From the Editors

We thank those of you who contributed to the interesting and diverse range of articles in this issue. Don't forget that original articles are always welcome.

Interactive keys are cutting edge identification tools and in recent years several have been developed for New Zealand plants. Murray Dawson and Julia Wilson-Davey discuss a weeds key that has just been launched online. They also outline other keys that have been developed for New Zealand plants and those planned for the future.

Previous issues of the New Zealand Garden Journal have mentioned the national New Zealand flax (Phormium) collection and the Herre Orchidston collection of weeping cultivars of harakeke and wharariki. Both of these collections are based at Lincoln. However, less well known is the Phormium collection at the Dunedin Botanic Garden, for which Paul Star and his co-authors provide an important historical account.

On the 14th April 2011, Lawrie Metcalf delivered the Banks Memorial Lecture in Blenheim, during the New Zealand Gardens Trust Conference "Days of Wine and Hoses". His lecture is presented here in written form. Prior to Lawrie's lecture, the 2011 RNZIH Awards were presented and the award citations are published here. Our congratulations go to the worthy recipients.

Rod Bieleski records the passing of Margarette Joyce Amos, always known as Joy Amos. Joy was well respected by the horticultural community – she first joined the RNZIH on 26 June 1974 and was elected an Associate of Honour of the Institute in 1981.

We conclude this issue with an original book review prepared by Ross Ferguson followed by a selection of reviews published by Weekend Gardener magazine.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

Contents

2 New weed identification key online
Murray Dawson and Julia Wilson-Davey describe a new interactive identification key to New Zealand weeds and outline other recently completed and forthcoming keys.

5 Origins and history of the Dunedin Botanic Garden Phormium collection
Paul Star, Bronwyn Lowe, Debra Carr, Rua McCallum and Tom Myers provide a history of a flax (harakeke and wharariki) collection growing at the Dunedin Botanic Garden.

12 The 2011 Banks Memorial Lecture: A history of the cultivars of New Zealand’s indigenous plants and the influence of EHMA
Lawrie Metcalf discusses the cultivation of some of our native plants and provides a positive perspective on barriers to the importation of exotic plants.

18 2011 RNZIH Awards
Bee Dawson: Award in Garden History
Graeme Platt: Plant Raisers’ Award
Julian Matthews: AHRIIH
John Wills: AHRIIH

27 Obituary
Joy Amos

28 Book reviews
Alpines from Mountain to Garden
By Richard Wilford, reviewed by Ross Ferguson.
A selection of book reviews courtesy of the Weekend Gardener magazine.

32 Errata