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#### Front Cover

*Banksia integrifolia*, also known as the coast Banksia, is named after Sir Joseph Banks.  
Image: Jack Hobbs, Auckland Botanic Gardens.

## From the Editors

This issue begins with an article from Micheline Newton, Visitor Services Manager of the Auckland Botanic Gardens. Mich attended the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) conference on 24 June 2008 and shares the ideas she gained for engaging garden visitors and interest groups. We also thank the Auckland Botanic Gardens for providing the stunning cover illustration (courtesy of Jack Hobbs), and for assistance towards costs of this issue.

In the next article, José Derraik provides a brief account of the ecological, horticultural, and medicinal qualities of manuka and how our attitudes towards this plant have changed.

Dr Ross Ferguson, the Vice-President of the RNZIH delivered the 2008 Banks Memorial Lecture on 9 May 2008 during the symposium 'Heritage Trees – Our Future Heritage' and the NZ Gardens Trust conference 'Blown Away by Gardens' in Wellington. In this issue, Ross presents an article based on his lecture.

The 2008 RNZIH awards were presented prior to the Banks Memorial Lecture. The award citations, prepared by Ross Ferguson and Jack Hobbs, are included here.

We record the passing of six eminent horticulturists, and the first four were Associates of Honour of the RNZIH. Joan Dingley was a stalwart of the Institute, a member of the Auckland Botanical Society, and also a generous benefactor of the Botanic Gardens in Auckland. John Hudson was one of our long-standing UK-based members. During his short time in New Zealand (1945–1948), he was elected an Associate of Honour, and had received our journal ever since. Dr Lindsay Poole was a professional forester and botanist based in Wellington and co-author of the popular *Trees and shrubs of New Zealand*. Ted Sweetman was a well-known *Fuchsia* breeder from Wellington and former president of the NZ *Fuchsia* Society. Max Goodey was a physician by trade, but also a skilled grower and avid plant collector based in Auckland. Margaret Hughes was part of the family team at Blue Mountain Nurseries in Tapanui, and an outstanding nurserywoman in her own right.

Next are several original book reviews, prepared by Ross Ferguson, Andrew Maloy, and Murray Dawson, and we conclude with a selection of reviews published by the *Weekend Gardener* magazine in 2007.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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A selection of the best and most interesting book reviews of 2007. Courtesy of the *Weekend Gardener*.