



Volume 10, Number 2
December 2007

Editors

Murray Dawson
Andrew Maloy

Contributors

Leslie Haines and Chris Ferkins
Derrick Rooney
Mike Crean
Judith Gillies

Sue Scheele
Murray Dawson & Kerry Ford
Leanne Rate

Typesetting and Production

The Printery, Massey University
The New Zealand Garden Journal is published twice a year. All rights are reserved. If there is a desire to reproduce any material in any form, permission is required from the publisher.
The views expressed in the New Zealand Garden Journal are not necessarily those of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.).

Editorial Address

Murray Dawson
c/o Landcare Research
PO Box 40, Lincoln 7640, Canterbury
Ph: (03) 321 9645
Fax: (03) 325 2418
Email: dawsonm@rnzih.org.nz

ISSN 1173-7425

For Membership information please write to:
Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture,
PO Box 12, Lincoln University, Canterbury.
Email: office@rnzih.org.nz
Website: <http://www.rnzih.org.nz/>

Front Cover

Kōwhai (*Sophora tetraptera*). Image courtesy Jack Hobbs.

From the Editors

In our first article, Leslie Haines and Chris Ferkins review ecosourcing practices – using material of local provenance for restoration plantings. This article is based on work completed by Leslie in 2005 for the Auckland Branch of the RNZIH. The Auckland Branch was contracted to undertake an audit of the nurseries participating in ecosourcing Waitakere City Council's native plants.

Sue Scheele presents an article on ethnobotany – the study of plants used by traditional cultures. This article is based on her Banks Memorial Lecture at the New Zealand Gardens Trust conference "Maintaining the Magic" in Auckland on 5 May 2006. In the next two articles, Derrick Rooney, one of our long-standing contributors, describes his new discoveries amongst the foxgloves and hebes.

As gardeners and horticulturists, we all need to identify plants at some time. Help is at hand with new computer-based identification keys. These are explained by Murray Dawson and Kerry Ford who unveil two projects to produce interactive keys in New Zealand that will be freely available on the Internet.

We record the passing of Sydney "Charlie" Challenger, a pioneer in landscape architecture and Graham Harris, an eminent ethnobotanist. They will be missed by many, and both have over the years provided interesting articles for the RNZIH journal.

A new book on ethnobotany, advertised in our last issue, is reviewed here by Sue Scheele. This is followed by the memoirs of our Vice Patron, Ralph Ballinger, in a book review by Judith Gillies, and then our regular book reviews courtesy of *Weekend Gardener* magazine.

In this editorial, we must also congratulate Audrey Eagle for winning the non-fiction category of the 2007 Montana NZ Book Awards for her outstanding *Eagle's Complete Trees and Shrubs of New Zealand*. Audrey is an associate member of the RNZIH and we published the book launch speech in a previous issue (Dec 2006, Vol. 9, No. 2, p. 32).

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

Contents

- 2** **Where are we at with ecosourcing for biodiversity? Waitakere City, a case study**
Leslie Haines and Chris Ferkins review ecosourcing practices for restoration plantings in Waitakere, Auckland.
- 10** **The 2006 Banks Memorial Lecture: Cultural uses of New Zealand native plants**
Ethnobotanist Sue Scheele discusses the traditional uses of our native flora by the Māori people.
- 17** **Odd-bods among the foxgloves**
Species and hybrids of foxglove (*Digitalis*) found in Derrick Rooney's garden.
- 20** **A new Hebe?**
Derrick Rooney describes a possible new hebe from South Canterbury.
- 22** **New interactive plant identification keys**
Murray Dawson and Kerry Ford unveil two innovative projects to produce computer-based identification keys of New Zealand grasses and National Pest Plant Accord species.

- 24** **Obituaries**
Sydney "Charlie" Challenger
Graham Francis Harris
- 28** **Book reviews**
The Great Sacred Forest of Tane: A Natural Pre-history of Aotearoa New Zealand
By Alan Clarke, reviewed by Sue Scheele.
The Sea and the Soil
By Ralph Ballinger, reviewed by Judith Gillies.
A selection of the best and most interesting book reviews of 2006. Part 2 of 2, courtesy of the *Weekend Gardener*.
- 32** **Addendum and errata**