

Newsletter

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21 SEP 1993

LANDCARE RESEARCH
NEW ZEALAND
P.O. BOX 69, LINCOLN



1993
No. 3
September

Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)



Marion MacKay

Member
R.N.Z.I.H.
National Executive

Marion gained a Bachelor of Horticultural Science (Honours) degree in 1981 and then took up a position of Assistant Lecturer in Amenity Horticulture at Massey University. This was a teaching post involving both degree and diploma students. In 1986 she focussed on undergraduate teaching and became Course Director for the

Diploma in Horticulture for three years. In 1989 Marion changed focus and took on a greater research role by starting a doctorate study. Marion is currently a Senior Lecturer in Landscape Management and is involved in teaching, research and industry activities. She hopes to finish her PhD later this year.

Marion has been a member of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture since 1986, and on the National Executive since May 1991. She has special interest in plant collections and their management, which stems from her research on the Eastwoodhill Arboretum. Exotic trees, shrubs and climbers are her main interest and she has gathered a range of information on this subject through her research.

Once her PhD studies are completed, Marion hopes to do further work on plant collection resources, particularly in assisting collection holders with documentation and management aspects. This year Marion is involved with a joint project between the R.N.Z.I.H. and Massey University in developing a computer database for the plant collections scheme. While this is only a first step, it is exciting to see the system developing and a set of data being tested on it.

It is clear that there is an exciting array of plant material and knowledge out there in the horticultural community. Marion hopes to assist in some way in the documentation of this important resource.

1993 Awards Congratulations

to the following recipients

International Plant Propagators' Student Award

Jennifer Perano - Canterbury

Margaret Watling Scholarship

Jayson Kelly - Dunedin

Sir Victor Davies Award

Andrew Steens - Tauranga

D.D. Baker Award

Martin Herbert - Hamilton

Murray Dawson - Lincoln

Awards will be presented at the R.N.Z.I.H. Annual General Meeting to be held at Larnach Castle, Dunedin on Saturday 16 October 1993.

Welcome to the Following New Members

Mr Paul ANDREWS
Mrs Wendy CHADWICK
Mr Noel CHRISTIAN
D.J. COLLEY
Mr M.A. DEAN
Mr. Michael Peter DUNPHY
Ms Sharyn Joy FORBES
Mr Randall Hugh MALONEY
Mrs MEIER
Mr David Reginald NEATE
THE NZ FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

WELLINGTON.
VIA TE KUITI
HAMILTON
AUCKLAND
TAURANGA
WANGANUI
AUCKLAND
PARAPARAUMU
AUCKLAND
KAIKOHE
AUCKLAND

Ms H.R. REDMOND
Ms Sally C. ROBINSON
Mrs C. ROLLS
Mr. Christopher William SPEERS
Mrs D.M. TOSLAND
Mrs V. TREANOR
Mr H.J. UDEMA
URBAN WOODLANDS TREE CO LTD
Mr. David Jason WALSH
Mr Eric WALTON

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NAPIER
NAPIER
HASTINGS
HAMILTON
TAURANGA
HAMILTON
AUCKLAND
HASTINGS
HAMILTON

The Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992

The Law affects people at work from 1 April, 1993

by Chris Ricket

The Health and Safety in Employment Act which became law on 1 April 1993 places firmly on employers, the primary responsibility to provide and maintain a safe working environment. Employers are specifically required to identify and then eliminate, isolate or minimise significant hazards to workers. Non-compliance with these responsibilities will result in painful penalties (imprisonment for up to 12 months, a fine not exceeding \$100,000.00 or both).

The new Act replaces all of the health and safety legislation existing prior to 1 April 1993. The new Act covers all places of employment (excluding residential work) and binds the Crown and private sector employers equally. There are very few exceptions covered by other legislation although some Acts associated with health and safety remain, e.g. The Smoke Free Environments Act (obligations for employers to have a written policy on smoking).

Duties of Employers

Employers have a general duty to take all *practicable steps* to ensure the safety of employees at work.

In particular, employers are required to take such steps to :

- Provide and maintain a safe working environment.
- Provide and maintain facilities for the safety and health of employees at work.
- Ensure that machinery and equipment in the place of work is designed, made, set up and maintained to be safe for employees to use.
- Ensure that employees are not exposed to hazards in the course of their work.
- Develop procedures for dealing with emergencies that may arise while employees are at work.

Every employer is now required to ensure that there are in place effective methods for :

- Systematically identifying existing hazards to employees at work.
- Systematically identifying (if possible, before, and otherwise

as they arise) new hazards to employees, regularly assessing each hazard identified and determining whether or not it is a significant hazard.

This responsibility is an absolute one and not subject to tests of reasonableness or practicableness. Once a hazard is identified as being significant then an employer must take all practicable steps to eliminate it or if that is not practicable then to isolate it from the employees. Finally, if neither elimination or isolation is practicable then the employer's duty is to minimise the hazard.

The duties only arise if the hazard is "significant", and significant hazards are ones which may cause :

- Serious harm. This includes death and many occupational illnesses and injuries which may be sustained in a place of work.
- Harm - the severity of which may depend on how often or how long a person is exposed to the hazard.
- Harm that cannot be detected until a significant time after exposure. This will include hazards which cause long latency diseases such as asbestos and various other hazardous substances.

Another important duty for employers is the information which they are required to provide to employees before they commence their employment.

They are required to inform such employees of :

- Emergency procedures.
- Hazards the employee may be exposed to while at work.
- Hazards the employee may create while at work which could harm other people.
- How to minimise the likelihood of these hazards becoming a source of harm to others.
- The location of safety equipment.

The employer is also required to inform employees of the results of any monitoring of the employee's exposure to a significant hazard and their health in relation to that hazard. This latter monitoring is permitted only with the employee's informed consent. Finally, the

employer is to ensure that employees are either sufficiently experienced to do their work safely or, if not, then supervised by an experienced person. In addition the employee must be adequately trained in the safe use of equipment in the place of work including protective clothing and equipment. An employer is also required to take all practicable steps to ensure that an employee does not harm any other person while at work.

Employee's Duties

Whilst employers have specific responsibilities as outlined above, employees are required to look after themselves and the Act gives them responsibility for their own safety and health while at work. They are also required to ensure that their actions do not harm others although this responsibility does not detract from the employer's primary duties outlined above.

Offences

It is important that employers know the consequences of non-compliance. The Act creates two types of offences. The first type is where a person takes an action *knowing* that it is reasonably likely to cause death or serious harm and the action is contrary to a provision of the Act, or does not take action *knowing* that inaction is reasonably likely to cause death or serious harm and the person concerned is required by the Act to take action. For conviction of such an offence there is provision for a fine of up to \$100,000.00 or one year's imprisonment or both.

The second type of offence is where a person either fails to comply with the provisions of the Act or regulations under the Act and the failure causes death or serious harm or simply fails to comply with the provisions of the Act or the regulations. The penalties here are a fine of either up to \$50,000.00 for offences in the former category and up to \$25,000.00 for offences in the second category.

Extracts from an article appearing in "Parent & School" June 1993.

Chris Ricket is a partner in the Wellington office of Buddle Findlay.



R.N.Z.I.H. Branch News



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Waikato Branch

To National Executive

We would like to share with you how we turned our Branch from one of ailing membership (39 members in 1991) to a very healthy one today (149 members in 1993) :

1992 Situation

Dwindling membership.
Abundance of Garden Circles, Specialist, Professional and Commercial groups in the area have all contributed to the decline.
Poor attendance at meetings.
'Friends' make up the majority of committee members (though most have been RNZIH members), and are the meeting attenders.
Meetings often dull, predictable and the informal nature of them meant that some who attended never paid subs. Attendance was often from loyalty rather than from enthusiasm.
We were perceived by other horticultural-type groups as being elitist, stuffy and academic though the reality was rather different.
The Committee was lacking cohesion, leadership, and generally was not well informed on National RNZIH matters. (A number of reasons for these factors.) The national body seemed remote and over the years there had been little contact.

On the credit side : The Committee has for many years produced a printed programme for the year. Our display table at each meeting was always well supported and a talented person or two was always available to speak about it. The financial matters have always been well looked after.

Plans/Objectives for 1993

The Committee decided it was to be a 'make or break' year - if we were to go down, at least we would have tried.

Where was our market? We decided to target the home garden enthusiast. There are plenty, it is a growing 'industry'. Garden circles etc. are often too social or low key for the real enthusiast. We wanted to offer something extra; something in between the scientific and the social gardeners.

We devised two goals to increase membership.

1. To attract potential members

Programme to be more modern and user-friendly in appearance. 2000 printed (1000 previously). We called ourselves the Waikato Horticultural Society which is what we have always called ourselves locally.

Quality speakers were to be engaged (all to be paid) with 'celebrities' early in the year, to raise interest.

Speakers to speak on a topic of fairly wide interest rather than a very specialised subject. Specialist topics could be dealt with at seminars/workshops etc.

Distribution of programmes :

(a) Sent to known Garden Circles/Specialist Groups in the Waikato area in greater numbers than previously and with a letter from the President. Emphasis was on an extension to garden circle activities. A similar letter explaining new look of programme and change of meeting format was sent to existing members.

(b) Through Garden Centres four committee members distributed over a fairly wide area.

(c) Through Public Libraries.

(d) Through Radio and Newspaper advertisements in free slots for local or community news.

A display at the National Dahlia Show in early March attracted much interest and was at a very useful time for programme distribution.

2. To sign up and keep members :

Present our group as dynamic, well organised, interesting and educational.

Most committee members have taken on specific responsibilities according to their likes/talents.

Introduction of name tags - one for members and one for visitors. Committee members are identified. Perhaps we should identify RNZIH members.

A well organised 'pay as you enter' system for subs or visitors. National members have mostly paid their subs before the first meeting at the end of February so are encouraged to pay directly to Lincoln.

Raffle better organised. Several committee members (and the occasional member) as well as

the President participate in each meeting, so it doesn't appear as though it's a 'one-man band'.

Mail order nursery catalogues from a variety of quality nurseries are on display at each meeting. Continue organisation of garden visits.

Introduce some 'hands-on' workshops.

Mention of National RNZIH activities at meetings.

Next year we plan to introduce a newsletter.

Other Strategies

Circulation of photocopies or RNZIH material to all committee members to foster a sense of being part of a national, long established group.

Concerns/Wish List

Communication between RNZIH National Executive and Waikato Branch has improved greatly recently but it seems to have worked by 'remote control' rather than liaison and communication in the past.

Has the National Executive considered a more reasonable sub, which would encourage more members?

The Journal, though production is of a reasonable quality, caters for a very narrow field. A more marketable, more frequent publication with topics of a more general interest interspersed with highly specialised topics would seem more worthwhile.

In your RNZIH 2000 discussion paper there is no objective relating to the home garden enthusiast. This is a grave concern.

Would the National Executive consider a visiting celebrity speaker?

Finally, it is Women's Suffrage year. Where are the women on the RNZIH National Executive?

Career Opportunity

Trainee Propagation Manager required for Native Shelter Tree & Ornamental Nursery. Qualified person in above areas required on a full time basis for this continually expanding to-ahead nursery.

Apply in writing to :
Janine Hathaway
Matatoa Nursery,
P.O. Box 31, Shannon.



Martin Herbert & John Wakeling at the NZAA/RNZIH/NZ Hort Cadet shared stand at the National Field days, Mystery Creek in June 1993

The N.Z. Arboriculture Association gained three new Corporate Members and five new ordinary members as a result of contact at the Field Days.

It is Subscription Time Again

R.N.Z.I.H. Membership subscription accounts for the 1994 calendar year are enclosed with this newsletter.

Subscription rates have been kept at the 1993 level.

Prompt payment of accounts greatly assists the Institute's cash flow and there is a 10% saving to members if accounts are paid before 30 November.

If you have any queries regarding your account please ring the R.N.Z.I.H. Head Office. (03) 325 2811 Extension number 8670.

Employment Sought

The following letters have been received. Can you help?

Dear Sir,

I have been advised to make contact with you regarding the possibilities of finding employment.

My brief 18 month period with Duncan & Davies coincided with the company going into receivership, very unfortunate for the Company and myself, as I was brought out from the U.K. We plan to return to N.Z. next year as we still have our house there, plus resident visas which are valid for 3 years, so there are no barriers regarding regulations.

My career has been involved with Amenity Horticulture and I was wondering if there is any likelihood of any vacancies occurring during the forthcoming months in Parks and Reserves. I would be prepared to accept a lower position and work my way up again. In 1982 I visited the Otari Native Plant Museum and was so impressed that my enthusiasm for N.Z. natives is stronger than ever and I would like

to study N.Z. Ecology at Massey as a correspondent student if I'm lucky enough to find employment and settle back in N.Z.

Yours sincerely,
Steve Benham
1 Park House, Powis Castle Gardens,
Welshpool, Powys SY21 8RF, U.K.

Mr. Benham is 43 years of age, served his apprenticeship with Wembley Parks Dept. London, he holds the City of Guilds qualification, Stage 1 and Stage II and, the R.H.S. General Examination.



Dear Sir,

I have recently written to the New Plymouth District Council expressing my interest to work in the Arboricultural Industry in New Zealand. Whilst they had no vacancies at present, they suggested that I contact your organisation in the hope that you may be able to

inform some of your members of my work search.

I am currently employed as an Arborist and I have extensive experience in the Arboricultural and Horticultural industries, as well as relevant qualifications and certificates.

I have enclosed a copy of my Curriculum Vitae and I would be most grateful if you could spare the time to pass on my details to any of your members whom you think may be in a position to consider employing me.

Many thanks for your help in this matter.

Yours faithfully,
David Eggleton
2, Wellhouse Gardens, Oakwood,
Leeds, LS8 4BR, U.K.

Mr. Benham's and Mr. Eggleton's C.Vs are available from the R.N.Z.I.H. Head Office upon request.

N.C.H. Students Win Academic Award



Open Polytechnic Dean of General Studies, Neville Weal is flanked by the 1991/2 Fletcher Challenge Trust Award Winner Patricia Anne Meyer of Lower Hutt and the 1992/3 Award winner Kinsa Hays of Opotiki.

The School of Horticulture in the General Studies Faculty at The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand in Lower Hutt is obviously a bit chuffed.

One of their first-year horticulture students won the 1991/2 Fletcher Challenge Trust Award for outstanding academic excellence. Shortly after it was learned that another of their first-year horticulture students won the 1992/3 Fletcher Challenge Trust Award for outstanding academic excellence.

Both National Certificate in Horticulture students, one a horticulture teacher in Lower Hutt and the other a floriculturist in Opotiki were presented their awards together during a small ceremony at The Open Polytechnic.

Patricia Anne Meyer of Lower Hutt, a Hutt Valley Memorial College Horticulture teacher who received her Certificate in Horticultural Theory earlier this year, and Kinsa Hays, owner of Acorn Flower Enterprises in Opotiki who is studying to complete her National Certificate in Horticulture (Floriculture) at the end of 1993, met for the first time to receive their respective Awards from Open Polytechnic Dean of General Studies Faculty, Neville Weal.

Horticulture is only one of eight schools in the General Studies Faculty.

Each award consists of the Fletcher Challenge/Open Polytechnic certificate, a formal letter of commendation from Fletcher Challenge Limited and a cheque for \$100.

Fletcher Challenge organised the trust fund several years ago in recognition of first-year top scholars. The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, the largest provider of education in the country with over 30,000 enrollments annually, selects one student from each of its three faculties.



Notable & Historic Trees



Newsflash - Notable Tree Protection

Notice of Requirement for a Heritage Order under Section 189 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

To: Kaipara District Council - Dargaville

From : Kaipara District Council - Dargaville

This means that Kaipara District Council has served an order on itself! This Heritage Order has been placed on a Moreton Bay Fig, R.N.Z.I.H. Notable Tree Reg No. 290. This tree is on Pahi Domain Recreation Reserve. The tree overhangs private property.

Abstracts from the notice are as follows :

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a requirement for a Heritage Order for the protection of the Moreton Bay Fig tree located on Section 164 Block 111 Hukatere Survey District and Lot 1 Deposited Plan 62397 at Pahi, including all the limbs and branches and the root system of that tree.

The reason why the Heritage Order is needed is : The said tree has special interest, character, amenity value and visual appeal of such significance that it warrants the complete protection of the tree by way of a Heritage Order.

The Moreton Bay Fig tree is listed as a category 1 item in the Landscape Conservation Register in the Otamatea part of the Kaipara District Transitional Plan. This means that, while the tree is not protected directly through district plan controls, Council may place conditions on a resource consent to protect the feature if a resource consent is involved in any development proposal in the vicinity.

This tree was recently registered as a "Notable Tree" with the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture. Using their tree evaluation method various factors such as the size, form, position of the tree are weighed up. Under this system the Moreton Bay Fig reached an evaluation points total of between 7,000 and 9,000. A score between 1,100 and 1,700 or greater is usually the guideline for a nationally notable tree.

S.W. Burstall's "Great Trees of New

Zealand", a widely accepted reference book on New Zealand trees, rates the Moreton Bay Fig tree as one of the ten finest exotics in New Zealand.

Restrictive conditions applying to the tree are specified as follows :

No person may trim, cut down, damage, modify or destroy any part of the Moreton Bay Fig tree including any branch or root without first obtaining the written consent of the Council.

The effect that the Heritage order will or may have on the lawful use of the place and surrounding area is : The Order will have no detrimental or other effect on the users of the Pahi Domain recreation Reserve, but will enhance the enjoyment of users of that reserve by the protection of this significant tree.

The extent to which other uses may be continued without nullifying the effect of the Heritage Order is : The Heritage Order will affect the present use of the place and surrounding area by prohibiting any interference with the root system of the tree or its branches except with the specific consent of the Council.

The consultation undertaken with parties likely to be affected by this Heritage Order is (including any arrangement made in respect of the place's upkeep): No such consultation has been undertaken because of the importance of the protection of the tree. Any consultation or discussions concerning the making of a Heritage Order could result in persons interfering with or causing damage to the tree before any protection for the tree could be put in place. The significance and importance of the tree to the locality and the environment and the historical importance of the tree justify the immediate protection of the tree until consultations can be held until the making of a Heritage Order or otherwise is considered by the relevant authority.

Another District Council in the South Island with a similar problem has been contacted and referred to the Kaipara Heritage Order. They

plan similar action for the protection of a landmark tree under threat in their District.

This is a most important development for the protection of the many trees on our Notable Tree Register. Our current register now includes close on 2,000 trees which have all been computerised ready for the publication of the R.N.Z.I.H. Notable Trees Handbook. The Notable Trees committee is at present editing the draft of this handbook. Now is the time to register or send any information you may have for inclusion to the Editor, Ron Flook, (National Convenor, R.N.Z.I.H. Notable Trees Register), 439 Rocks Road, Tahunanui, Nelson Tel./Fax (03) 548 6539

Australian Network for Plant Conservation

First National Conference

Hobart, 5 - 10 December 1993

Hosted by Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens.

The intent of this Conference is to develop the guidelines necessary for delegates to continue and/or further develop their role in the integrated conservation of Australia's flora.

Full Registration \$120 (Late registration after 30.9.93 ; \$150)
Accompanying Person \$25 (Includes Cocktails, lunches and tea/coffee.

Dickensons Travel, 111 Main Road, Moonah, Tasmania 7009
Telephone 002 28 1932 or 002 28 0301 Fax 002 28 3971



National Executive Member Receives Award

The R.N.Z.I.H. congratulates Dr. R. Ferguson upon his recent award of Fellow of the New Zealand Society of Horticultural Science

Wellington Botanical Society Jubilee Award

Wellington Botanical Society now invites applications for an award of up to \$1000 to encourage and assist appropriate people to further knowledge of the New Zealand indigenous flora and to commemorate the Jubilee of the Society.

Purpose of the Award

The Award is open to anyone working in N.Z. and will be granted for :

field work; artistic endeavour; publication; research; the propagation or cultivation of New Zealand native plants for educational purposes; or other studies which promote the better understanding of the New Zealand indigenous flora and vegetation.

The interpretation of these conditions will be flexible except that the main criterion shall be the furtherance of knowledge or promotion of the intrinsic value of the New Zealand indigenous flora and vegetation.

The award may be used to defray costs such as travel, accommodation, materials or publication.

Applications for the Award

Applications should be made in typescript to the Secretary, Wellington Botanical Society, 9 Mamari Street, Rongotai, Wellington 3, by 10 October 1993.

There is no prescribed application form but the following information should be provided :

The applicant's name, mailing address, telephone number, and any relevant position held; a summary statement of the applicant's accomplishments in the field of botany (no more than one page); the name, address, telephone number, and designation of a referee who is familiar with these accomplishments; an outline and timetable of the proposed project for which the award is sought; and a proposed budget for the project.

Selection

The Award will be made to one or more applicants selected by a subcommittee nominated by the general committee of the Wellington Botanical Society. An Award will be made, and applicants informed of the results in writing, by 10 November 1993.

Successful applicants will be required to provide, at an agreed time, a short report on what they have achieved and an account of their expenditure of Award funds.

The names of Award recipients, the value of the Award, and synopsis of the project provided by the recipients will be published in the Annual Report of the Wellington Botanical Society.

Change to R.N.Z.I.H. Constitution

A motion to change of Clause 9 (d) concerning the timing of the A.G.M. was passed unanimously at a Special General Meeting held in February.

Clause 9 (d) will now read :

"The Annual General Meeting shall be held at any time during the year that the National Executive decide appropriate"

Forthcoming Conferences

17-19 September

Clean Up the World

Further information: Clean Up the World, 123 Harris St. Pyrmont, Sydney NSW 2009, Ph (0061 2)692 0700. Fax (0061 2)692 0761.

30 September - 2 October

Papatuanuku - Creative Sustainability,

Taupo. Biennial Conference of NZ Institute of Architects. Further information: Papatuanuku, PO Box 106, Tauranga. Ph (07) 578 5199. Fax (07)578 3379.

14-16 October

Resource Management Law Association.

Rotorua. Further details: Rebecca Macky, Secretary RMLA, DX9, PO Box 4199, Auckland. Ph (09)309 0859. Fax (09)309 3312.

20-22 October

NZ Hydrological Society Symposium

Nelson. Further information: The Secretary, 1993 Hydrological Society Organising Committee, Tasman District Council, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7031. Ph (03)544 8176. Fax (03)544 7249.

11-12 November

Waste Management Institute NZ

Wanganui. Further information: Rod Davis, Wanganui District Council, PO Box 637, Wanganui. Ph (06)345 8529

10-12 November

15th NZ Geothermal Workshop

Auckland. Further information: Mr. Barry Williams, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland. Ph (09)373 7999. Fax (09)373 7419.

6-10 December

Modelling Change in Environmental and Socioeconomic Systems

Perth. Further information: Tony Jakeman, CRES, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 2601. Ph (0061 6)249 4742. Fax (0061 6) 249 0757.

8-10 December

Research for Resource Management in NZ:

Further information: Dr. P.A. Memon, Director, Environmental Policy and Management Research Centre, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin. Fax (03) 479 8349.

(From Environment Update Issue No. 33, June 1993)

Gene Control New Discovery

HortResearch scientists have scored a breakthrough in international efforts to regulate and control genes in genetically engineered plants.

Genetic engineering offers many opportunities for agriculture and horticulture, particularly as we strive for a clean and green future. Plants could be genetically manipulated to give them resistance to fungi, insects or viruses, or to create superior new varieties.

At present researchers have little control over genes once they have transferred them from one plant to another. For example, if a gene which produces a substance that gives fungal resistance is spliced into the DNA of a plant, every part of that plant will produce the substance all the time.

HortResearch scientist Dr. Paul Reynolds believes people would be more comfortable with genetic engineering if plants could be controlled so that these foreign substances were only produced when, where, and at the level necessary to combat a fungal, viral or insect attack.

Dr. Reynolds' team, with funding from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, have come up with a complex but ingenious way of doing just this. Their research is a world first.

By splicing a yeast gene, which is controlled by copper, to a plant gene, the researchers have created a control mechanism. The plant/yeast gene can be turned on and off with a simple solution of copper sulphate. Put copper on the leaves of a genetically manipulated plant, the yeast gene senses the copper and allows the plant to start producing the substance coded by its new plant gene. Wait a week, or speed the process up by washing the copper off the leaves, and the gene is turned off.

"With this system we can control when and how much the new genes are expressed", Dr. Reynolds said. "We would like to have some control over where they are expressed. This will be achieved by isolating genes which are linked to just one part of a plant, such as kiwifruit roots or apple leaves, and splicing them into our regulatory mechanism."

Although this research is currently at the laboratory level within five years Dr. Reynolds expects it will be being used in agriculture and horticulture.

From HortResearch Seasons, Winter 1993, Issue No. 5.

Research Programme Begins to Reduce Pesticide Use

Traditionally, pest control in the Wellington and Otari Botanic gardens has mainly relied on regular use of pesticides. Such programmes are expensive to maintain and need constant vigilance to minimise risks to staff, the public and the environment.

In an effort to minimise pesticide use a joint research programme has begun between Wellington and Otari Botanic Gardens and The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand. Mike Oates, Curator of the gardens says that the programme has two aims: "firstly to look at alternatives to pesticides, and secondly to use pesticides with very low toxicity".

Rob Lucas, tutor in horticulture at

the Open Polytechnic and coordinator of the programme is working on two projects: the control of two spotted mite in the Begonia House with a predator mite, and the control of porina caterpillar at Otari using an insect growth regulator Dimilin. Already Rob is very enthusiastic about the preliminary results. "After just a few weeks, pest levels have dropped dramatically. In the Begonia House plants such as frangipanis and water lilies are now producing fresh, clean pest free growth. With porina too, we have achieved a very good level of control by using a chemical of very low toxicity, applied at the right time."

This form of pest control is called Integrated Pest Management and

requires a good understanding of pests and diseases to be successful. As Rob Lucas says "You need to keep a watchful and critical eye on developments so that you can apply appropriate controls, but only when they are really needed." Mike Oates is confident that these new initiatives will enhance the gardens' environment and promote interest from the general public - who may wish to use some similar programmes in their own gardens.

Further IPM programmes are under consideration and are likely to be implemented in the near future.

Thankyou

The R.N.Z.I.H. National Executive is most appreciative of all donations, financial and otherwise that the Institute has received over the past 12 months. Without such generous contributions in a user pays society, the R.N.Z.I.H. would be severely restricted in the activities it undertakes.

Thank you to all of the following persons/organisations for support in the form of monetary donations, contributions of time, or facilities made available for examinations :

All Oral and Practical Examiners
Applefields Packing Centre, Hornby
Auckland City Council
H.D. Baigent
Elizabeth Baigent Memorial Trust
D.K. Baird
Bucket Tree Restaurant
Dr. & Mrs. R. Bielecki
Canterbury Botanical Society
Dr. R. Davison
DSIR & MAF Research Station,
Pukekohe
DSIR Research Station, Richmond
A. Fullerton
B. Joe
Kaipara District Council
Lincoln University
Lottery Grants Committee
Lower Hutt City Council
R.G. Manderson
N.Z. Fruitgrowers Federation
N.Z. Vegetable & Potato Growers
Federation
Pernell Orchard, Hastings
J.C. Russell
M.D. Seddon
P. Skellerup
Twiglands Garden Centre
Waikato Polytechnic
J.H. Ward
Watkins Ltd.
W.N. Watson
Wellington City Council
Whitcoulls Ltd.

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust

For open space in New Zealand

Protecting the Landscape

The nationwide network of QEII National Trust open space covenants significantly contributes to the protection of New Zealand's natural and historic values.

National Trust Board member and botanist, Dr. Brian Molloy of Christchurch says protecting small "bits and pieces of New Zealand's natural history" over the past 15 years has built up a tremendous range of covenants of biological, historical and cultural diversity throughout the country. The covenants are owned by the landholders who manage them, but at the same time they are also protected in perpetuity, he says.

"The covenants act as a catalyst in a region, and they become infectious. These protected areas complement the marvellous natural wild areas we have where most people don't live. The Trust has become intimately involved in tapping into that terrific national diversity, and helping people protect the landscapes. Because we are a reactive organisation the Trust responds entirely to people's wishes. That is one of the things I like about the National Trust - it doesn't grind axes or push political barrows, and it is independent and perpetual."

"The other great things about the Trust are its Act, and its open space covenants which have an extremely broad brush approach. The Trust is not a purist organisation. It's involved in all kinds of open space protection, be it native vegetation and landscapes, or with a mix native and introduced plant materials such as Eastwoodhill in Gisborne."

The Trust's work is important because it focuses solely on helping landholders protect open space on privately held land. Another feature of the Trust's work is the rapport and goodwill offered by the private landholders who are keen to protect the special areas on their properties. "Voluntary protection is a powerful conservation tool and a considerable momentum has developed over the last 15 years - there are many extremely valuable areas coming to us for protection."

"It is now widely acknowledged that many highly significant areas of conservation value which remain unprotected are on private land. The Trust continues to have a pivotal role in implementing the recommendations of the Protected Natural Areas programme", says Brian Molloy.

As well, covenanting with the Trust is very cost-effective with its protection, because the Crown does not have to buy the land to protect it. Tied in with this advantage is the immeasurable benefit of having the land managed by the owner of the property.

Board member, Maggie Bayfield, a Taranaki plant ecologist, says this is the ideal system because costs are shared between the Trust and the landholder. The contribution made by the landholders is too often undervalued, many contribute tens of thousands of dollars in fencing and management.

For example, in the past few years more than 30 individual bush remnants have been protected on the Taranaki ring plain by Trust covenants, she says. "It's a higgledy-piggledy way of getting there, and it works", she says.

Dr. Molloy says many of the covenants represent museum pieces which should be cherished, protected and learnt from. "We will never see them again if we lose them, and we have lost an awful lot as it is. Many of these remnants of wetlands, scrub, forest or grasslands are on soils and landforms which have been completely changed by European occupation. For this reason they are a valuable network of what was our natural system from one end of the country to the other."

"They cover a wide range of habitats, of vegetation types, and species. Some of them are vital repositories of rare plants and seed sources for continued dispersal."

Dr. Molloy notes that groups such as botanical societies, and other conservation organisations had an important role in both identifying and highlighting the botanical values of areas while respecting the wishes of the landholder.

"The more people we can encourage to promote these choice pieces of natural history the better. I am in no doubt about the botanical value of the covenants - they are mind boggling", he says.

The National Trust was established by Act of Parliament in 1977. Since then the Trust has protected 25,500 hectares of private land by way of over 650 open space covenants. A further 40,000 hectares will be formally protected when the covenants currently being finalised are registered. Covenants protect native forest, forest remnants, lakes, streams, wetlands, archaeological and geological features and landscapes.

The National Trust is administered by a Board of Directors containing a mix of appointed (4) and elected (2) members.

The Trust is funded from donations, bequests, sponsorship, subscriptions and a government grant.

RNZIH 1993 AGM

To be held at Larnach Castle on Saturday, 16 October 1993, at 8.30 a.m.

Agenda

1. APOLOGIES / IN MEMORIAM
2. MINUTES
3. 1992 ANNUAL REPORT
4. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (Already distributed)
5. EXAMINING BOARD REPORT
6. REPORT FROM NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
7. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES
8. BRANCH REPORTS
9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS - Patron, Vice Patron, President, Vice President, National Executive, Accountant / Auditor, Hon. Solicitor.

The Executive consists of nine members, nominated and elected at the A.G.M. for a term of three years.
National Executive members retiring at the 1993 A.G.M. are :

Mr. Michael Oates
Mr. David Shillito

Mr. John Williams has resigned from National Executive, effective August 1993.

Nominations for National Executive for a three year term, commencing with the 1993 A.G.M. received to date are :

Mr. Michael Oates
Mr. David Shillito

Retiring members are eligible for re-election. No postal election will be necessary
10. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Constitutional Changes

Name - Page 1

A clause should be added stating:

"The activities of the Institute shall be limited to New Zealand."

Membership - Page 2

Clause 3 (b) (v) Change "subject to Rule 8(d)" to "subject to Rule 8(c)"

Executive and Officers - Page 8

New Clause 5(v):

"No benefit or advantage, whether or not convertible into money or any income of any kind shall be afforded to, or received, gained, achieved or derived by any of the persons specified in paragraphs (a) to (d) of the second proviso to section 61 (27) of the Income Tax Act 1976, or any enactment in amendment thereof or in substitution therefor, where that person is able, by virtue of that capacity as such person specified therein, in any way (whether directly or indirectly) to determine, or to materially influence in any way the determination of, the nature or the amount of that benefit or advantage or that income or the circumstances in which it is or is to be so received, gained, achieved, afforded, or derived, except as specifically exempted by that section."

Subscriptions - Page 9

Clause 8(c) change to read:

"Associates of Honour elected as from 1.1.93 shall not receive the periodic publications of the Institute without payment of an annual subscription which shall be fixed at a General Meeting of members."

Background

There are currently 57 Associates of Honour. They are in effect LifeMembers of the Institute who have been asked to pay an annual donation to help pay for the publications they receive. This is an unacceptable practice especially for people who were not members of the Institute before the Award and perhaps do not want to be. The election to the position of Associate of Honour is an honour in itself. It confers all rights and privileges of membership. However, if the Associates of Honour wish to partake of publications they should pay a membership fee like other members.

Alteration to the Rules - Page 11

Rule 12 should be amended to insert the following between the words "Rule (12)" and "shall be":

".. or Executive and Officers' Rule (5) (v)".

R.N.Z.I.H./N.Z.A.A.

Annual Conference

"Plants from Here and There"

14-17 October 1993

to be held at Larnach Castle, Dunedin



There is still time to register for the Annual Conference. See Newsletter No. 2, June 1993 for Conference Programme and Registration form or contact Frank Buddingh' (03)477 6818 (home) (03)474 1202 (business.)

ROYAL N.Z. INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC.)

Chairman's Report

1993 Annual General Meeting

1992 was an active one for our Society. It began with the stimulating and thought provoking conference on botanic gardens in Wellington. This conference, specifically targetted on a specific theme, attracted people from all sectors of horticulture and conservation and showed how the Institute can act as facilitator on a range of national issues.

RNZIH 2000

This important document was finalised as a result of feedback from members and formed the basis for development of a strategic plan. The main areas of focus in the future were identified as:

1. Education and Training
2. Nomenclature
3. Plant Conservation
4. Information/publications
5. Trees
6. Garden History

1993 will see the development of strategic and marketing plans.

EDUCATION

Development of the new qualifications framework continued and the establishment of a Horticultural Industry Training Organisation under the chairmanship of Mark Dean was almost finalised. (Finally occurred in February 1993). The RNZIH provided valuable administrative services to the HITO. The culmination of this work will be the demise of the Institute's examinations and of the Examining Board. This is now likely to occur at the end of 1994.

PLANT CONSERVATION

The Plant Collections Register continued growing and the award of a Lottery Board Grant will allow the publication of a register of New Zealand Plant Collections. Thanks to National Executive member Marion Mackay and Dr Keith Hammett for carrying out this valuable work.

TREES

Computerisation of the Notable Tree records continued and the convenor Ron Flook, was invited to participate in the production of a joint New Zealand / Australian standard for the evaluation.

The NZAA continued to improve standards in the industry with their work on a New Zealand standard for tree maintenance.

PUBLICATIONS

Regular newsletters were produced and estimated to improve with the larger format of 12 pages and more interesting news and views, thanks to the editor Rodger McCarthy. The Journal continues to publish top quality articles. No new books were published during the year although cultivar checklists for *Leptospermum*, *Hebe*, and *Metrosideros* are currently being prepared.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Institute's Head Office continues to run efficiently under the leadership of Rodger McCarthy. The work involved in the establishment of the ITO placed considerable strain on our resources, and it is pleasing to see how well we coped.

Membership numbers have remained stable for the past two years and we were again able to retain subscriptions at the same level. One concern was the lack of branch activity with Southland and Nelson becoming inactive. We are looking at ways of reversing this trend.

Co-operation with NZ Society of Horticultural Science occurred with a meeting of Executive members in August. It was agreed to conduct regular meetings and co-operate on issues of mutual interest.

Mike Oates
CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

AABGA Resource Centre

What is the Resource Centre?

The AABGA Resource Centre is the information service of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (AABGA). The Centre provides a wide variety of information on public gardens and public horticulture.

Who can use the Resource Centre?

AABGA members, staff at member institutions and nonmembers can all use the Centre.

How much does it cost to use the Resource Centre?

Free use of the Centre is a benefit of AABGA membership. There are occasional small charges for special shipping.

Nonmembers must pay to use the Resource Centre. The cost is \$15 per request, payable by cheque or credit card. These fees help offset the Centre's operating costs. There is no charge for simple, easy-to-handle requests.

How does the Resource Centre work?

The Resource Centre can respond to written or phone enquiries about topics important to public gardens. The Centre includes a lending library of articles, books, garden brochures and documents as well as referral lists of individuals, gardens and associations.

The Centre is also developing data base profiles of AABGA institutional members which can answer questions on gardens' governing authorities, admission fees, facilities and more.

Materials from the lending library may be kept for up to three weeks and then must be returned. Copies can be made for educational purposes only and materials cannot be reprinted without written permission from the original publisher.

What kind of information can the Resource Centre provide?

If you are writing a grant proposal for your garden and don't know how to start, the Centre's lending library has publications on proposal writing and fund raising in general along with lists of foundations which have supported public gardens.

If you are planning education programmes for schoolchildren, the Centre has on file brochures, manuals and other materials from gardens describing their school programmes.

If you are designing a plant records system, the Centre has plant records manuals and collections policies from numerous gardens and several publications on the subject. The Centre's staff can also refer you to professionals with collections management and computer expertise. The list goes on.

How can I help?

AABGA members are the Centre's most valuable resource. If you are not a member and are serious about public horticulture, please read on to find out how to join. If you are a member, you can support the Resource Centre best by responding to our surveys, and requests when possible and sending information

which you think might be useful to your colleagues. But most important of all, keep your questions coming. If you have ideas on the further development of the Resource Centre or ways to improve its services, please let us know. Help us help you.

How can I join the AABGA?

AABGA has room for all - public garden, zoo, horticultural society, arboretum, historic house garden, campus arboretum and everyone who works in one or volunteers for one. You can join on an individual level, or the place where you work can join as an institutional member. An AABGA membership application, publications order form and a coupon redeemable for \$10 off a new membership accompany each packet of Resource Centre information sent to nonmembers. If you have questions about membership, please contact our office. AABGA 786 Church Road, Wayne, PA19087, U.S.A. Fax.215-293-0149.

Do these questions sound familiar?

What options do we have for durable, inexpensive plant labels?
How do we establish a volunteer programme at our garden?
Where can I find examples of guide maps and membership brochures from other gardens?
Which gardens have innovative education programmes and what are they doing?
Where can I find information on starting a gift shop at our garden?
The Resource Centre can help you find answers to these questions and more.

Newsletter
Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)



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1993
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