From the Editors

Recent articles in the New Zealand Garden Journal have documented cultivar origins of New Zealand plants. This work is essential for the correct naming of cultivars, their conservation, history, research and breeding. This issue of our journal has two follow-up articles to complete the work on Metrosideros; one resolves origins of Australian grown pōhutukawa and the other provides further information on the enigmatic Metrosideros ‘Spring Fire’.

Renowned plantsman Graeme Platt received the 2011 Plant Raisers’ Award. At the award ceremony, he shared some insights gained over a lifetime of working with and understanding plants. We thank Graeme for the interesting article based on his talk.

Alan Jellyman recently published a book on a history of Duncan and Davies Nursery. Here he draws upon this research to discuss nursery cofounder, Sir Victor Davies, and his association with the New Zealand Institute of Horticulture – which later gained Royal Charter to become the RNZIH.

We record the passing of two long standing members of the RNZIH, both Associates of Honour (AHRIH). Arthur Healy joined the RNZIH in 1954 and was made an Associate in 1977. Winsome Shepherd joined in 1957 and became an Associate in 1983.

It’s great to see the release of so many outstanding new plant books. We feature seven reviews: two on Alan Jellyman’s The growing world of Duncan and Davies, two on the magnificent New Zealand’s Native Trees, and reviews of Trees of New Zealand, Plants of Pukeiti Forest, and In the footsteps of Augustine Henry. We conclude this issue with a selection of further book reviews published by Weekend Gardener magazine.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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Trees of New Zealand: Stories of beauty and character
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Plants of Pukeiti Forest
By Marion MacKay, reviewed by Murray Dawson.

In the footsteps of Augustine Henry and his Chinese plant collectors
By Seamus O’Brien, reviewed by Ross Ferguson.

A selection of book reviews courtesy of the Weekend Gardener magazine.