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Front Cover

Hebe 'Wiri Desire', a cultivar raised and photographed by Jack Hobbs.

From the Editors

Last issue (Vol. 9, No. 2) we published four articles based on the 2006 "Plants as Infrastructure" conference in Auckland. In this issue, we present the remaining three.

The 2007 RNZIH awards are recorded here, and were presented during the first evening of this year's NZ Gardens Trust conference "Southern Splendour" held in Christchurch (4 May 2007). The citations for Award in Garden History (John Adam), Plant Raisers Award (Mark Jury), Fellow (FRIH, Penny Cliffin), and Associate of Honour (AHRH, Margaret Barker, Brian Molloy and Graham Smith) were compiled by Ross Ferguson and others.

Ross Ferguson also records the recent passing of Nancy Adams. Adams was, until her retirement, assistant curator of botany at the National Museum (now Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa) in Wellington, and an accomplished phycologist, botanical artist, historian and author.

This issue contains a wealth of information on horticultural, botanical, and gardening books. We include four new book reviews – Catherine Ballard's biography of the legendary plant breeder the late Os Blumhardt; Eric Godley's *A Botanist's Notebook*, a collection of more than 70 essays; the Botanical Society of Otago's *Supplement to Eagle's Complete Trees and Shrubs of New Zealand*, and Margaret Barker's account of developing the Larnach Castle gardens.

Following these original reviews is the first part of the best book reviews of 2006 courtesy of *Weekend Gardener* magazine.

Returning to the "Southern Splendour" conference, the NZ Gardens Trust launched their book *New Zealand Gardens of Significance: Guidebook*, and Gordon Collier's speech is included here.

We finish with a note on the good people at Touchwood Books who are celebrating their 20th anniversary.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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A Botanist's Notebook
By Eric Godley, reviewed by Murray Dawson.

The Garden at Larnach Castle: A New Zealand story
By Margaret Barker, reviewed by Murray Dawson.

A selection of the best and most interesting book reviews of 2006. Part 1 of 2, courtesy of the *Weekend Gardener*.

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