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Front Cover

Rosa 'Serendipity', a high performing Floribunda rose growing at Auckland Botanic Gardens. Image: Jack Hobbs.

From the Editors

Agapanthus is one of the most well-known plants in New Zealand and seems to be appreciated and despised in equal measure. It is valued as a garden plant but loathed when trying to control it. In our first article, Murray Dawson and Kerry Ford take an in-depth look at the low-growing 'eco-friendly' cultivars and issues of weediness of the taller wild types.

Next are two articles derived from talks at the RNZIH New Zealand Gardens Trust Conference in Hamilton. Jack Hobbs discusses outstanding plant selections and New Zealand plant raisers. Dr Marion MacKay delivered the 2012 Bank's Memorial Lecture and spoke on two subjects: survey work that led to her recent book *Plants of Pukeiti Forest* (reviewed last issue of the *New Zealand Garden Journal*) and research on *Vireya Rhododendron*. Her team received RNZIH Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship funds for the *Rhododendron* work and here they outline their results.

Last issue, we profiled Alan Jellyman's book on a history of Duncan and Davies (D&D) Nursery. Alan received the 2012 Award in Garden History for this work, and we are delighted to publish his citation. It seems fitting that the longest-serving staff member of D&D, Jim Rumbal, received the Plant Raisers' Award this year and his citation is also published. Congratulations also to NZGT Chairman Kerei Thompson, who became a Fellow (FRIH) and associate journal editor Andrew Maloy, who became an Associate of Honour (AHRH) of the RNZIH.

We finish this issue by recording the passing of Ken Kiddle of Havelock North and George Malcolm of Christchurch. Both were Associates of Honour (AHRH) of the Institute.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

Contents

- 2** **Agapanthus in New Zealand**
Murray Dawson and Kerry Ford discuss the low-growing cultivars of *Agapanthus* and issues surrounding weediness of the taller-growing wild-types.
- Two articles from the NZ Gardens Trust 'Waikato Bouquet' conference, 27–29 April 2012**
- 19** **Plants – when only the best will do**
Jack Hobbs picks a few of his favourite plants and profiles several of New Zealand's leading ornamental plant raisers.
- 23** **Vireya *Rhododendron* in plant collections in New Zealand: potential for international conservation**
Marion MacKay and her team outline results of a research project funded by the Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship.

- 30** **2012 RNZIH Awards**
Alan Jellyman: Award in Garden History
Jim Rumbal: Plant Raisers' Award
Kerei Thompson: FRIH
Andrew Maloy: AHRH
- 34** **Obituaries**
Kenneth Walter Kiddle
George Brington Malcolm