



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

Newsletter

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Presidential Ponderings

Image! Image is everything in today's frantic world. Everything is ephemeral. Instagram is the epitome of this. This morning's image is old-hat or gone by the afternoon. Everything has to be abbreviated like text messages. People have less and less patience in a digital society.

All of this is, of course, the antithesis of horticulture, where growth, development and reward follow the changes of season each year. For a plant breeder our timelines are even longer and measured in decades, not just years.

The relatively few hundreds of us who are members of the RNZIH are primarily, although not exclusively, of mature years and already dedicated gardeners and horticulturists. The juxtaposition of those two words alone raises an interesting question. Gardening is an important facet of horticulture, but how many of the general public, particularly in urban areas, view horticulture beyond contractor's staff in hard hats and orange safety vests, renewing bedding plants on traffic islands every few weeks?

If someone has a well-tended garden associated with a home it will, most likely, be the work of an elderly person. Not that many newly built homes now have the privilege of a decent-sized garden. All of this contributes to an image of horticulture in the public consciousness.

If we focus for a moment on our full name, 'Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture', what do people hear and what image does this conjure up?

'Royal', that's good, everyone loves Harry, Megan and Archie and Royal still has a ring of mana about it.

'New Zealand', well, yes this is where we are and the monarchy in question is that of the former British Empire of which we were part and we cannot simply be 'The Royal Horticultural Society', as there already is one based in the UK.

'Institute'. Wow! Now there is a name that conjures up negative connotations of bureaucracy, ugly architecture and worse.

'Horticulture', that sounds serious and decidedly professional. All in all a rather forbidding and exclusive club that would not welcome a hobbyist gardener nor younger people?

OK, questions raised and no easy answers, but be assured that the current RNZIH executive are working hard to define our role as the world around us changes both rapidly and radically.

Three newer members of our executive, Yvonne Baker, Dharini Marinkovich, and especially Clare Shearman, are busy organising a one-day symposium for 24th October 2019, to be held at Te Papa, Wellington.

This symposium will be followed by the RNZIH Banks Memorial Lecture, AGM and award presentations. Congratulations to all of our 2019 awardees. An important facet of the RNZIH is to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our fellow horticulturists.

Further details are in this newsletter and on our website. I warmly invite you to join us for these events.

Keith Hammett
President, RNZIH

2019 RNZIH Symposium, Banks Lecture, AGM



Please join us for a one-day symposium in Wellington to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook and his botanists arrival in Aotearoa-New Zealand.

This symposium will be held 24th October 2019, between the Botanic Gardens Australia & New Zealand (BGANZ) Congress (20–23rd October) and the Australian Garden History Society Conference (25–27th October). Attendees from both conferences are warmly invited to join the RNZIH Symposium.

Our expert speakers, Ewen Cameron, Catherine Duthie, Waitangi Wood, and our 2019 Banks Memorial Lecturer Ross Ferguson will cover diverse topics on botany, horticulture, biosecurity, and Māori perspectives. The networking forum will allow time to connect with others and exchange ideas with coffee and cake in hand.

Further details are at www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/conference2019.htm.

Venue: Rangimarie Room 1, Te Papa Tongarewa, 55 Cable St, Wellington.

Date: Thursday, 24th October 2019.

Time: Arrival from 9.30 am.

Cost: Entry by donation.

Order of events

- 9.30 am: Registration, morning tea.
- 10.00–11.30 am: Symposium speakers.
- 11.30 am – 12 noon: Break (bring your own lunch or use the local café).
- 12.00–12.30 pm: Networking forum.
- 12.30–1.30 pm: Banks Memorial Lecture.
- 1.30–3.00 pm: AGM and award presentations.

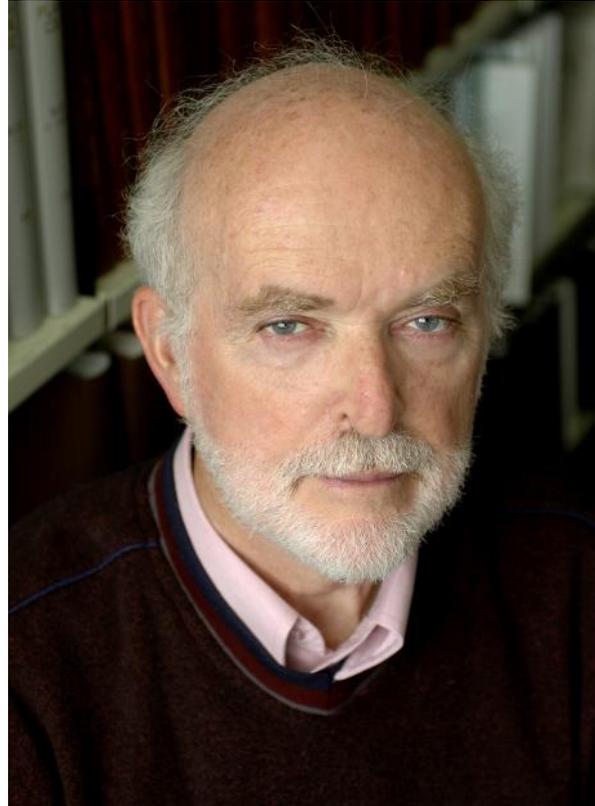
2019 Banks Memorial Lecture
(a free lecture open to the public)
'The domestication and successful commercialisation of kiwifruit'
By **A.R. Ferguson AHRIH(NZ)**

PTO

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Yellow-fleshed kiwifruit. Image courtesy Plant & Food Research.



Ross Ferguson, 2019 Banks Memorial Lecturer.

Abstract: The Banks Memorial Lecture commemorates Sir Joseph Banks. In New Zealand, Banks is remembered mainly for his botanical work, when he joined Captain Cook on his first voyage to the South Pacific. In later life, Banks had many other interests including the domestication of plants and the transfer of economically important plants from one part of the world to another. He believed that scientific discoveries had the potential to produce economic advantages.

The history of the green-fleshed kiwifruit (*Actinidia chinensis* var. *deliciosa*) is a classic example of the successful domestication and commercialisation of a new fruit plant. Almost every step from wild plant in China to successful export crop in New Zealand is known in detail. The initial steps involved plant explorers such as Robert Fortune and E.H. Wilson. The development of kiwifruit as a commercial crop was due to enthusiastic orchardists and nurserymen, especially the selection of a good cultivar by Hayward Wright.

The subsequent development of kiwifruit as a new export crop was due to the efforts of orchardists, scientists and the marketing organisations. New Zealand led the way in commercialisation of the green kiwifruit and then initiated international trade in yellow-fleshed kiwifruit (*Actinidia chinensis* var. *chinensis*).

When disaster struck recently with the arrival of a new disease, bacterial blight of kiwifruit, caused by *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*, it was the collaboration between scientists and the industry that resulted in the successful replacement of a cultivar susceptible to the disease with one that was more resistant. Science was able to produce tangible economic returns.

2019 RNZIH Annual General Meeting

The 2019 RNZIH AGM and award presentations will be held Thursday, 24th October 2019, 1.30–3.00 pm, following the symposium at Te Papa. The 2018 statement of accounts were published in our March 2019 Newsletter (at www.rnzih.org.nz/Newsletter/Newsletter_March_2019.pdf).

AGM Agenda:

1. Apologies / In Memoriam
2. Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2018 AGM
4. Presidents Report
5. Statement of Accounts for 2018 and Budget for 2019
6. Branch Reports
7. Election of Officers
8. General Business
 - 8.1 Subscriptions
 - 8.2 RNZIH NZ Gardens Trust
 - 8.3 NZ Notable Trees Trust
 - 8.4 RNZIH Education Trust
 - 8.5 Publications and website
 - 8.6 Other business
9. Award presentations.

Congratulations

2019 RNZIH Awardees

Congratulations to all 2019 Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture awardees. This year seven honorary awardees and two funding recipients have been recognised.

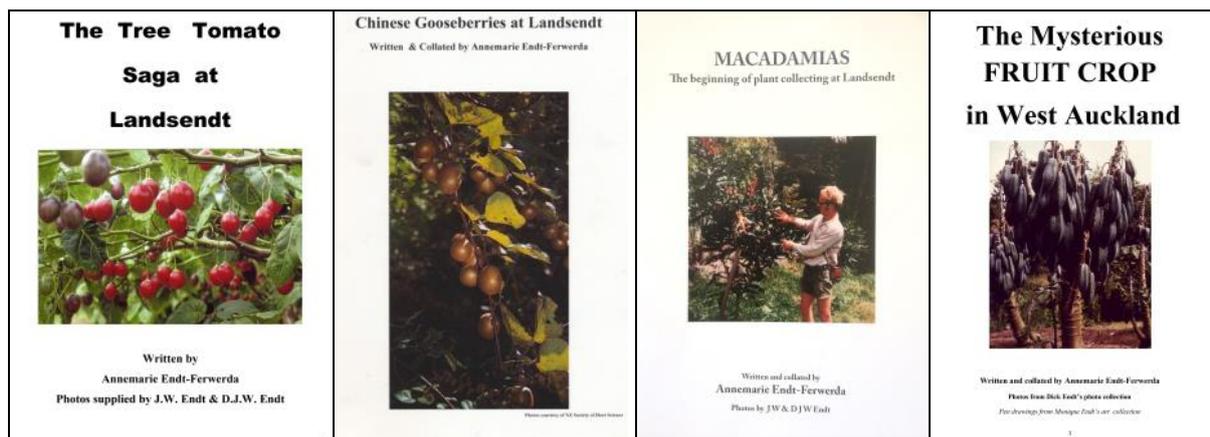
Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda (Auckland) receives the Award in Garden History and Ian Duncalf (Tauranga) receives the Plant Raisers' Award. Chris Webb (Paeroa), Malcolm Woolmore (Auckland), and Nicola Rochester (Auckland) are the newest Fellows (FRIH) of the RNZIH. Two university academics, Drs Marion MacKay (Massey) and Helen Leach (Dunedin), received Associates of Honour (AHRH), the highest award conferred by the RNZIH.

We will celebrate their horticultural achievements during the RNZIH annual award presentations on 24th October, at Te Papa. Their full award citations will be published in the June 2019 issue of the *New Zealand Garden Journal (Journal of the RNZIH)*.

Congratulations to **Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda** of Auckland for receiving the 2019 RNZIH Award in Garden History.



Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda, recipient of the RNZIH Award in Garden History for 2019.



A range of horticultural booklets authored by Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda.

Annemarie receives her award as recognition for publishing a series of booklets detailing the development of various pioneer crops in the garden at Landsend in West Auckland.

These crops include babacos, Chinese gooseberries (before they were renamed kiwifruit and became such a commercially important crop), macadamias, naranjilla, and tree tomatoes.

Annemarie’s booklets help document the horticultural history and early use of these crops.

Congratulations to **Ian Duncalf** of Tauranga for receiving the 2019 Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture Plant Raisers’ Award.

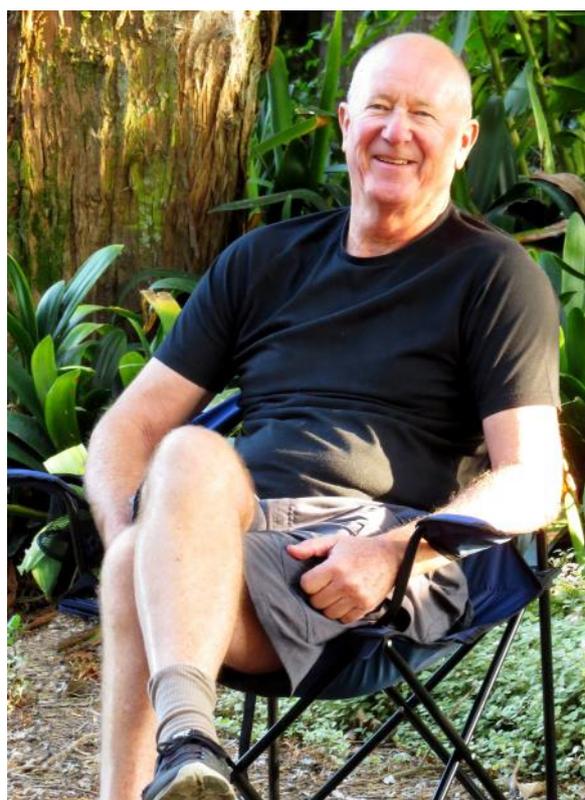
Over a lifetime in horticulture, Ian Duncalf has worked in many diverse areas, from research to propagation, plant production, mail-order marketing, and consultancy.

For nearly 20 years, Ian ran Parva Plants near Tauranga and has close links with Anthony Tesselaar Plants.

Ian Duncalf has been a member of the International Plant Propagators’ Society (IPPS) New Zealand region for 38 years, and has served as their President and International Director.

The 2019 RNZIH award recognises Ian Duncalf’s talents in plant breeding. The RNZIH Plant Raisers’ Award is granted to a nominated individual (or organisation) who has raised in New Zealand a cultivar (or cultivars) considered to be sufficiently meritorious.

From the many selections raised and released by Ian over the years, *Agapanthus* ‘Thunder



Ian Duncalf, recipient of the RNZIH Plant Raisers’ award for 2019. Image: Sandra Simpson.

Storm, *Alstroemeria* ‘Rock and Roll’, and *Clivia* ‘Barbara’ are considered outstanding for the purposes of this award.



Agapanthus 'Thunder Storm'™, raised by Ian Duncalf. Image: Anthony Tesselar Plants.



Alstroemeria Rock & Roll®, an international award winner raised by Ian Duncalf. Image: Anthony Tesselar Plants.



Clivia 'Barbara', raised by Ian Duncalf. Image: Ian Duncalf.

Congratulations to **Chris Webb** of Paeroa for becoming a 2019 Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).



Chris Webb, 2019 Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).

Chris is a keen horticulturist who has always enjoyed plants and comes from a long line of keen gardeners.

Chris was a long-term member of the management committee for Fernglen Gardens, a native plant garden located in Birkenhead, originally developed by Bill and Muriel Fisher. This outstanding, historically significant garden relies on continued support from members of the horticultural community such as Chris.

Chris has been and is a member of many horticultural groups, including the Wellington Rose Society, Heritage Roses Wellington, Friends of the Auckland Botanic Gardens, Eden

Garden Society, Meadowbank Garden Society and the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH). At various times he has served on the executive of many of these organisations. Chris is a member of the RNZIH National Executive and their current Treasurer.

An RNZIH fellowship is awarded to "Members who have made a significant contribution to horticulture by their activities or interest in or service to horticulture", qualities that make Chris Webb a worthy recipient.

Congratulations to **Malcolm Woolmore** of Lyndale Nurseries, Auckland, for becoming a 2019 Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).

Malcolm's involvement with Lyndale began as a schoolboy job, starting what was to be a lifetime involvement with and full ownership of the plant nursery in 2001.

Malcolm's business interests have diversified since 2003, developing some of the most successful plant related businesses in New Zealand. He established Lyndale Custom Mix Ltd (a specialist supplier of wholesale bulk potting mixes) and KiwiFlora (representing plant breeders' and dealing in Plant Variety Rights, Plant Breeders Rights, and plant patents).



Malcolm Woolmore, 2019 Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).

Through these businesses, Malcolm has been responsible for the production and distribution of 100,000,000 young plants in New Zealand, produced predominantly through cuttings and tissue culture. He takes pleasure in creating a financial return to plant breeders in New Zealand by introducing their creations to local and overseas markets.

Malcolm has been a member of the IPPS New Zealand region for 38 years, and served as their as Editor, Vice President, President, International Director, and IPPS International Director.

Malcolm has also held prominent advisory roles representing the nursery industry for the NZPPI (New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated) and predecessor organisations.

He is also a long-term supporter of the RNZIH Education Trust Young Horticulturist Competition NZ.

An RNZIH fellowship is awarded to “Members who have made a significant contribution to horticulture by their activities or interest in or service to horticulture”, and Malcolm Woolmore is a most worthy recipient.



Nicola Rochester, 2019 Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).

Congratulations to **Nicola Rochester** of Auckland for becoming a 2019 Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH).

Nicola is Regional Sales Manager for ICL Specialty Fertilizers and over the last 24 years has become well known as the New Zealand face of Osmocote®. Nicola provides technical support to hundreds of growers across all plant producing sectors.

Nicola is heavily involved with the RNZIH Education Trust, who manage the Young Horticulturist Competition NZ. She has served as Chairperson and remains on the board as a Trustee.

Nicola is pleased to see that every year the competition continues to grow and get better. Each year competitors come from a wide range of horticultural sectors: fruit, vegetable, viticulture, landscaping, nursery, parks and recreation and floriculture. Nicola says it is this diversity of sectors that make the competition both unique and important.

As well as the Young Horticulturist event, Nicola offers her time willingly for other projects within the nursery industry.

She has contributed to the NZ Nursery and Garden Industry Association (now NZPPI – NZ Plant Producers Incorporated) as their representative on the board of the then NZ Horticultural Industry Training Organisation.

Nicola has also served as Vice President for the IPPS New Zealand region.

These contributions, and especially her work with the Young Horticulturist Competition NZ, make Nicola Rochester a most worthy new Fellow of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture.

Congratulations to **Dr Marion MacKay** of Massey University for becoming a 2019 Associate of Honour (AHRH) of the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture.



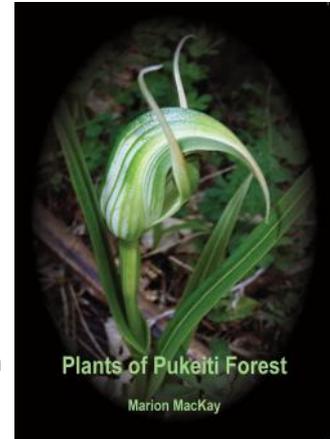
Dr Marion MacKay, 2019 Associate of Honour (AHRH).

Marion is a Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management at Massey University, specialising in plant biodiversity and conservation, particularly *ex situ* conservation.

Her research interests focus on the range and diversity of exotic woody plants held in botanic

gardens and plant collections throughout New Zealand, and the management and utility of that plant diversity.

Marion has been deeply involved with the living collections at Eastwoodhill Arboretum and Pukeiti. In addition to the exotic plantings at Pukeiti, Marion's interest in the native flora of the surrounding 350 ha forest led to the 2011 publication of her book 'Plants of Pukeiti Forest'.



Marion has professional affiliations with numerous organisations. Internationally, she is a member of Botanic Gardens Conservation International (UK), the Global Trees Campaign and IUCN Species Survival Commission (UK), the Rhododendron Camellia & Magnolia Group of the Royal Horticultural Society (UK), the Global Conservation Consortium for Rhododendron (UK), the American Rhododendron Society, the Rhododendron Species Foundation (USA), and the International Dendrology Society.

Nationally, Marion belongs to the New Zealand Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Science, the New Zealand Rhododendron Association, and the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH).

Marion has been a member of the RNZIH for 33 years, has served as a member of the National Executive, and presented the RNZIH Banks Memorial Lecture.

An Associate of Honour of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture AHRH (NZ) is conferred to "Persons who have rendered distinguished service to horticulture." It is the highest award conferred by the RNZIH and limited to no more than 60 people at a time.



Prof Helen Leach, 2019 Associate of Honour (AHRNH).

Congratulations to **Prof Helen Leach** of Dunedin for becoming a 2019 Associate of Honour (AHRNH) of the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture.

Helen Leach is Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of Otago, specialising in culinary anthropology and the domestication of food plants.

Helen's research interests include domestication of food plants, cultivation and processing techniques in traditional societies, evolution of human diet and culinary practices, history of archaeology and anthropology in Oceania, Polynesian stone technology and its development, social history and anthropology of culinary practices and horticulture.

Helen is an accomplished author and co-author of 22 books, covering interesting aspects of cultivation and preparation of food plants, both ancient and contemporary.

'1,000 Years of Gardening in New Zealand' (1984) and 'The Pavlova Story' (2008) are among her best-known titles.

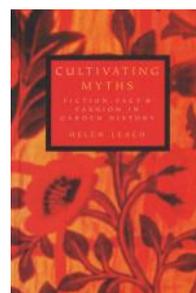
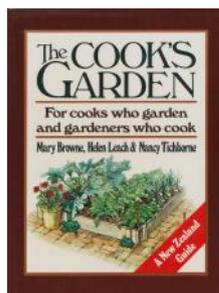
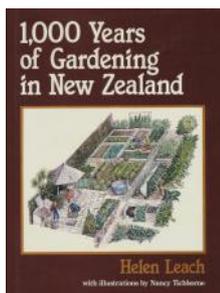
Other books were co-authored with Helen's sisters, Mary Browne and Nancy Tichborne, such as the well-known 'The Cook's Garden' (1980), 'The New Zealand Bread Book' (1996), 'The Cook's Salad Garden' (1997), and 'The Cook's Herb Garden' (2001). These iconic books are imprinted on the collective psyche of gardeners and cooks throughout New Zealand.

Helen's professional affiliations and memberships span a range of organisations, including the Friends of the Dunedin Botanic Garden, Australian Garden History Society, New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women, New Zealand Rhodes Scholars Association, Otago Institute for the Arts and Sciences (RSNZ), Otago Settlers Association, Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH), and the Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ).

Helen has attained the highest pinnacles of academic excellence while also becoming a household name through her award-winning and practical horticultural, gardening and cooking books.

Helen Leach's achievements have been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2018, when she was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to culinary anthropology.

For 2019 the National Executive consider Prof Helen Leach to be a most worthy recipient of their highest award, an Associate of Honour of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture AHRNH(NZ).



Covers from some well-known books authored by Helen Leach.

Congratulations to citizen-scientist **Mark Tutty** from Gisborne for receiving the 2019 RNZIH Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship. Mark received the scholarship to catalogue at least five significant New Zealand plant collections on the iNaturalist NZ – Mātaki Taiao platform.



Mark Tutty, 2019 recipient of the Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship. Image courtesy of *The Gisborne Herald*.

In 2018 Mark received modest support from the RNZIH and added almost 400 plant observations to the Hackfalls Arboretum project (<http://iNaturalist.nz/projects/hackfalls-arboretum>). Since about 2015 he has added about 500 observations to the Gisborne Botanical Gardens project (<https://inaturalist.nz/projects/gisborne-botanical-gardens>) in his own time.

Mark's 2019 Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship will allow him to expand upon his previous work and to contribute to the New Zealand Plant Collection Register project of the RNZIH.

On 12 April 2019, *The Gisborne Herald* recognised Mark's insect and plant observations, and his contributions to bioblitzs and other citizen-science events (<http://gisborneherald.co.nz/lifestyle/4047991-135/the-bug-man>).

Congratulations to **Karin van der Walt** from Wellington for receiving a RNZIH Memorial Prize Fund for 2019. This award will assist Karin in attending and speaking at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Society for Cryobiology: Cryo2019: 'Preserving the Past. Protecting the Future', 22–25 July 2019.

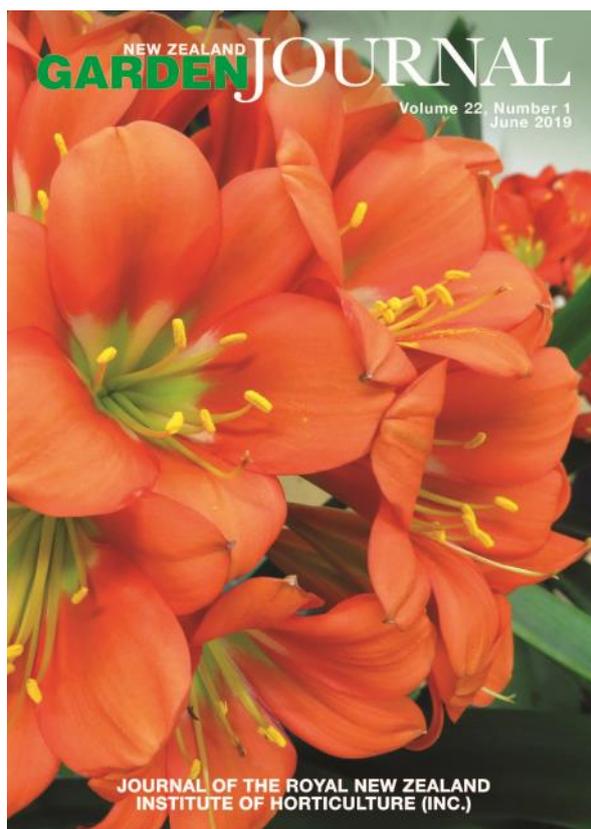


Karin van der Walt, 2019 recipient of the RNZIH Memorial Prize Fund.

Karin is a Conservation and Science Advisor for Wellington City Council based at Otari Native Botanic Garden. Her PhD research through Massey University is investigating the *ex situ* conservation of Myrtaceae species with a focus on recalcitrant species such as *Syzygium maire*.

In 2017, Karin received Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship funds to attend the 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress in Geneva, and wrote a trip report for the *New Zealand Garden Journal* (www.rnzih.org.nz/RNZIH_Journal/Pages_17-20_from_2017_Vol20_No2.pdf).

NZ Garden Journal: June 2019 issue



Front cover of journal: *Clivia* 'Peach' × 'Diana', a hybrid raised by Ian Duncalf. Image: Sandra Simpson.

Our June 2019 edition of the RNZIH *New Zealand Garden Journal* has at last been completed. It will be posted to our subscribed members shortly. Here is a summary of this issue:

- **Auckland Botanic Gardens *Gomphrena* bedding trial, 2018–2019:** Emma Bodley, Yvonne Baker, Laurence Speedy, Pippa Lucas and Jack Hobbs present the results of their Auckland trials of globe amaranth.
- **Flowering of golden bamboo (*Phyllostachys aurea*) in New Zealand:** Elizabeth Miller, Stuart Rogers and Mark Mortimer observe golden bamboo flowering in Auckland.
- ***Luma* present – where is *Amomyrtus*? Resolving the confusion in New Zealand:**

Elizabeth Miller untangles the confusion around the correct naming and identity of two Chilean myrtles grown as ornamental trees and for their edible fruit.

- **2019 RNZIH Awards (full citations)**
 - ◇ **Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda:** Award in Garden History
 - ◇ **Ian Duncalf:** Plant Raisers' Award
 - ◇ **Chris Webb:** FRIH
 - ◇ **Malcolm Woolmore:** FRIH
 - ◇ **Nicola Rochester:** FRIH
 - ◇ **Marion MacKay:** AHRIH
 - ◇ **Helen Leach:** AHRIH
- **Horticultural themes during my lifetime of research in anthropology and garden history**

Helen Leach provides us with a personal account of her horticulturally themed work during her lifetime of research in anthropology and garden history.
- **Obituaries**
 - ◇ Dr Ronald (Ron) Close AHRIH
 - ◇ Neville Haydon QSM, AHRIH.

RNZIH New Zealand Gardens Trust



NZGT Conference Palmerston North 13–15th March 2020

The NZGT organising committee are delighted to announce that their 2020 Conference is being held in the Manawatu.

The date is earlier than usual to accommodate our guest speaker from America: Dan Benarcik from Chanticleer Garden, Philadelphia.

The NZGT Conference will be centred on the Distinction Coachman Hotel which is conveniently situated near the CBD and offers excellent accommodation.

Reasonable rates are offered and there is no cancellation charge more than 48 hours prior.

Please book directly through this link:

www.distinctionhotelscoachman.co.nz/NZGT2020

This conference will be held over three days. The focus will be on gardens and gardening, including visiting historic homes and gardens in the Rangitikei and the Manawatu, some of which are not normally open to the public.

Enquiries: Lynne Atkins
Email: lynne@greenhaugh.co.nz
Phone: 06 3573878 / 027 387 0357

**NZGT Conference report
'Autumn Splendour'
11–14th April 2019**

Penny Zino has written a report in the May 2019 NZGT Newsletter on their conference held in Cromwell and Queenstown.

Penny outlines the gardens visited, including Jolendale Park, Clachanburn Garden, Cambrian Common Forest, Jo Wakelin's garden, Alpha Burn Station, John and Kate Coe's garden, Jan and Allan Gillespie's garden, Pat Stuart's garden, Mike and Maureen Henry's garden at Chantecler.



Gordon Collier, Pat Stuart, and Margaret Barker.

Penny Zino also summarises the excellent talks given by Penny Cliffin, Steve Newell, Kate Coughlan, Sally Brown, Wolfgang Bopp and Janet Cubey.

The full conference report is available at [www.gardens.org.nz/userfiles/file/NZGT%20Newsletter%20May%202019_pub\(1\).pdf](http://www.gardens.org.nz/userfiles/file/NZGT%20Newsletter%20May%202019_pub(1).pdf).

New NZGT Administration Manager

Irene Collins has stepped down as NZGT Administration Manager after eight years in that role. In May 2011 she took over from Liz Morrow, the first Administrator. The NZGT are very grateful to Irene for all her work helping the Trust run smoothly.



Gary and Irene Collins at her farewell.

The NZGT Trustees have appointed Julie Sperring as their new Administration Manager. Julie has a management background in arts and business, and started her company Propel Planning to help individuals and small organisations develop strategic, business, communications and fundraising strategies. Julie and her husband Don live rurally in Otaki where they are developing their two-acre garden.



Julie Sperring, the new NZGT Administrator.



RNZIH Education Trust

2019 Young Horticulturist Competition

The 2019 Young Horticulturist Competition is heating up with two of the finalists confirmed for this year's prestigious competition, which will be held 13–14th November in Auckland.

The Amenity Finalist and the Young Achiever have both been announced with the three next finalists to be confirmed by 31st August and the Young Grower to be announced on 2nd October.

All will come head to head on the 12th November in Auckland when the sector finalists will compete for the 2019 Young Horticulturist Competition title, concluding on 13th November.

2019 Young Leaders Forum

One of the highlights to date has been hosting the 2018 Young Horticulturist finalists back in Auckland for a two-day Leadership Forum held 14–15th May 2019.



Young Leaders Forum activities, May 2019.
Images: www.facebook.com/YoungHortNZ/

This forum is all about the finalists, and with the tension gone from their past competition they can relax, enjoy, and learn from the forum. This year we had two wonderful days with the six finalists from 2018, RNZIH Education Trust members, some of our partnering sponsors, as well as some supporting sponsors and guest presenters in attendance.

The first day was held at the Auckland Botanic Gardens and was a comprehensive day with an introduction to team dynamics from Belbin, leadership experiences and techniques on how to be a good leader, along with guest presenters from previous years competitions. The day concluded with a team dinner, lots of laughs and stories about the six months following the 2018 competition and the confidence and opportunities that have been learnt from. Countdown joined the group for dinner and gave an insight into why they are proud to be associated with this outstanding competition.

Day two started at Bayer NZ in Auckland, who kindly hosted the morning, and the finalists were introduced to more of the story behind this supporter. Photos and stories were shared next on personal presentation and attire suitable to working environments and again lots of laughs and stories were shared on what not to wear to the office and nursery!

From here the finalists travelled to T&G Covered Crops in Favona, where a fantastic tour was given by past finalist and winner, Andrew Hutchinson. This tour was a highlight for all the finalists and they also enjoyed the pack-house in full swing and the relaxed luncheon where time was spent learning about T&G in more detail. After this the final part of the forum was at Countdown to learn about where their focus is for this year and how much plastic is being reduced within the business in New Zealand. We were also given insights into the distribution centre at Mt Wellington and it was fascinating to learn how many stores are serviced by this one distribution centre!

The Young Leaders Forum is a highlight for the

Young Horticulturist Finalists, their feedback forms were completed and they shared their gratitude for their time within the competition and the opportunities and connections they now have, from being involved in something so important to them personally, their communities and New Zealand as a whole.

Hayley Govorko
Event Manager for the
2019 Young Horticulturist Competition
Email: event.manager@younghort.co.nz

NZ Notable Trees Trust and NZ Arb

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2019 NZ Arb Ronald Flook Award.

Please email nominations to the New Zealand Arboricultural Association Inc (NZ Arb) at administrator@nzarb.org.nz before 30th August 2019.

The Ronald Flook Award is an accolade given to elevate and recognise high standards of practice in arboriculture, including tree raising, tree health and management, and amenity tree protection or design. The recipient will have demonstrated exceptional management of trees, whether functional or aesthetic in any stage of development.

NZ Arb have named this award after well-known, Nelson-based, Landscape Architect Ron Flook for his tireless contribution to arboriculture in New Zealand through the Notable Trees Scheme and the development of the Standard Tree Evaluation Method (STEM).

This award also recognises the high standard of his professional work and the way he used trees as significant features in his landscape designs.



For more information visit
www.nzarb.org.nz

NZ Arb Conference 2019

The New Zealand Arboricultural Association warmly invites you to attend the 2019 NZ Arb Annual Conference, in association with Asplundh.



The Annual Conference is the largest arboriculture gathering on the New Zealand calendar and this year it takes place 14–16th November at the Napier Conference Centre, in the heart of the stunning Hawke’s Bay.

The 2019 programme will boast one of the largest contingents of international speakers the conference has seen in recent years, including Jeremy Barrell (Barrell Tree Care, UK), Lynne Boddy (Cardiff School of Biosciences), Russell Horsey (Goetre Villa Ltd, Wales), Philip Van Wassenaer (Urban Forest Innovators Ltd, Canada), Phillip Kelly (Wright Tree Services, North America), Joe Harris (Intro Trees, Hobart, Australia), and Sam Hardingham (Everydayarbor, NSW, Australia).

Once again the conference will run in conjunction with the NZ Arb Husqvarna National Tree Climbing Championship and offer several supplementary workshops and networking opportunities around the main programme.

Don’t miss New Zealand’s only arboriculture industry conference this year.

Earlybird Registrations close 6th October 2019, so book now to save.

**For more information visit
www.nzarbconference.co.nz**



Notable Tree Notes

In this newsletter we regularly feature trees from the New Zealand Tree Register. The idea is to highlight a specimen or group with outstanding attributes and/or an especially interesting history.

COR/0676 – *Metrosideros excelsa* (pōhutukawa), Te Puru, Coromandel

While holidaying in the Thames area recently, an informed Te Puru local who we were visiting kindly led us down an alleyway and into a small reserve. There, tucked out of sight of the Thames Coast Road, we were shown a huge and sprawling pōhutukawa tree.



Location of COR/0676 – an expansive pōhutukawa at Te Puru. <https://register.notabletrees.org.nz/tree/view/676>

I took several photos of this impressive tree, and thanks to the Notable Tree plaque, I was able to look up its details on the New Zealand Tree Register.

According to the New Zealand Tree Register (<https://register.notabletrees.org.nz/tree/view/676>) this tree is currently estimated to be nearly 320 years old.

It has an impressive spread of more than 32 m. This was measured 15 years ago by Bryce Wilcox. He recommended that the tree would benefit from wooden framing constructed around the perimeter to prevent root disturbance, but this has not happened.



COR/0676 pōhutukawa, showing its full spread – illustrated here is all the same tree.
Image: Murray Dawson, 30 June 2019.



COR/0676 pōhutukawa, showing an extensive network of branches resting on the ground.
Image: Murray Dawson, 30 June 2019.



Leaves and buds of COR/0676.
Image: Murray Dawson, 30 June 2019.

Today, this tree is somewhat wedged in a triangular corner of the reserve, next to playground equipment and tennis courts. The adjacent playground could surely be reconfigured to give this grand old tree more breathing room for future generations to enjoy.

Murray Dawson

The New Zealand Notable Trees Trust manages a free public database containing details of many notable and significant trees in this country. The database is constantly being updated. New trees may be entered online at any time, by anyone willing to measure and record the appropriate details (see the website for simple-to-follow instructions). Please feel free to become a tree recorder – your name will be attributed to any tree records and images you submit. The trust welcomes any contributions of information or support. View online at www.notabletrees.org.nz

The Aotearoa chainsaw massacre

We congratulate Stuff author Charlie Mitchell for his thought-provoking and well researched article exposing the rapid decline and lack of legal protection of urban trees in Auckland and

other New Zealand cities. In his article we learn that:

- Parts of Auckland have lost a quarter of their tree cover since 2006.
- Some of the trees being cut down are hundreds of years old.
- Native bush, including regenerating kauri forest, will be cleared for a new wastewater plant in Titirangi.
- A law change in 2012 left most urban trees without protection.

On the subject of legal protection, this article states:

“In 2009, the then National-led government passed an amendment to the Resource Management Act removing the ability to give blanket protection to trees in urban areas.

It effectively forbade councils from passing any rule protecting a class of tree. Before then, many councils had those rules: Auckland, for example, gave automatic protection to any native trees taller than 6 m or rounder than 60 cm, and exotic trees taller than 8 m or rounder than 80 cm. It was comprehensive enough to cover most of the majestic, mature trees that people value: the pōhutukawa, the kauri, and the tōtara; the leafy gum trees, the elms, and the pines.

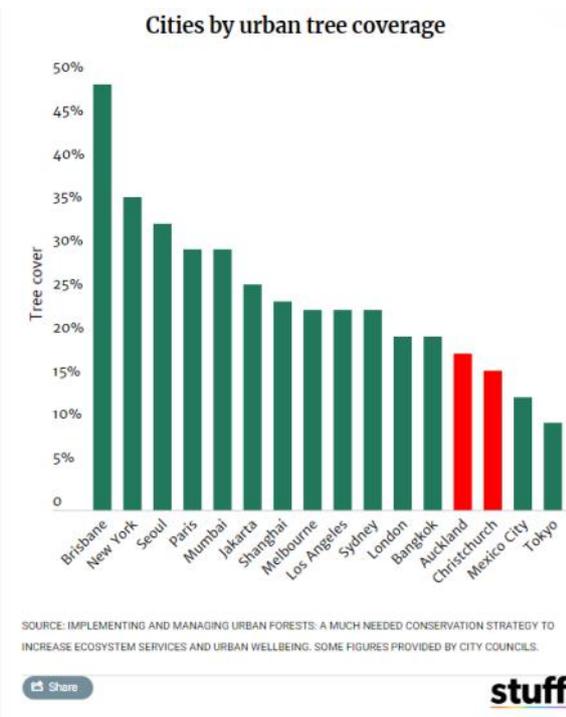
Those rules were replaced with nothing. When the law change came into effect on January 1, 2012, hundreds of thousands of urban trees across New Zealand immediately lost protection.

It didn’t happen immediately. The law was challenged in the Environment Court, allowing some councils to keep general protection rules, until the law was amended once more in 2013 to reinstating the government’s intent.”

The Stuff article highlights some of the trees lost, including what was Auckland’s tallest tree, a 53 m tall Norfolk pine growing in the Diocesan School for Girls grounds, and a 150 year old Norfolk pine cut down at Snells Beach by a developer. Another loss is what was New Zealand’s largest London plane tree, which was 175 years old when it was felled.

Using aerial image analysis to calculate tree loss, we learn that some Auckland suburbs have lost at least a quarter of their canopy cover.

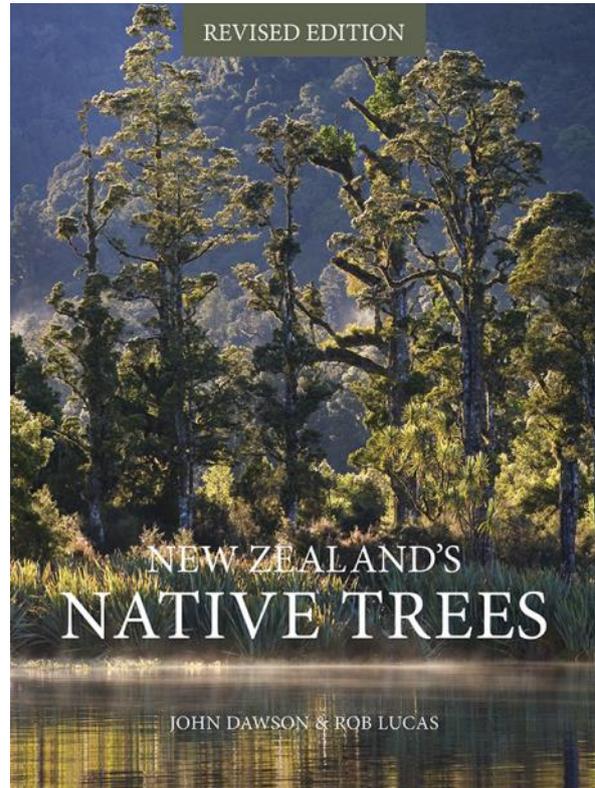
We are shown a graph highlighting how Auckland and Christchurch lags behind in urban tree cover compared to other world cities.



‘The Aotearoa chainsaw massacre’ provides important environmental messages that we should all take heed of.

It was published 2nd June 2019, and is available online at www.stuff.co.nz/environment/112898870/the-aotearoa-chainsaw-massacre.

**Advance notice:
Revised edition of New Zealand’s Native Trees, by John Dawson and Rob Lucas**



The second edition, to be published October 2019, has been updated with a significant number of botanical revisions, as many new species have been described or reclassified.

A detailed and positive review of the first edition was prepared by Peter Arthur for the *New Zealand Garden Journal*, 2011, Vol. 14, No. 2, pp. 21–23. This review is available online at www.rnzih.org.nz/RNZIH_Journal/Pages_18-32_from_2011_Vol14_No2.pdf.

This revised edition will have more than 100 new pages, and will contain 3,200 photographs.

A 20% discount (and free delivery in New Zealand) will be offered to RNZIH members.

If interested in purchasing this book, email the RNZIH Office (office@rnzih.org.nz) for an online discount code.

NEW ZEALAND'S NATIVE TREES REVISED EDITION

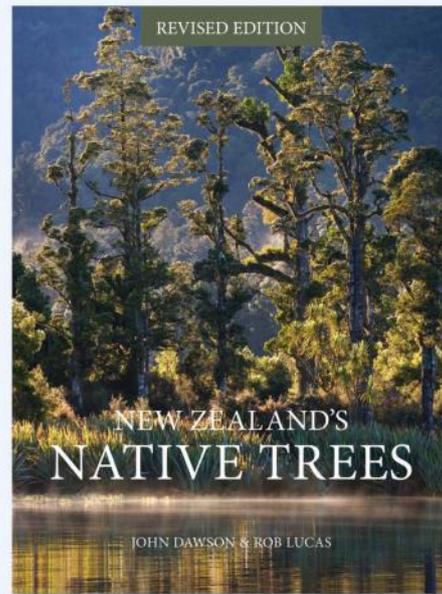
John Dawson & Rob Lucas

\$130.00

310 x 229 mm, 688 pp,
full colour throughout,
hardback with jacket

ISBN: 978 0 947503 98 7

Published: October 2019



A complete revision of the best-selling, award-winning landmark book on New Zealand's native trees.

New Zealand's Native Trees is a landmark book, the kind that is published only once in a generation. Winner of New Zealand Book of the Year in 2012, this book celebrates our unique and magnificent native forests, and describes and generously illustrates more than 320 species, subspecies and varieties. This edition has been completely brought up-to-date with a significant number of botanical revisions, as many new species have been described or reclassified in the years since the book was first published in 2011.

Invaluable as an identification guide, a reference, a resource for landscapers and gardeners, and an inspiration for a new generation of New Zealanders, this is an essential book for every home, school and library.

Author Information

DR JOHN DAWSON, 1928–2019, was Associate Professor of Botany at Victoria University. He has published a number of books, but this book is arguably his greatest legacy.

ROB LUCAS lectured at the Open Polytechnic in Lower Hutt until his retirement and has been photographing native plants for many years.



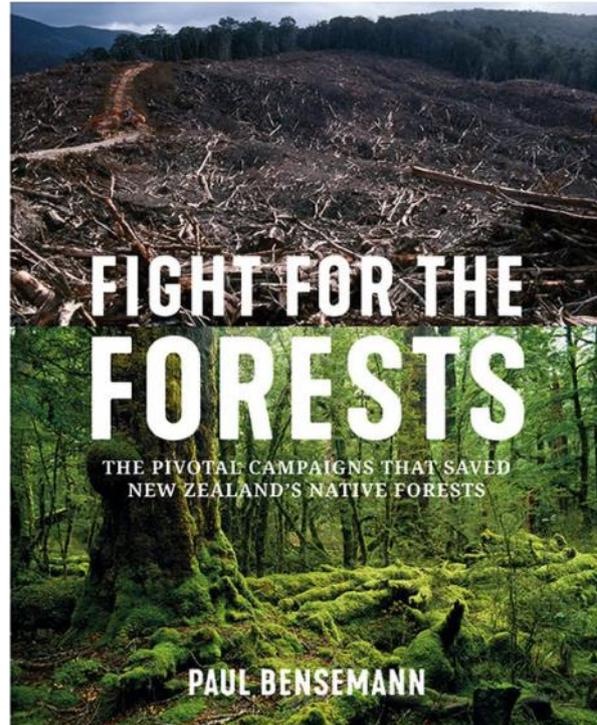
**Fight for the Forests:
The Pivotal Campaigns that Saved New Zealand's
Native Forests, by Paul Bensemann**

**Shortlist finalist 2019 Ockhams book awards in
the illustrated non-fiction category.**

The greatest success story of New Zealand's modern environmental movement were the pivotal campaigns between 1970 and 2000 that stopped the destruction of our native forest.

They began with the battle to save Lake Manapōuri from being flooded, and by 2000, all the significant lowland forest in South Westland had become part of a World Heritage Area, the beech forests of the West Coast had largely been protected, and Paparoa National Park had been established.

This book, published Nov 2018, tells the remarkable story. Usually retailing for \$69.99, Potton & Burton are offering a 20% discount to RNZIH members – email the RNZIH Office (office@rnzih.org.nz) for an online discount code.



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