botany and its applications. Beginning his career in Tauranga, he worked mainly in the Christchurch area, interrupted by a course of study of the School of Tropical Diseases at the University of Liverpool and some overseas tours of duty, finally retiring to Tauranga some five years ago. A knowledgeable speaker, his topic "The Many Faces of Horticulture" is likely to produce some fresh thoughts.

Displays are planned, including one from Touchwood books, a firm specialising in horticultural books, new and secondhand.

1989 R.N.Z.I.H. CONFERENCE THEME — "LOOK TO THE NINETIES"

Otumoetai Trust Hotel, Bureta Road, Tauranga, 19-21 May 1989

Friday,	19 May
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9.30 am National Executive Meeting

5.00 pm Registration and Social Gathering, followed by Dinner

7.30 pm Welcome, by His Worship the Mayor Mr Noel Pope. Presentation

of Certificates and Diplomas; addresses by invited speaker, Mr R. G. Lowe, DSIR Orchard, Te Puke: 'The Future of Horticultural Re-

search in the Bay of Plenty'.

Saturday, 20 May

8.00 am Final Registration

9.00 am AGM (tea break 10.30 to 10.45 am) to finish by 12.30 pm

12.30 pm Lunch

1.15 pm Mark Dean: 'Rare and Endangered Species of New Zealand Plants'. Chair: Graeme Mander.

2.00 pm Future of District Councils, Chair: Alan Jolliffe

3.15 pm Afternoon Tea

3.30 pm Tour: McLaren's Falls Farm Park, etc.

6.00 pm Presentation of Awards

Banks Lecture — Dr B. R. Cook: 'The Many Faces of Horticul-

ture'

8.00 pm Conference Dinner

Sunday, 21 May

8.30 am Fruit and Vegetable Judging

9.30 am Garden History. Chair: John Adam

10.30 am Morning Tea

10.45 am Botanic Gardens and Records of Plants. Chair: Mike Oates

12.00 noon Notable Trees, Chair: Ron Flook

12.30 pm Lunch

1.15 pm Notable Trees and Gardens Tour

All meetings will be held in the Matakana Room (except National Exec. on Friday). Non-residents at the Hotel are asked to use the entrance at the northern (seaward) side of the building. To enable definite planning, please register now for accommodation, especially giving times of arrival and departure.

Registration forms to be returned to: Mrs J. Swinbourn, Secretary, R.N.Z.I.H. Bay of Plenty District Council, 12 Tilby Drive, Matua, Tauranga before 29 April 1989.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

1989 AGM and Annual Conference 19-21 May Otumoetai Trust Hotel, Bureta Road, Tauranga

REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Name(s)							
Address							
Registratio \$20 per pe		nembers	3)	(0			d 45
\$30 per pe	rson			(exclud	ies me	eals and	d tour)
(non memb OR \$10 per Meals	,		Numbe	er	А	mount	
Friday	Lune	ch \$7.00) Numbe	er	A	mount	
	Dinr	ner \$18.	00 Numbe	er	A	mount	
Saturday	Lun	ch \$7.00) Numbe	er	A	mount	
Conferen	ice Dinr	ner \$28.	00 Numbe	er	A	mount	
Sunday	Lun	ch \$7.00) Numbe	er	A	mount	
Breakfasts		•	• •				
Accommod	lation N	lumber	of persor	าร			
Hotel	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun			
Motel	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun			
Staying privately*	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun			
privatory					T	OTAL \$	
*(Please give	contact	t Ph. No.)				
Bus Tour Su	nday	Number	of persor	ns			
Willing to sha	are acco	mmodat	ion: Yes/No	0			
Otumoetai Trust Hotel \$72.00 single, \$78.00 double (per night). Courtesy coach to and from airport, etc. Cobblestone Court Motel \$65.00 single, \$75.00 double, \$15.00 per extra person up to 4 persons per unit. Meals extra at both places, breakfast only at the motel.							
Motel is two necessary.	minutes	walk fro	m the venu	ie of the m	eeting.	Private	transport available if
Please includ		s of your	arrival and	departure	times	when re	turning this form and
your cheque The Secreta		District	Council, 1	2 Tilby Dr	ive, Ma	itua, TA	URANGA.

MEMBERSHIP OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

The following four members of the National Executive will retire by rotation at the Annual General Meeting in Tauranga on 20 May 1989:

Mr Brian Buchanan Auckland
Mr Ian McDowell New Plymouth
Mr Graeme Mander Tauranga
Mrs Jude Petheram Nelson

When nominations for these four vacancies closed on 10 March 1989, the following nominations had been received:

Mr Graeme Mander Tauranga
Mrs Jude Petheram Nelson
Mr Des Riach Christchurch
Mr Peter Woolley Auckland

In the absence of any further nominations the above four people will be elected to the

National Executive unopposed at the Annual General Meeting.

For the information of members, I have set out below biographical details regarding Mr Riach and Mr Woolley who will become the two new members of the Executive in May.

Dave Cameron

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MR DES RIACH FRIH

Horticultural	Experience
1047-1057	Christchurch City Council Apprentice

1771-1776	Christenarch City Council Apprentice.
1952-1953	Nurseryman with L. R. Russell Ltd, England.
1953-1955	Student gardener at Kew, England.
1955-1957	Foreman gardener, Christchurch City Council.
1957-1958	Foreman gardener, Wellington Botanic Gardens.
1958-1962	Superintendent of Grounds, Masterton Borough Council.
1962-1964	Owner/Manager of Campan Hardy Plant Nursery, Cristchurch.
1974-	Superintendent of Grounds for the North Canterbury Hospital
	Board.

Qualifications

- Kew Certificate
- Certificate in Horticulture (The Royal Horticultural Society)
- Honours Certificate in Botany (University of London)
- National Diploma in Horticulture (Hons.) (RNZIH)

Professional Organisations

- Member of the RNZIH:
 - Past Chairperson of the Canterbury District Council.
 - Member of the Canterbury District Council for many years.
- Member of the NZ Institute of Parks & Recreation
 - Past member of the District Council.
- Foundation member of the Hospital Board's Institute of Grounds Managers.
- Examiner for NDH examinations.

Other Organisations

- Member of the Canterbury Horticultural Society
 - Past member of Management Committee.
- Member of the NZ Alpine Garden Society Past Secretary.

MR PETER WOOLLEY

Horticultural Experience

1974-1978 Apprenticeship Auckland City Council.

Work experience, Israel, Canada, USA.

1980-1985 Nursery Foreman, ARA Regional Botanic Gardens.
1985-1987 Superintendent of Grounds, University of Waikato.

1987- Parks Manager, Birkenhead City Council.

Professional Organisations

Member of RNZIH.

Secretary of Waikato District Council.

- Member of NZ Turf Institute

— Associate member of NZ Institute Parks & Recreation.

— Member of Tree Council (Auckland).

A TIME FOR CHANGE

During the past twelve months National Executive have carried out a comprehensive review of Institute publications. It is more than fifteen years since the last review and we were concerned that the present mix of three Bulletins and an Annual Journal was no longer appropriate. The Annual Journal has always been highly regarded but isn't produced regularly enough, and the Bulletin falls between two stools in being more than a newsletter yet not quite a professional journal. As a result of the review National Executive has decided that from 1990 members will receive the following publications:

— A twice-yearly Journal entitled 'Horticulture in New Zealand'. This Journal will replace the Annual Journal but will be of a similar format and content. Its more frequent publication will enable more topical articles to be published and it is also hoped to include special features on different aspects of horticulture.

— A quarterly newsletter to keep members up to date with what is happening within the Institute. It will include District Council news, meeting dates, current issues involving the Institute, member profiles and so on. The newsletter will replace the Bulletin which will disappear after this issue. There will be three newsletters this year and four in future years.

The review also looked at management of publications and it has been decided to put this on a professional basis. As a first step, we have appointed Jean Grierson, a Christchurch horticulturist with journalistic experience to edit the newsletter. Jean currently edits the monthly newsletter of the Canterbury Horticultural Society. Decisions regarding management of the Journal have still to be made.

Finally, a very big thankyou to Pamela Gibbons for the work she has put into the Bulletin over the past two years.

Mike Oates for National Executive

EDITOR'S VIEW OF THE PUBLICATION CHANGES

As editor of the current Bulletin I feel that the publication changes were not widely enough discussed with the membership of the Institute. We have a Bulletin so matters such as this can be publicised. Before the changes were implemented nothing was discussed in the Bulletin. The whole thing was done by the Executive.

Suggestions were not sought. The job of newsletter editor was not advertised. Only one person was approached on the matter.

As the R.N.Z.I.H. is a national body that claims to be a professional society I feel the changes in publications should have been discussed openly, members' views sought, and the job of newsletter editor advertised in the Bulletin so that everyone knows what is going on.

As to the changes themselves. I am against having 2 journals a year. The one journal we have is of a high standard and well recognised. I think it will be very difficult to maintain this standard for 2 journals.

As the current Bulletin format is too expensive and takes some time to produce so is not able to respond quickly to the membership's needs for advertising etc then it should be changed. Going back to the newsletter format which the Institute began with is probably a good idea. Rather than district councils putting out their own newsletters which currently happens all the information can be coordinated into one newsletter for everyone. This will save costs for the District Councils as well.

On the subject of expenses which is always a major motivator for change I feel the Executive should publicise the costs of the current publications and the projected costs of the new publications. Then members will be able to make their own judgements on the relative values of the different publications.

As a final note I would like to thank everyone who has assisted me with the Bulletin. The staff at the Institute office, Nick Owers who up till this issue has put the Student Section together and all the contributors from all over New Zealand who have sent in articles and pictures. Without all you people there wouldn't have been a Bulletin to edit.

Best wishes to June Grierson who is to be taking over as newsletter editor.

Pamela Gibbons

OBITUARY

Mrs Margaret M. Martin, F.R.I.H., A.H.R.I.H. February 1889 — October 1988

With the recent death of Mrs Margaret M. Martin, Whangarei has lost one of its most distinguished botanists/horticulturists. She was born and brought up in Marlborough where she received a good classical education. At an early age, and through family interests, she developed what was to become a lifelong love of plants and of botany and horticulture.

In her 20s she married Captain John Martin, R.N. They lived at first on Martin land at Omapere, Hokianga. Then at the outbreak of War, 1914, when he was on Active Service, she moved to England.

Captain Martin's ship went down without a trace "somewhere in the North Sea". Mar-

garet M.M. was left with a small daughter Rosalind, and an Imperial Pension on which to get by. She came back to New Zealand, and, being a resourceful young woman, skilled in stenography, she took a position in that capacity with Dr. Leonard Cockayne, who is generally considered to be New Zealand's "Father of Botany". He had come from Sheffield in Yorkshire, where his family owned a large emporium. Visiting N.Z. botanists say that it still thrives there. Dr Cockayne's botanical research and his knowledge, particularly of N.Z. plants, was legendary. Under his guidance Margaret M.M. increased her knowledge tremendously. She was herself considered to be an authority. During Dr Cockayne's declining years when he suffered failing eyesight, Margaret M.M. and her sister Miss Monica Neumann, often sallied forth into field and mountain, to collect for him and to observe. His "eyes" he called her! During those years she lived in Wellington, at Ngaio.

On his retirement she came North, living first at Omapere, then at Mangonui, before coming down to Whangarei.

She was one of a band of enthusiasts who formed the *Whangarei District Council*, *Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture*. She served on this committee for many years, indeed for the rest of her life. She was made, first a *Fellow*, *F.R.I.H.*, then an *Associate of Honour A.H.R.I.H.* for distinguished service to Horticulture. To her last day she maintained a lively interest in all matters botanical and horticultural. It was her dearest wish that Whangarei should one day have a Botanical Gardens. She had promised a generous donation when this eventuated. Sadly she was not to see this dream come true.

She would describe as the "greatest fun" our sometimes joint effort, when with the aid of books, knowledge and some intuition, we would track down the identity of a plant that had been submitted to one or other of us.

Though she had become frail and was often in pain, she still — just a few months before her hundredth birthday — had a retentive memory and an alert and incisive mind. She was also understanding and compassionate.

She was in her 60s when she made her final home in Kamo. Here she bought a large section and built an attractive home. She designed and laid out a beautiful garden. Not only was it exquisite visually, it was also a connoisseur's garden, full of plants of beauty and of special interest. Like all good gardeners she found pleasure in sharing both her knowledge and her choice plants.

Margaret M.M. was very proud too of her husband's family history. Captain John Martin was the third generation Martin, Master Mariner and Pilot, with a special connection with Hokianga. He was also a Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Officer.

The first John Martin, his grandfather was First Officer, under Captain J. R. Kent, of Governor MacQuarie when in 1827 she sailed into Hokianga harbour. It was the era of the beginning of the tremendous exploitation of Kauri. It is interesting here to note that Captain Kent was Master of Prince Regent, (escort vessel to H.M.S. Dromedary) the first ship recorded as entering the Hokianga, 1822.

Governor MacQuarie's officers and men had some leisure time ashore and were granted hospitality by the local Maori. A well born Maori maiden fell in love with handsome young John Martin. So it was, that when she overheard her chiefly father and his friends discussing plans to raid and take the ship, she devised her own strategy. Ensuring that she was not observed she swam out to the ship and was taken on board. To the officers, and in particular to young John Martin, she disclosed the nefarious plan afoot. Thus when the Chief and his party arrived on board they were welcomed by Captain Kent and his men. The sailors, however, were heavily armed and strategically placed. The girl, meanwhile was down below in the cabin. Politely Captain Kent, his Officers and men, received the haka of triumph and of impending battle. When it was realised that they were confronted by armed and capable defenders the Maori cries of triumph turned to those of despair and terror. Throwing off all their clothes, they jumped overboard and swam ashore.

The story has a romantic and pleasant ending. After fulfilling his duties as First Officer of Governor MacQuarie, for he was an honourable gentleman, John Martin returned to the Hokianga and married his Maori sweetheart. As Captain Martin he founded a shipping line that plied its trade on the Hokianga. He was Hokianga's first Pilot. To the Maori he was known as "Te Manene" — Rangatira of the Wind and the Waves. His wife, a legend in her own lifetime was known as "Hokianga Kate". People of great mana, they were respected by Maori and Pakeha alike.

Their son, Captain George Martin carried on the family tradition and calling. In their combined 60 years (nearly) as Pilot, father and son could boast a proud record of excellence.

The third generation of Martin Master Mariners with a particular interest in Hokianga, Captain John Martin was cast in the same mould of moral and professional integrity. He began his career in Hokianga following his father and grandfather as Master and Pilot.

Here too, he and Margaret M.M. enjoyed the few happy years of their brief marriage, and here in Hokianga was born their daughter Rosalind.

During his Active Service he attained his command in the Royal Navy.

Margaret M.M. was to know further sorrow when her daughter Rosalind, Mrs Harry Tinker, died suddenly in May 1982. Mrs Martin is survived by two grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

She is remembered as a very knowledgeable and gracious lady, a courageous spirit and a loyal and true friend.

Katie Reynolds F.R.I.H. A.H.R.I.H.

HORTICULTURAL WORK WANTED

Miss Judith Goodchild, who is currently studying for a B.Sc. in Horticulture at Wye College, University of London is looking for 4-5 months work in New Zealand from December 1989.

Miss Goodchild has worked in several nurseries and garden centres including the R.H.S. Gardens Plant Centre at Wiseley.

If you can help please contact Miss Goodchild by writing to:

2, The Byways Stonleigh Surrey KT19 – OPA ENGLAND.

AUCKLAND GARDEN HISTORY WORKSHOP

by John Adam

The visit to New Zealand in November of John Sales comes at a time when there is a major revision process of all Resource Statutes ie Reserves Act, National Parks Act etc. The subject of a one day Garden History workshop has considerable relevance to a number of these reviews as they related to historic gardens and landscapes. The most recent that seeks public comment being the Historic Places Legislative Review.

A successful workshop was held in Auckland at Highwic House, Epsom, on November 28 and attended by about 30 people. They came to learn from John Sales the philosophy behind the conservation of historic landscapes and gardens and its practical application in planning and management. John is the Chief Gardens Advisor to the National Trust in England. Wales and Northern Ireland.

Grading Gardens

The first garden acquired by the Trust in its own right was Hidcote in 1948, with cooperation from the Royal Horticultural Society. (Today there are over 100 gardens in the Trust's care). In 1983 the British Government recognised historic parks and gardens by passing legislation to list them on a Register and grade them — Grade I. Grade II*, Grade II (The National Heritage Act). Although the grading afforded no protection the process is effective, John said, because "planning bodies generally take notice." Grading is undertaken by English Heritage located in the Department of the the Environment. Full protection is only currently found in 'Conservation Areas' which are designated areas that include groups of buildings and gardens etc. John said that the Australians (he toured and lectured there before coming here) were well underway in listing their gardens but he felt that they lacked some of the skilled gardeners — that we had a good reputation of training — to maintain their historic gardens. He said that New Zealand's pool of historic gardens had not vet been "scratched". There was a strong need he said to investigate what we have and where they are. Oral History would contribute much knowledge about our gardens historic garden style. The style was one of the key details that any research into an old garden was attempting to establish.

Phllosophy

The search for a proper garden philosophy was emphasised. This aspect has important relevance to our situation if historic garden styles are seen as an important part of our heritage and worthy of conservation as in Britain, Australia etc. For each historic garden John said something that was 'unique' and 'right for the place' must be found from the detailed research carried out on the physical and historic records, photographic and written. It was not to be a stylised philosophy ie 'Victorian' but one based on an understanding that the garden or landscape studied was different from any other place. Changes occurring in the garden need to be analysed and the processes projected forward. The long term view must be taken with the assumption that the property will go on forever. The basic garden structure must be right. The original structure plants (trees) must be re-established. (They were usually the first to die). One must build in the process of change ie develop a programme of replanting. Ideally John said restoration should be practised all the time, "Designing Conserving and Restoring". Every living plant has a life-cycle and has to be renewed from the annual bedding plants at one end of the spectrum right up to woody trees at the other. Full

documentation of all management decisions was essential, John said, explaining fully to the public what the philosophy agreed upon was for each property.

Highwic House

The current and future management proposals for Highwic House grounds were discussed during the afternoon session along with a short illustrated presentation by Dr Rupert Tipples about one of New Zealand's notable landscape architects, Alfred Buxton, whom Rupert is researching. Problems associated with the management of Buxton's Parikau Station garden he designed near Gisborne were discussed, (see New Zealand Gardener, February 1988).

Finally to quote from John's public lecture that was well attended on a rather stormy evening at the Auckland Regional Authority Botanic Garden. 'Gardens more than anything else reflect our culture and history and our values, more than buildings more than anything else we show our character in our gardens and each generation does this and to lose that would be to lose a great deal.'

The four public lectures and workshop were co-ordinated by the QEII National Trust with assistance from the RNZIH. British Council and NZ Historic Places Trust.

References

- 1. John Sales (1988) Management Plans and the English Landscape Park. Landscape Design February.
- 2. John Harvey (1988) Restoring Period Gardens. Shire Publications, England.
- 3. Brent Elliott (1986) Victorian Gardens, Batsford Press, England.
- 4. An abstract of all lectures given in Australia (and NZ) are available by mail order from Australian Garden History Society, P.O. Box 588, Bowral, N.S.W., 2576, Australia. \$5.00A.

TRUSTBANK GARDENWORLD '89

A spectacular Floral Festival is planned for Hamilton for the Spring of 1989 that will run throughout the month of October. It will incorporate specialist flower shows, floral art displays, city wide flower planting seminars, workshops, tours and a wide range of entertainments, events, competitions and social occasions. The centrepiece will be a gigantic garden and arts festival at Hamilton Gardens running from 30 September till 10 October 1989.

Over the past five years local gardening and craft clubs and many other volunteers from throughout the Waikato have worked hard to raise half a million dollars for the Central Building Complex at Hamilton Gardens. That target has now not only been reached but exceeded, and it is hoped that the building will soon be under way. Naturally enough everyone wants a celebration or a big event to open it. Not just another flower show but a magnificent garden and arts festival.

Many of the same people who have fundraised are also experienced at running flower shows. Some were involved in major flower shows such as Nylex Springworld, the International Rose Convention, the National Orchid show, National Camellia Show, National Floral Art Show, and the 1987 and 1988 Spring Arts Festivals. They are looking for a new challenge.

There is no more suitable theme for a 1989 Spring Festival than a garden and arts Festival. In the field of gardening the Waikato can hold its own with any other region and pro-

vide a high profile event that has the potential to attract people not just from around the region but from throughout New Zealand.

The Garden Show

The theme of the Show itself at Hamilton Gardens is to be — 'The English Flower Garden' with specific reference to the golden age of the English flower garden at the turn of the century. But of course it will be more than this — there will be something of interest for everyone at the Festival.

The gardening show will include a series of flower shows, the principal ones at this stage being a large Floral Art show, an Orchid Show, a Spring Flower show, and a Daffodil show. Around these shows there will be dozens of displays, exhibits, stalls and demonstrations.

Entertainments

Every day of the show there will be an exciting programme of entertainments ranging from Jazz bands to jugglers. The main venue for entertainments at the show will be the newly completed lakeside amphitheatre called 'The Steps of the Singing Gardener'.

Seminars and Workshops

At Hamilton Gardens and at other venues a series of lectures, seminars and workshops are planned, covering a wide range of subjects including prominent overseas speakers capable of attracting people from throughout New Zealand.

Tours

For people visiting Hamilton there will be plenty of other attractions besides the garden show to encourage them to stay for a week or more. There will be a choice of farm, horticulture, craft, general interest and garden tours, including 'Garden Day 89'.

Dozens of Other Attractions

For the Spring of 89, special efforts will be made to plant colourful flower displays around the city.

There are also plans for Champagne breakfasts, Victorian picnic trips by riverboat, complementary gallery displays, daytime entertainment in Garden Place, and lunchtime concerts. It will be shortsighted to be anywhere but Hamilton in the spring of 1989.

Want to Know More?

The following garden owners are already involved in Gardenworld '89 and will be happy to answer any questions and to record offers of assistance —

Bill Featherstons — phone 76-514

Ian Gear (Old Fashioned Plant Collections)

Tom Hickmott (Eastern Gardens)

Betty Mowbray (City Gardens)

Peter Ramsay — Festival Convenor — phone 295-551 (Eastern Gardens)

Peter Sergel (Horsham Downs Gardens)

Gerard Williams (Country & West, Gardens)

R.N.Z.I.H. PUBLICATIONS

Members are reminded of the various publications that the Institute has available. Don't miss out on these valuable items:

1. "FLOWERS FOR SHOWS"

A "must" for everyone involved in flower shows, whether as a judge or exhibitor. Cost \$10.00 plus GST.

Quantity discounts available on request.

2. ANNUAL JOURNALS

Journals 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11 \$5 each plus \$1 (p & p). Journal 14 \$8 plus \$1 (p & p). Journal 15 sold out.

3. "HORTICULTURE: THE CAREER FOR YOU?"

This very valuable book for people contemplating a career in horticulture has just been revised. Copies have been sent free of charge to all secondary schools in New Zealand. Further copies are available from the Executive Officer at \$5.50 each (including GST and postage).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 1989

Please return this form, together with a cheque for your 1989 subscription, to the RNZIH Executive Officer if you wish to become a member of the Institute. Subscription rates are as follows (all inclusive of GST):

\$55.00

A. Individual Member and Small Non Commercial Societies

	422.00
Discount rate if paid by 31 October 1988	\$49.50
B. Corporate Bodies	\$126.50
Discount if paid by 31 October 1988	\$114.40
D. Joint Membership For two people sharing the same household	\$45.10 (each)
Discount rate if paid by 31 October 1988	\$40.70 (each)
E. Student Membership (For people registered as RNZIH students)	\$33.00
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ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

Annual Subscription rates: (Subscription year ends 31 December), 1989 Subscriptions are:

Individual Members \$50.00 + \$5.00 GST = \$55.00\$45.00 + \$4.50 GST = \$49.50Discount rate (if paid by 31.10.88) Joint Membership (For 2 \$41.00 + \$4.00 GST = \$45.00 (each)people sharing same household) \$37.00 + \$3.70 GST = \$40.70 (each)Discount rate (if paid by 31.10.88) Associate Membership (over 65 and a member for 10 years + \$33.00 + \$3.30 GST = \$36.30Discount rate (if paid by 31.10,88) \$30.00 + \$3.00 GST = \$33.00Student Membership (For people \$30.00 + \$3.00 GST = \$33.00 \$50.00 + \$5.00 GST = \$55.00 \$45.00 + \$4.50 GST = \$49.50 registered as R.N.Z.I.H. students) Non-commercial Societies Discount rate (if paid by 31.10.88) Corporate Bodies \$115.00 + \$11.50 GST = \$126.50 \$104.00 + \$10.40 GST = \$114.40

Subscription accounts will be sent to all members at the end of September and are payable by 31.10.88

DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARIES

AUCKLAND

Mr B. Keene, 48 Pokapu Street, Titirangi, AUCKLAND

Discount rate (if paid by 31.10.88)

BAY OF PLENTY

Mrs Joan Swinbourn. 12 Tilby Drive Matua, TAURANGA

CANTERBURY

Mr E. D. Movle. 6 Winslow Street. CHRISTCHURCH 5

NELSON

Mr P. Smale. 22 Atkins Street. MOTUFKA.

MARLBOROUGH

Mrs D. Elwood-Smith. 46 Hampden Street. PICTON

NORTH TARANAKI

Mrs J. Gleeson. 3 Rogan Street NEW PLYMOUTH.

OTAGO

Mr R. M. Scott. P.O. Box 56, DUNEDIN

POVERTY BAY

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

SOUTHLAND

Mr W. T. Wright, Southland Hospital Grounds. INVERCARGILL.

SOUTH TARANAKI

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

WAIKATO

Mrs N. Allen Pukeroro, RD 3, **HAMILTON**

WANGANUI

Ms P. McDonald. 31 Ikitara Road. WANGANUI

WELLINGTON

Mr M. Burtenshaw. 14 Dyer Street, Enuni LOWER HUTT

WHANGAREI

Mr K. Young, FRIH P.O. Box 1530, WHANGARFI

RNZIH Notable Trees Committee — P.O. Box 11-379, WELLINGTON RNZIH Garden History Group — P.O. Box 11-379, WELLINGTON.

Cover drawing: Paulownia tomentosa by Mr C. I. McDowell

The imperial tree of China, *Paulownia tomentosa* is a quick growing spreading tree with large roundish leaves, having grey down on the reverse surface. Deciduous the tree commences to flower in about its tenth year and will reach approximately 16 metres high with a wide spreading habit.

It is notable in the Spring when the purple blue, foxglove-like flowers are produced in large terminal panicles. It belongs to the Scrophulariaceae family and was named in honour of Anna Pavlovna daughter of Paul I, Tsar of Russia 1795-1865. The Winter branches are tipped with the castanet-like brown seed capsules which rattle in the breeze. The small winged seed are dispersed in large quantities and are easy to raise.

Sometimes the tree is grown just for its foilage as heavy pruning will result in strong Spring growth. Grown in Japan as a timber tree it has potential in New Zealand and the Forest Service are currently evaluating trial plots