

Towards a National Horticultural Society

Since it became clear that the RNZIH was to lose its examining role we have been looking at future directions for the Institute. This started with the preparation of the RNZIH 2000 document and has continued with a strategic planning exercise which built on and expanded this document. The exercise culminated in a two-day workshop in Wellington recently finalising a five year strategic plan and this year's business plan. The meeting was attended by National Executive and David Glen, an NZAA Executive Committee member. Frank Buddingh, President of the NZAA and currently a member of the RNZIH National Executive, was also present.

Mission Statement

To encourage and improve horticulture in New Zealand by promoting the understanding, appreciation and conservation of plants.

This reflects the plant based focus of our society and is designed to appeal to people, as Annie Fullerton put it so well, "who have a passion for plants".

Membership

To be 'professional' horticulturists, whether they make a living from the industry or not. There is a growing market for quality information by serious amateurs and we need to cater for that. We need to keep at the leading edge of industry and must ensure our members have access to up-to-date, quality, information. The mass market for horticulture/gardening is well catered for and we don't aim to compete there.

Strategic Direction

This exercise identified three main areas of Institute activity :

Membership, that is what we provide for members.

Commercial, that is activities that raise money for the Institute and in particular projects we run.

Professional and Public Good, activities such as Notable Trees and Plant Collections.

In the past, our efforts have been concentrated in the last area, consequently, the needs of members have been neglected. Also, alternative ways of raising money for Institute work have been neglected. Our plan puts this right.

Major changes as follows:

Membership

- Need better information on what's going on via the newsletter.
Institute activity to be regularly featured in the newsletter.
- Increase benefits to members with such things as special plant and seed purchases, discounts

from suppliers and dual membership opportunities with organisations like RHS in Britain.

- Change publications to improve plant related articles. Plant profiles to appear in each newsletter.
- Look at different format for Conference/AGM. Consideration of regional or national symposia.

Commercial

- Running professional workshops on specific topics, such as Notable Trees.
- Producing professional publications, for instance, cultivar checklists.
- Register of approved gardens.

Professional and Public Good

To continue as now and to identify new opportunities as they arise. This to include:

- Tree evaluation and notable tree registration.
- Making submissions on issues affecting NZ horticulture
- Plant Collections Scheme
- Promoting and acknowledging excellence by presenting awards.
- Run symposia and seminars on various horticultural topics.

Time for a Name Change?

There was much debate over the weekend about the appropriateness of the Institute's name and how it didn't accurately convey what the Institute does. It was felt by some that many people do not know they are eligible to join and that the word Institute is confusing in the era of Crown Research Institutes. No decision was made, but National Executive agreed to look at it again and to consult with members.

Copies of the Strategic Plan will be sent to all branches and will be available from RNZIH Head Office from mid-April.

Mike Oates, Chairman, National Executive

Congratulations

To the following students who completed qualifications in the 1993
R.N.Z.I.H. examinations

National Certificate in Horticulture - Amenity Hort.

Mark HILLARY	AUCKLAND
John Robert JACOBS	WELLINGTON
Gregory Myles KING	NEW PLYMOUTH
Jaap LOEVENDIE	BELL BLOCK
Malcolm Robert LOWE	OHOPE
Lynette Dawn MARTIN	CAMBRIDGE
Maureen Frances McMILLAN	NELSON
Michelle Gayle MUNRO	TIMARU
Dean Graeme PENDRIGH	CHRISTCHURCH
Kathryn Anne ROW	TAURANGA
Annetta Jane SCOTT	WHANGAPARAOA
Shona SHERRIFF	WELLINGTON
Robert Harold SINCLAIR	TE AWAMUTU
Chris Alexander WALLS	WHANGAREI
Derek Alisdair WEBB	ELLERSLIE

National Diploma in Horticulture - Amenity Hort.

David John BROWN	DUNEDIN
Steven Graeme BROWN	WELLINGTON
Alexandra Prentice CARSON	NELSON
Janica Dale CHILCOTT	NEW PLYMOUTH
Christopher Peter COOK	QUEENSTOWN
Samantha Jane CUCKOW	AUCKLAND
Craig Anthony HORNBY	HAWERA
Allison Margaret JENKS	DUNEDIN
Jayson Andrew KELLY	DUNEDIN
Rafal MROWINSKI	NEW PLYMOUTH
Anthony Bruce SHADBOLT	CHRISTCHURCH
Brent David SMITH	CHRISTCHURCH
Jane Sylvia VERMEREN	HAMILTON

National Certificate in Horticulture - Fruit Prod.

Jonathan Charles BUCHLY	HAVELOCKNORTH
Nicola Jane COWAN	AUCKLAND
Neill Rohan DICKINSON	GISBORNE
Alex HUFFADINE	CROMWELL
David Graeme LYNCH	ALEXANDRA

National Diploma in Horticulture - Fruit Production

Gregory Paul TAYLOR	GISBORNE
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National Certificate in Horticulture - Nursery Prod.

Vanessa Kate CAMPBELL	AUCKLAND
Donald Grant HAYMAN	WAIMATE
Pamela Margaret ROBINSON	AUCKLAND
Sarah Valerie SCHWED	AUCKLAND
Warren Coverdale SEFTON	CHRISTCHURCH

National Diploma in Horticulture - Nursery Prod.

Jeffrey Thomas FELL	AUCKLAND
Julie Emma RYAN	MARTON
Christopher John Field SCOTT	UPPER HUTT

National Diploma in Horticulture - Floriculture

Michael John SEAWARD	CHRISTCHURCH
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Certificate in Horticulture Management

David Wrey AISLABIE	WANGANUI
Peter Ashley BRUCE	WHANGAREI
Joel Richard de BOER	WELLINGTON

Suresh Chand MOHAN	HAMILTON
Martin Derek TUTTON	NAPIER
Jason John WRIGHT	HAMILTON

Horticultural Sales Certificate

April Susan BREADING	ASHBURTON
Rosalyn Jean DOUGLAS	NELSON
Arran Owen George GIBSON	WAITARA
Anne-Marie GLEASON	CHRISTCHURCH
Jeremy Francis HUNT	WAIMATE
Nigel Scott McKERRA	WANGNANUI
Nicholas Paul PEACH	AUCKLAND

Certificate in Horticultural Theory

Brent Ross ARMITAGE	AUCKLAND
Helena Frederika BEESER	ROTORUA
Patricia Kay BENNETT	AUCKLAND
Mary BOLLAND	TIMARU
Deborah BROOKING	MANAKAU
Alan David BURRELL	WANGANUI
Neil John CLARKSON	AUCKLAND
Connal Bruce CLUNIE	AUCKLAND
Paul Edward COBELDICK	WELLINGTON
James Nicholas CROPPER	REMUERA
Carolyn Anne CULL	MT. WELLINGTON
Scott Hamish DEWAR	WANGANUI
Marlisa Ann de WINTER	AUCKLAND
Malcolm Harold DICK	MORRINSVILLE
Andrew Bernard DUNCAN	TE HORO
William John EDWARDS	AUCKLAND
Andrew Buchanan GLASGOW	AUCKLAND
Jane Elizabeth HALL	INVERCARGILL
Paul HALLETT	KAUKAPAKAPA
Warren Lyall HOLDEN	HASTINGS
Grant Robert JOLLY	AUCKLAND
Mark Peter JONES	AUCKLAND
Jeffery John KELLY	AUCKLAND
Cameron Douglas KILGOUR	AUCKLAND
Dsi Chung LAU	AUCKLAND
Lindy Elizabeth LLEWELLYN	TARADALE
Greg Andrew McIVER	WANGANUI
Keita Te Ngaro McLEOD	CAMBRIDGE
Christine Helena MILLER	DUNEDIN
William John MILLER	NELSON
Kerry Francis MOORE	TIMARU
Jean Margaret NELSON	FAIRLIE
Rachel O'CONNELL	WANGANUI
Olwyn Louise READ	AUCKLAND
Jill Noella REAY	NORTH SHORE
Karla Marisse RIPLEY	AUCKLAND
Bianca Lee ROWE	AUCKLAND
John Francis ROYLE	WAINUIOMATA
Terence Wayne SANDFORD	CANTERBURY
Phillip Nigel SELWYN	AUCKLAND
Lynne Milda SHELDON-SAYER	NELSON
Louise Nancy STAIG	NELSON
Simon Charles TAYLOR	NAPIER
Wendy Coral TUNLEY	WAIKANAE
Tracey Michelle TURNER	TIMARU
Mark Andrew VAN DER WEL	AUCKLAND
Kathryn Bernadette WAHRLICH	AUCKLAND
Mark Francis WALKLIN	MARTON
Janise Louise WOOD	WELLINGTON



Notable Trees



Since the RNZIH/NZAA Annual Conference in Dunedin there have been five tree registrations approved for Southland ;

No. 301, a spreading Elm growing in Winton and planted in a prominent position at Anzac Park as a World War 1 memorial.

No. 303, growing at Mokotua on the property of Mr. D.F. Cournane. This *Cordylina australis* Cabbage Tree has been remarked upon since the latter part of the 19th century when early settlers described the area as Cabbage Tree Hill. After Burstall's original survey - on which the Burstall and Sale book "Great Trees of New Zealand" is based, the tree measured at 15.6m high, was described as 'probably the tallest cabbage tree in New Zealand'. David Baird says that since the tree has been fenced off (from stock) several suckers have grown around the base in a circle approximately 12m in circumference

Of Registration No. 304, a *Castanea sativa* Sweet Chestnut, Tree Registration Officer David Baird writes that it is "On the site of an old Karitane Hospital established in 1927, this is the only *Castanea* I know of this far south..... a nice specimen." Owned by the Bainfold Park Trust, North Road, Invercargill.

A large *Magnolia campbellii*, visible from State Highway 6, also grows in North Road and has been registered as No. 305.

No. 306, a *Podocarpus totara* is one of two large totara trees in Kilmock Bush, part of Sandy Point Domain on the western side of the Oreti River and is easily seen from the walking track. Parks Division, Invercargill City Council states that Kilmock Bush, after being reduced to its present proportions by European settlement logging operations, is now predominantly regenerating as totara forest.

A most unusual and impressive stand of emerging adult forms of ten, 12 metre high Kahikatea trees (Registration No. 307), remnants of the original native cover, makes an outstanding contribution to the

setting of the nearby dwelling in Homewood Ave, Karori, Wellington.

Registration No. 308 records a *Eucalyptus viminalis*, Manna/White Gum, growing on a waterfront reserve at the end of Wallace Road, 13km by road from Judea, Tauranga. According to Tree Registration Officer, Richard Hart, this is an outstanding specimen with Landmark status. Indeed, apart from the height difference, this tree compares well with Registration No. 188, the Marlborough *E. viminalis* which, planted in the 1850s, measures: Girth 10200mm [10150], Height 50m [32.5], canopy 26m [36]. Dimensions of W. Tauranga tree shown in parenthesis.

A *Vitex lucens* Puriri, under Registration No. 309 grows on the road reserve of State Highway 2 at Katikati. Planted about 1930 it commemorates 'service to the district' by William John Gray 1878-1930. The Notable Tree Committee compilers of the forthcoming Handbook of Notable Trees hope that Tree Registration Officer Hart will provide a brief biography of the late W.J. Gray.

About 1940, Mr. George Tetley planted an area of some 3,000m² with *Sequoia sempervirens*, Redwood trees, near the junction of Tetley and Rea Roads. Today, at least 150 of the best of these trees stand 30 to 35 metres high, gracing part of Katikati and registered as No. 310.

Another recently registered notable tree growing in the Western Bay of Plenty District is No. 311 at Oropi School. It is growing on the site of the original Oropi Hotel and was planted about seventy years ago.

Registration (No.312A) of a *Eucalyptus globulus* planted in the 1890's by Anthony Maher at "Spring Terrace", Kaituna, was initiated by Marlborough Tree Registration Officer Alby Elwood-Smith. Anthony was a third generation member of the Maher family in New Zealand which arrived in Nelson in 1842 and, later, in 1850 came to settle on the Spring Terrace property. The

Tasmanian Blue Gum's girth at 1400mm above G.L. is 7010mm.

Described by Alby as a beautiful specimen, is a fine *Castanea sativa* planted about the turn of the century at Okaramio by the grandfather of the present owner, Mr. P.J. Hart. It still provides shade to the blacksmith's former shop on the site of the original depot for Newman's (horse-drawn) Coaches.

This article concludes with an account of some English Oaks *Quercus robur* growing in Picton and Richmond (Nelson) under Registration Numbers 313 and 315 respectively. The Nelson tree, planted in 1845 is at least 45 years older than the Picton tree which was 'possibly planted by members of the prominent Dart family. The Richmond oak was brought, probably as an acorn, to New Zealand by Hans H. Busch on the vessel 'Skiold' in 1844. Busch was a squatter on land owned by Fedor and Charles Kelling, described in the book 'Pioneers of the Aniseed Valley'. Comparative dimensions of the oaks are :

313 Picton -	Girth 3,000mm, Height 27m, Canopy 27m
315 Richmond -	Girth 5,000mm Height 27m, Canopy 35m

Wilf Watson Tree Registrar.

National Register of Notable Trees

As you know the Notable Trees Committee has been registering trees for the Notable Tree Register since 1978. Mrs. Winsome Shepherd is the founder member of the committee and still acts as the Scientific Adviser. The committee is small. It is headed by Chairman Chris Ferkins, who is supported by Wilf Watson, Tree Registrar, and Donal Duthie, Technical Officer. These members have been the mainstay over the last 16 years and have vetted over 2000 trees for the National register. The field work has been done by members of the committee as well as by Tree Registration Officers.

Continued on p.4

Our policy is to actively encourage anyone to assist with the work of registering trees. This is in an endeavour to speed up the work of locating and identifying trees which are outstanding. Many trees are being lost before they can be investigated. We feel that our need is urgent. We have a form which is used for completing details of the tree to be registered, as well as instructions on how to fill in the form. Forms are available from the RNZIH office, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University. Completed forms are sent to the RNZIH office for forwarding on to the committee, who meet in Wellington bi-monthly. The work to assess a tree is not difficult. Lay people, with beloved trees growing on their property have in many cases assisted by completing forms and have sent them on for committee approval. This is a great help as the scale of the task on a few voluntary individuals is onerous. The more trees that are registered, the stronger is our case for legislation for their protection. We ask for your help.

In the review conducted by the RNZIH of the future of our Institute, it was agreed that we would conduct seminars on tree evaluation. The theme of these seminars is 'Save a Tree - Plant a Tree'. The seminars would be run in regional centres and be closely allied with our colleagues from the NZ Arboricultural Association who are local to the region. Local authorities, RNZIH Branches and members of the NZAA will be able to combine in putting together a one-day seminar with a guest speaker. The cost will be determined locally and will include the speaker's time and expenses, a packed lunch and travel costs for delegates to be transported to a site. The programme will have a morning discussion on tree registration and tree evaluation methods and in the afternoon delegates would have the opportunity to do a practical exercise on tree evaluation. This will be followed by a demonstration by an arboriculturist on tree care. The RNZIH Executive has seen a need for this sort of publicity and furthering one of our strongest assets, namely tree expertise.

Programme details for running seminars are available from Ron Flook, National Convenor, Notable Trees Register, 539 Rocks Road, Tahunanui, Nelson Tel/Fax 0354-865439.

What about organising a seminar for your region? we would welcome it.



N.Z. Arboricultural A s s o c i a t i o n



Nominations for New Tree Award Sought

A new award to honour those who have contributed to the advancement of arboriculture in New Zealand will be called the Ronald Flook Award.

President of the New Zealand Arboricultural Association (NZAA) Frank Buddingh' said that the award is to elevate the good practice of arboriculture, including tree raising, tree health, management or amenity tree protection.

"The recipient will have demonstrated a deep empathy with trees, whether functional or aesthetic in any stage of development," said Mr. Buddingh'.

"The award is named after a well known Nelson based landscape architect Ron Flook whose high standard of aesthetics and the effect which he creates with trees in his landscape designs prove his deep empathy for trees."

Mr. Buddingh' said that the time and effort Mr. Flook has given to the Notable Trees Scheme of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture and his lobbying for national tree legislation made him worthy of having the award named after him.

"It is our wish that Mr. Flook's dedication to trees is honoured permanently," said Mr. Buddingh'.

The award was designed by Bill McIntyre, a Blenheim bone carver. The winner of the award retains the bone carving from the wooden sculpture and a new one is carved and inserted.

The NZAA is currently accepting nominations for the inaugural award, to be presented at the 1994 Tree Conference. Entries to NZAA, P.O. Box 8032, Dunedin. Closing date for 1994 only - **28 May 1994**. Applicants need not be members of the association.

RONALD FLOOK AWARD

The recipient may keep the award for a period of twelve months. The Award will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of the NZAA.

Conditions of the Award

- ① Entries for the Award in any one year will close on 28 February. (28 May for 1994 only)
- ② The number of awards given in any one year shall not exceed one. The Awards Cmtee reserves the right not to make an award in any one year, if in its opinion no nomination received is of sufficient merit.
- ③ Unsuccessful nominations will be carried over for consideration in the following year.
- ④ Applicants for the award must be New Zealand citizens or residents.
- ⑤ Applications from NZ citizens or residents temporarily living overseas will be considered.
- ⑥ The decision of the Awards Committee shall be final.
- ⑦ The Awards Committee shall be the National Executive of the NZAA or a sub-committee appointed by the National Executive to oversee the award.
- ⑧ Applicants need not be members of the NZAA

Application for the Award

Personal applications, or nominations by a person or organisation are acceptable. Applications should be as detailed as possible and include the following

- Full name, address and phone no.
- Date of birth.
- A citation detailing the career of the applicant with reasons why he or she should be considered for the award. This should include qualification, work experience, published articles, theses or projects submitted as part of a qualification and other details as appropriate.
- Any supporting documents.
- Personal applications should include the name, address and phone number of a person who can give a confidential personal reference on behalf of the applicant if required.

Applications should be sent to :

The Executive Officer, N.Z.A.A., P.O. Box 16, Lincoln University, Canterbury. Phone (03) 325 2811 Ext. 8670, Fax (03) 325 2923

Apple Researcher Receives U.S. Accolade

HortResearch scientist Stuart Tustin has received international recognition for his research into apple production and his efforts to pass that knowledge on to growers.

The Havelock North based researcher was named 1994 Distinguished Researcher by the International Dwarf Fruit Tree Association at its annual conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.

The association brings together scientists and commercial growers involved in temperate deciduous fruit tree research and production. The organisation evolved out of a desire to improve communication between researchers and users of rootstocks to control the growth and development, and therefore improve the economic performance, of orchards.



Dr. Tustin said the use of rootstocks to control growth and vigour represented one of the most important technological advances in fruit tree production of the past 50 years. It is highly developed in the apple industry, less so for stonefruit and pears.

"It's rather nice that the award recognises not just the straight scientific output but, importantly, seeing the results adopted by the commercial sector," he said.

Dr. Tustin has worked as a pipfruit physiologist for HortResearch

(formerly DSIR) since 1984. Prior to that he was involved in a family fruitgrowing business and was a research officer at Massey University.

Much of his pipfruit research has focused on the development of the now widely used Slender Pyramid tree management system. He said New Zealand research into rootstocks and tree management methods had attracted international interest for its independent thinking and obvious benefits to productivity. This research had resulted in vastly improved fruit quality and significantly larger crops of export-quality fruit in the life of the orchard.

For further information please contact:

Dr. Stuart Tustin, Havelock North Research Centre, Private Bag 1401
Havelock North Tel: 06-877 8196, Fax: 06-877 4761

New Zealand Guardian Trust Company

Templin Travelling Scholarships in Engineering & Horticulture

The New Zealand Guardian Trust Company Limited, as Trustee for the **John Richard Templin Travelling Scholarship**, is calling for applications from

- ◆ Graduates in Engineering of the University of Canterbury
- ◆ Graduates in Horticulture or Botany of Lincoln University
- ◆ Graduates who have obtained National Diploma of the Royal N.Z. Institute of Horticulture, through the Reserves Department of the Christchurch City Council.

A recipient must study in the United States of America or Canada. Scholarships are tenable for one year. Scholarships are available for Post Graduate studies, the undertaking of research or to gain approved practical experience; the emphasis being to ultimately benefit New Zealand.

Any scholarship that may be awarded, can cover not only tuition, but accommodation, travel and other associated expenses.

Application forms available from Kelvin Glenn, Assistant Trust Manager, NZ Guardian Trust Co. Ltd. PO Box 9 CHRISTCHURCH, phone: 03 3790-644

The closing date for applications is 1 May 1994.

RNZIH Loses Executive Officer

Rodger McCarthy, Executive Officer for the past 3 years, left the Institute in January to take up the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Horticulture Industry Training Organisation. The NZHITO was supported by the RNZIH during its early stages. We thank Rodger for his tremendous contribution to the Institute, especially during a time of great change. He will not be lost though, as he still shares the same office space and is on hand to offer advice if required.

At the recent National Executive meeting it was decided to advertise for a part-time Development Officer to replace Rodger. This person would have a strong focus on increasing membership and the benefits given to members. It also reflects the reduced work required now that the RNZIH exams system is winding down.

Waikato Branch

Programme 1994

Meetings are held at the Chartwell Square Room, Hamilton Gardens Complex, Cobham Drive, on the 4th Thursday of each month, 7.30 pm.

April 28 Form and Structure in the Garden. Bev McConnell, creator of 'Aylries', near Whitford, Auckland,

May 26 'Molerat's Journey'. Terry Hatch, plantsman and nursery-man from Joy Plants, Pukekohe, will talk on his recent visit to South Africa.

June 23 Plants from the Sub-antarctic Islands. Jim Douglas, Science Manager with Crop & Food Research at Ruakura. His research focus is herbs and medicinal plants. (Note: To be held at St. Peters Anglican Cathedral Hall Victoria St.

July 28 Rhododendrons in the Yunnan, China. Bill Fraser, a local gardener with a widespread interest in plants.

August 25 A Plantsman's Visit to Chile. David Brundell, a floriculturist with a keen interest in S.American plants.

September 22 Istanbul to Ankara and Return. Gary Clapperton, Curator of Eastwood Hill Arboretum.

October 27 A 'Snapshot' of a Collector's Garden. Jim Forest a plantsman from Tauranga,

November 24 Aroids and Tigridoids for the Waikato. Eric Walton, Scientist at HortResearch, Ruakura, (Also the AGM)

RNZIH Prize Winners 1993 Examinations

J.A. Campbell Memorial Prize for the candidate completing N.C.H. in Schedule I or IV with the highest average mark in subjects nos 10 to 14.

Maureen Frances McMillan - Nelson

David Tannock Memorial Prize for the candidate gaining the highest mark in subject No. 20 in Schedule I.

Alexandra Prentice Carson - Nelson

Junior Memorial Prize for the highest mark in Subject No. 14

Chris Alexander Walls - Whangarei

Rita Skellerup Memorial Prize for the candidate completing N.C.H. in Schedule II or III with the highest average mark in Subjects nos 10 to 14

Alex Huffadine - Cromwell

Peter Skellerup Prize for highest average marks in subjects nos. 1 to 9

Kinsa Ann Hays - Opotiki

N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation No. 1 Prize for the candidate with the best overall record for a first year student in Schedule II

Christopher William Speers - Hastings

N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation No. 2 Prize for the candidate with the best overall record in Subjects numbers 15 to 20 in Schedule II

Gregory Paul Taylor - Gisborne

N.Z. Vegetable & Potato Growers' Federation No. 1 Prize for the candidate with the best overall record for a first year student in Sched. III

Khanti Lallu Valla - Te Awamutu

N.Z. Vegetable & Potato Growers' Fed. No. 2 Prize for the candidate, other than a first year student, with the best overall record in Schedule III

Stuart Keith Mansill - Auckland

N.Z. Nurserymen's Association Prize for the best record in Schedule IV

Sarah Valerie Schwed - Auckland

F. Cooper Memorial Prize for the best record for a student completing the Horticultural Sales Certificate

Anne-Marie Gleason - Christchurch

Watkins Prize for the best overall record for a student completing C.H.T.

Andrew Buchanan Glasgow - Auckland

Dugald McKenzie Prize for the best of either Subject 19 or 21 in NDH I

Jane Sylvia Vermeren - Hamilton

R.N.Z.I.H. Prize for the best Subject 19 Project in Schedule 4

Christopher John Field Scott - Upper Hutt

Thankyou to our Sponsors

The RNZIH acknowledges with gratitude the generosity and support given by our prize sponsors :

**NZ Vegetable & Potato Growers' Federation
NZ Nurserymen's Association
NZ Fruitgrowers' Federation
Mr. Peter Skellerup
Watkins Garden Products Ltd.
Whitcoulls Ltd.**

Without the assistance of our sponsors the RNZIH would be unable to offer encouragement to students by way of prizes for the achievements in the examinations and we greatly appreciate the interest shown in our students by our sponsors and recognise our indebtedness to them.

Chelsea Flower Show



Magnum Promotions Ltd., 61-67 Felton Mathew Ave, St. Johns, Auckland 5, are taking bookings for the Chelsea Flower Show which takes place in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London, England from 24 to 27 May.

The first two days of the show are restricted to Royal Horticultural Society Members only, for non-members the show is open on 26 and 27 May.

Magnum Promotions offer the following package deal.

Inclusions:

- Economy class airfare x Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch - Air New Zealand.
- 7 Nights accommodation - Holiday Inn, Kensington
- Full English breakfast daily
- Chelsea Flower Show* ticket for 26 May for all day from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm
- Private transfers airport/hotel/airport by Mercedes
- Private transfers hotel/venue/hotel by Mercedes
- London Diary
- All Service Charges and Taxes
- Cost per person from \$3,400 to \$3,775.00

NB Many accommodation/transport options are available, for additional information contact Magnum Promotions office.

The Holiday Inn Kensington is located on Cromwell Road, South Kensington and is a very nice international hotel perfectly placed for shopping in Knightsbridge, museums and the various exhibition centres in Earls Court and Olympia. All rooms are air conditioned and the closest Underground Station is "Gloucester Road".

For further information please do not hesitate to contact Magnum Promotions Ltd., P.O. Box 25443, St. Heliers.
Phone (09) 521 0061
Fax (09) 521 0946



From the last National Executive Meeting

We are keen to improve the exchange of information between members of the Institute and the National Executive. After each Executive Meeting we will summarise some of the main discussions for the following newsletter. This report covers the business part of the Executive Meeting held in Wellington over the weekend of 5 and 6 March. Mike Oates describes our work on the future of the Institute in his article on page 1.

Vice-Patron At the AGM in Dunedin, Mr. Peter Skellerup was nominated as a Vice-Patron in addition to Dr. Eric Godley. We are delighted that Mr. Skellerup, noted for his support of the Institute over many years, has accepted this position.

1994 Banks Lecturer We approved the nomination by the Rotorua organisers of our next conference of Mr. Don Stafford, a local historian and writer, as the 1994 Banks Lecturer. We look forward to a most enjoyable address.

Awards We spent about an hour discussing the various awards (Associates of Honour, Fellows, the Sir Victor Davies Award, Plant Raisers' Award) which will be announced at the AGM in August. Such awards allow the Institute to recognise excellence in horticulture. Discussing the awards was one of the most satisfying parts of our meeting as we were most impressed by the outstanding qualities of the nominees who bring great distinction to the Institute. We also considered applications for grants from the D.D. Baker Memorial Award which helps fund research or study that contributes to the advancement of horticulture.

Newsletter During his time as Executive Officer, Rodger McCarthy did much to raise the standard of our quarterly newsletter. We want to maintain the high standards set by Rodger, but we want also to make some changes which we hope will make the newsletter even better. Here are three examples:

① We want more contributions from members. The newsletter is for the members, not for the Executive or the Editor to write to members. Any contributions should be sent to the Newsletter Editor, RNZIH, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University, Canterbury.

② We would like more material on plants - short articles on new, different or unusual plants. In this issue we have a short article on *Actinidia arguta*, a hairless relative of the kiwifruit.

③ We hope to develop a series of correspondents who will keep us regularly informed on work on

garden history in the various parts of the country.

Any other suggestions are welcome: write to the Editor.

Plant Collections Marion Mackay has completed her second survey on exotic wood genera as funded by the D.D. Baker Award. The report reveals just how much is in the country, e.g., 40 species and more than 120 cultivars of *Magnolia*; unfortunately, it also shows that many genera are "at risk" with many representatives in only three or fewer collections. It is hoped to publish much of Marion's report in the journal.

Finance We are going to have to live within a much reduced income now that the Institute is relinquishing most of its responsibilities in education to the new Horticultural Industry Training Organisation (NZHITO). Our income will be largely restricted to subscriptions, but we do have significant cash reserves and the budget should balance this year. The financing in the future of our "public good" activities is discussed further by Mike Oates in his article.

NZHITO The ITO is to continue sharing our office facilities at Lincoln University. Inevitably there will be some teething problems as the Institute's educational responsibilities are devolved to the ITO, but with goodwill we will be able to minimise difficulties for students during the transition phase. Dr. Ron Close is to remain as Chairman of the Examining Board of the Institute and he is helping to oversee the transition.

Recognition of Student Excellence Under the new system, students simply pass or fail "units of learning" and there is no provision for recognising excellence or for ranking students. We feel this is most unfortunate and the NZHITO has asked us to consider how our many student prizes can be awarded in future. Ron Close and David Shillito are preparing a report on the practicalities of this for our next meeting.

Waikato Tree Seminar Ron Flook and Annie Fullerton have organised a tree evaluation and registration seminar in April. This seminar is

aimed at the staff of local bodies who now take over many new responsibilities under the Resource Management Act. The seminar should be the prototype of seminars held elsewhere throughout New Zealand. The Institute (because of Ron Flook and the arborists) is one of the very few bodies that can speak authoritatively on the various issues.

Ross Ferguson



Election of RNZIH National Executive

Membership of the RNZIH National Executive is for a term of three years. Retiring Executive Members are eligible for re-election.

Retiring Executive Members for 1994 are as follows :

Mr. Ron Flook
Mrs. Annie Fullerton
Mr. Alan Jolliffe
Ms. Marion Mackay

Nomination forms are available from your local Branch or from the RNZIH Head Office, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University. Such nominations must also be signed by the person proposed, signifying the nominee's eligibility for acceptance of the nomination.

All nomination forms must be received by **17 June 1994**.

Also any remits or items of business for the AGM must be received by **17 June 1994**.



Welcome to New Members

Ms. J.R. BOWERS CHRISTCHURCH
Mr. G.J. DILLON CHRISTCHURCH
Mr. J.R. FARMER AUCKLAND
Ms. L.M. GREEN QUEENSTOWN
Mr. D. GRENNELL OTAKI
Miss K.G. GULLIVER AUCKLAND
Ms. L.J. HARRISON WELLINGTON
Mr. D. J. MILLANE KATI KATI
Miss J.M. O'DEA WELLINGTON
Ms. C.J. SCOTT WELLINGTON
Mr. A. J. SHAW AUCKLAND
Mr. R. J. SMALL AUCKLAND
Ms. S.L. WHITTAKER AUCKLAND

The First NZ Tree Symposium 1994

Incorporating the Annual General Meetings of The Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture and the NZ Arboricultural Association.

Four exciting days in the Thermal Wonderland

This Symposium will be held in Rotorua from 11 to 14 August 1994 and will be based at the THC Hotel in Froude Street.

Executives meet at the THC Hotel on Thursday the 11th. This will also be a day for the Arborists starting at 10am at the Forest Research Institute with a couple of papers in the morning and a "hands on" afternoon with climbing equipment.

The Right Honourable John Falloon, Minister of Forestry and Agriculture will open the conference on Friday morning. The official opening will be followed by papers on the FRI Nursery history, native trees and tree protection. In the afternoon choose a bus trip to look at notable trees, look at Bill Robinson's Tikitere gardens and listen to a talk given by Bill; or sit in on papers on hazardous trees and the future directions of forestry. In the late afternoon a tree will be planted in the Tasman Rotorua Tree Trust Grove at Centennial Park and dedicated to the late Bob Burstall. The Mayor of Rotorua will join the gathering.

After a social time and tea, the Annual General Meetings of the RNZIH and the NZAA will commence.

Saturday will be a busy day with papers covering plant collections, embryogenesis, bats and wood roses, forest health, etc. and/or (the choices are yours) taking guided walks through parts of the Forest Research Institute, watching (or competing in) the tree climbing jamboree, following the tree trails or just looking around the Trades and Education displays. In the afternoon hear all about Titoki Point and follow the debate on Arbor Day.

We will give you time to catch your breath and then Mr. Don Stafford, the well-known local Historian will present the Banks Lecture wherein you will relive with him the magic of yesteryear in the thermal botanic wonderland and the sibling forest entity.

Later in the evening take a gondola ride to enjoy a sumptuous banquet and the Awards presentation, to be followed by tales of a Hawkes Bay tree grower and book merchant.

Sunday will bring papers from

Omananui and Eastwoodhill, followed by tree evaluations, The Notable Trees Scheme, the botany of Rotorua, the insurance world and the future of molecular biology.

At lunchtime on Sunday take a stroll to the Redwood Grove for a breath of fresh air while registration of the Grove as a Notable Grove under the Notable Trees Scheme is completed.

Before heading off home on Monday be sure to take in the option of the post-symposium tour around other parts of the Bay of Plenty.

The whole Symposium, including the planting of a tree in the Tasman Rotorua Tree Trust Grove at Centennial Park, is dedicated to the late Stanley Walter (Bob) Burstall. AHRIH.

Don't miss out - register early.

Use the registration form enclosed with this Newsletter and **REGISTER EARLY** for this exciting event.

Profile - Dr. Ron Davison

Editor - RNZIH Journal "Horticulture in New Zealand"

Ron Davison is the editor of the Institute's Journal, *Horticulture in New Zealand*. He was educated at Auckland University (MSc) and then at Wye College, University of London (PhD). He spent the whole of his professional career with DSIR, being stationed at Mt. Albert Research Centre, Auckland. Initially he worked with pipfruit and plant hormones and was particularly interested in chemical thinning and the regulation of crop load in fruit trees. Later he became one of the first scientists to work on kiwifruit, then a novel new crop. He also became heavily involved in scientific administration, retiring as Assistant Director of the DSIR Division of Horticulture and Processing.



Ron Davison on a recent Auckland Branch trip to Coromandel

Both Ron and his wife Sue are active members of the Institute and both have been elected Fellows. Ron is currently a member of the Auckland Branch Committee.

As Editor, Ron is keen to get more material for the journal, particularly material on plants of garden merit. He suggests that intending authors contact him, phone (09)5249 535 or write to him, 7 Wapiti Avenue, Epsom, Auckland 3.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I am a horticulture student in the final year of my Higher National Diploma at the Scottish Agricultural College, Auchincruive, Ayr, Scotland and it is my intention to visit New Zealand in July 1994 for a period of six months. I am looking for any contacts you might have in the Horticultural field. I would like to work on a garden centre or nursery as a trainee manager to gain some experience of new methods in a different country.

I am 22 years old and I can send over my c.v. with the list of my qualifications and job experience I have obtained to date if required.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you soon, as I have to have a job lined up before I can apply for a work permit.

Yours faithfully,
Ian W. Scroggy, Windy Oaks,
Fulshaw Wood, By Auchincruive,
Ayr, Scotland KA6 5AA



Dear Sir,

I am writing to enquire whether you can help me to find a temporary work placement in New Zealand as a landscape gardener. I am from Germany, and have been working as a landscape gardener since spring of 1988. I have already worked in different regions throughout Germany, the French speaking part of Switzerland, and in a National Trust garden, the Kingtshayes Court, in Devon, England. I have completed a one year course which allows me to enter as a student to a university degree course.

At the moment I am working for a landscape architecture company for two months and will start to work for a big landscape gardening company this spring in Germany. I would like to finish my work here end of September and would like to find temporary employment in New Zealand preferably for six months (October 94 to March 95) before I take my university course in landscape gardening.

I would like to work in New Zealand to increase my work experience and knowledge for my profession. Above all I would like to improve my knowledge about plants of the southern hemisphere, which I saw in England for the first time, and to learn how to use and work with

them. I enjoy my work very much and believe that I am hard working and well motivated.

I would be very grateful if you could put me in touch with landscape gardening enterprises, gardens or anyone who would be able to help me.

Marcus Tegtmeyer
Martin-Luther-Str.9.
32 105 Bad Salzuffen
Germany/Alemagne

Mr. Tegtmeyer's c.v., references, etc. available from R.N.Z.I.H. office.



Dear Sir,

The British Consul suggested that you may be able to help me. I am hoping to find a one year work placement within the horticultural community to give me practical work experience for the period August 1993 to August 1994.

Currently I am taking a HND (Higher National Diploma) course in Horticulture with Askham Bryan College, York, England. This is a 3 year sandwich course providing training for horticultural management, the second year of which is devoted to work experience. Having returned from a 12 week stay in New Zealand last year, which was instrumental in my choice of career, I am keen to do my work experience there. I am particularly interested in working in plant nurseries and botanical gardens.

I have a working background of Information Science: libraries and computing, and although horticulture is a new career for me it is a long time interest and hobby.

Yours faithfully,
Jane B. Reid 23 Lower Ebor
St.Clementhorpe, YORK YO2 1AY

Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre (Wairarapa)

The centre at Masterton previously known as Wairarapa Cadet Training Farm and Wairarapa Farm of Instruction is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

The celebrations will be held over Labour weekend, October 22, 23 and 24 1994.

For registration forms and/or further information please contact :
Mrs. Bernie Harris, Hawea Hills R.D.
Ohura (07) 893 8566

NZIAS/NZSHS Convention 1994

22-25 August

The N.Z. Institute of Agricultural Science and the N.Z. Society for Horticultural Science invite you to attend their 1994 Convention.

Participating Societies :
The Agronomy Society of New Zealand (Inc.), the New Zealand Society of Plant Physiologists and the NZ Society of Soil Science.

Convention Sessions to be held at :
Massey University, Tennent Drive,
Palmerston North.

Speakers include Dean Robert Anderson, Massey University; Prof Roy Geddes, University of Auckland; Dr. Nev Withers, Hawkes Bay Polytechnic; Mr. John Read, John Read Agricultural Consultancy; Mr. Graham Robertson, Federated Farmers.

For Registration Forms and Information, please contact :
Dr. Nicky Seager, HortResearch,
Batchelar Research Centre, Private Bag 11 030, Palmerston North, Ph. 06 356 8080, Fax 06 354 6731.



Conservation and Management of N.Zs Indigenous Forests: a Selected Bibliography: 1848-1990

New Zealand's indigenous forests are a controversial topic in all aspects of the NZ community. Should they be managed, logged, selectively logged or retained intact. Collected together in this work are 2230 fully indexed references that detail the pros and cons from both sides of the indigenous forest fence. All the major sources have been checked cover to cover for references and many books are also included.

Author Marleene Boyd, is the Librarian, Information and Serials at the Mt. Albert Research Centre Library in Auckland. Marleene sees the potential for all the references to be added to the proposed NZ Science Database.

Available in Paperbound edition or on 3 ¼ Disk on WordPerfect 5.1 (IBM) at \$39.95 per copy from :
Forest Bibliography, P.O. Box 80-054, Green Bay, Auckland 1007.

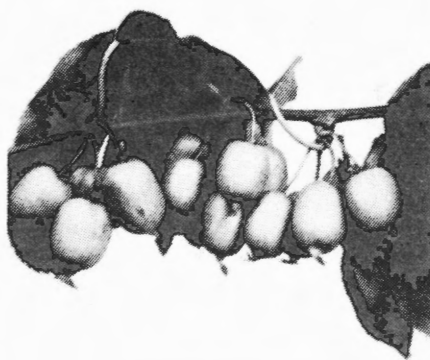
Plant Profile - *Actinidia arguta*

We all know the kiwifruit, *Actinidia deliciosa*, but it is only one of more than 60 species in the genus *Actinidia*. Several of these species have commercial potential in their own right and at least one, *A. arguta*, has been available from retail nurseries in New Zealand. The main appeal of *A. arguta* is its much greater resistance to winter cold (hence the name "hardy kiwi" or "hardy kiwifruit") and the superb flavour of its small completely hairless fruit.

A. arguta occurs naturally throughout much of China from south of the Yangtze River to the north in Manchuria and further north into Japan, Korea and Siberia. It is therefore hardier than the kiwifruit and it will grow and fruit in areas where kiwifruit vines seldom survive. In parts of the USA, for example, vines of *A. arguta* are reported to carry regular crops of fruit every year despite winter temperatures frequently falling to -30°C.

The vine is very vigorous, even more exuberant than the kiwifruit. It is a handsome plant with long thin shoots, and bright green glossy leaves which hang downwards. The leaf stalks are often bright red and this adds to its attractive appearance. The flowers are a beautiful alabaster white sometimes with a slight greenish tinge, with black anthers and a delightful scent. Despite this, the vine is not worth

growing for its flowers alone as they are comparatively shortlived and tend to be hidden under the leaves.



Actinidia Arguta

The fruit are small, about 10g in weight. They can be eaten whole like a grape as the skin is thin if chewy. The flesh is succulent and the flavour is rich and aromatic - described by various authors as

being reminiscent of figs, ripe strawberries, bananas, European gooseberries, over-ripe pears or even rhubarb. The fruit have only a limited shelf-life and this has probably been the main factor limiting commercial exploitation. There are small orchards in Europe and parts of North America and there are limited plantings in Auckland and Nelson with the fruit being sold in speciality shops or supplied to restaurants or hotels.

A. arguta, like many other *Actinidia* species, is highly variable and there is great scope for improvement by selection. Skin colour is an obvious example - the fruit of *A. arguta* or very closely related species can be green, yellowish green or pinkish to a deep plum purple. The most interesting attribute of the plant is undoubtedly the fruit flavour and for this reason the plant is being used in experimental breeding programmes.

Plant profile - *Vernonia mespilifolia*

The genus *Vernonia* (family Compositae) contains, depending on the taxonomist, up to a thousand species. Taxonomically, the genus seems a mess and there have been suggestions of dividing it - other workers, however, consider it better to leave it well alone until properly revised. Species are found throughout Africa, Asia and America. They can be annual or perennial herbaceous plants, shrubs or even trees up to 8m in height.



Vernonia mespilifolia

V. mespilifolia Lessing comes from South Africa. It is a rather lax, scrambling shrub which in my garden displays itself ideally by

climbing up the trellis work of my garage. The foliage is an attractive dark green with coarsely toothed leaves up to 10cm in length, markedly attenuate at the base. In autumn (mid March to mid April) the plant has flattish terminal panicles, 8-10cm across, of small flowers, only a few mm in diameter. Some flowers, usually only some of those in a head, are a sharp violet, a rather unusual colour for an autumn flower and a welcome change from the more common yellow or golden shades now in the garden. The flowers do not last very long and turn a somewhat scruffy white, but the overall impression is attractive with the soft open heads appearing almost fluffy against the dark leaves.

I was given my plant by Dr Max Goodey who now says he wouldn't give it garden space because of its

thuglike tendencies - it roots very easily and suckers. I, however, find it a pleasing plant, well suited as a background filler. I have not seen it offered for sale but it is easily propagated. There is a short description of the plant in O.M. Hilliard's *Compositae in Natal* (University of Natal Press, 1977).

The rest of the genus seldom gets much praise: the *Vernonia* species cultivated in North America are dismissed by the *New York Botanical Garden Encyclopedia of Horticulture* as being suitable for "wild gardens and in semiwild and naturalistic areas". The *RHS Dictionary* is similarly unenthusiastic.

Ross Ferguson, RNZIH Executive

Importation of Seed into N.Z

A Review of Current Regulations

During 1993 MAF Regulatory Authority reviewed the regulations concerning the importation of seed. A draft standard (NASS Standard 155.02.05) was released in July for comment. Unfortunately many seed importers including botanic gardens were not informed and the RNZIH only found out by chance. The deadline for submissions was subsequently changed to 30 November 1993 allowing the Institute to make a submission. At the time of writing this article (April 1994) no changes have been publicly announced and the old regulations still apply. However, if the new regulations are adopted they will significantly limit the importation of seed.

The basic changes are as follows :

- MAF Regulatory Authority have prepared an index of plants for which entry conditions have been developed. This list currently runs to more than 4000 entries and includes specific species as well as genera (the assumption being all species in that genus are included).
- The list then defines what can be done with that seed. It is basically divided into two, seeds that cannot be imported, and seeds that can.
- For those seeds that can be imported there are gradations of checks and requirements:

Basic All seed imports must comply with this. Seed must be clean, correctly labelled and have an International Phytosanitary Certificate and a Seed Analysis Certificate.

For small packs of seed however (less than 1kg) the requirement for the two certificates can be lowered, instead the seed is inspected on arrival by MAF Border Service.

Additional Conditions Some seeds need conditions on top of the Basic Conditions and could include an import permit, quantity limits, special endorsements, post entry quarantine.

- Plants **not** listed in the index must first have a risk assessment undertaken before they can be imported.
- Seed collected from the wild (applies to all plant collecting trips) are subject to the conditions of a

prior permit including detention in Post Entry Quarantine where necessary.

- All inspections/work carried out by MAF Border Service will be charged for.

RNZIH Submission Importation of Seed for Sowing

The Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture recognises the need for efficient border controls to monitor the introduction of plant material, especially where it could pose a threat to our horticultural industry and/or native ecosystems. We also recognise the need to import new plant material to sustain and develop the horticultural sector whether it be for new fruit crops, for plant breeding purposes, new garden plants and so on.

It is important to get the balance right so that a system is effective and recognised as such by people. Nothing will be achieved if people believe the system is unworkable and try to circumvent it.

The RNZIH would like to make the following points about the draft regulations :

Small Packets

The change requiring the inspection of each packet of seed and the subsequent charge will severely impact on all but large commercial companies. Whilst no fee is mentioned we assume it can be set by MAF and changed as required. Fees of \$50.00 or more per packet will stop the importation of small seed quantities. It may also encourage the illegal importation of small quantities.

Seed Collected from the Wild

Botanic Gardens world-wide are realising the importance of collecting seed from wild sources because of conservation values. This is true of New Zealand botanic gardens who participate in the world-wide Index Seminum scheme. Large numbers of gardens now produce lists of mainly wild sourced material.

This requirement will effectively cut New Zealand out from this scheme. There needs to be some recognition of the important role played by botanic gardens and if possible a blanket permit issued for the importation of wild collected plants by these institutions.

An import permit for **each** species is unrealistic especially if a plant collecting trip is being made from NZ to an overseas country, it's not possible to know exactly which seed will be collected until the collector has reached the collecting area.

General Botanical Names

Whilst we have not checked every botanical name in the document, several are incorrect and we suggest the list is carefully checked again. Some examples under ABIES :
Fitz-Roya - same as Fitzroya listed below
Taxodium should be Taxodium
Cupressuocyparis should be x Cupressocyparis
Anthrotaxis should be Athrotaxis

Reference Index

Firstly we would appreciate a point of clarification. Where a genus is listed with no species, we assume that **all** species in that genus are covered by the basic requirements? Where species are listed any additional species will need a risk assessment carried out?

We would be interested to know the basis on which this list was prepared. The RNZIH has been developing a national plant collections register over the past two years and has identified most of the major plant collections in NZ. From our work we can tell that the list is not based on those species not in the country. Why do some genera such as *Salvia* have species listed where others do not? for instance *Argyranthemum*? Surely in both these genera are species you do not know much about. We can see no reason to list species unless they are known to have some undesirable characteristic or the genus itself is a problem one, such as *Allium*.

Cites

Whilst Cites legislation is administered by the Dept. of Conservation it would be useful to mention it here to alert would-be importers to its significance. We understand *Fitzroya cupressoides* from South America comes into this category.

If members have concern over these changes I suggest they contact Dr. Balasingham, National Advisor - Phytosanitary Standards, MAF Regulatory Authority, Box 2526, Wellington.

Mike Oates, Chairman, National Exec.

DIRECTORY

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Loder Cup Award 1994

Nominations are being sought for the
Loder Cup Award 1994

The Award is open to any person, Association, Society, Firm, Company, Local Body, or body of persons (whether corporate or incorporate) nominated by persons and bodies, including the RNZIH.

The Cup is awarded to any properly nominated person or organisation who, or which, is considered by the Committee to have excelled all other nominees in furthering the aims and objects of the donor of the Cup. The object is: "... for lovers of nature in New Zealand to encourage the protection and cultivation of the incomparable flora of the Dominion".

Nominations close on 30 June 1994

For further information please contact the RNZIH Office, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University, Canterbury.



John Taylor MBE, AHRIH

RNZIH President Heads for Kew

As advised in our last newsletter R.N.Z.I.H. President, John Taylor has been appointed President of the Kew Guild. John is the first New Zealander to be honoured with this position.

In April John leaves for the U.K. and will deliver the address from the chair when Kewites meet for the annual dinner of the Kew Guild.

Newsletter
Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)



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