From the Editors

Gordon Collier leads escorted tours on the Chatham Islands to observe the native forget-me-not growing wild and in cultivation in their home environment. Here he discusses this remarkable plant.

Waikumete Cemetery in Glen Eden, Auckland, is New Zealand’s largest cemetery. Philip Smith explores the plants, ranging from South African wildflowers to rare natives, growing within this 106 ha area.

Next, Dr Ewen Cameron documents the spectacular flowering of the giant titan arum, Amorphophallus titanium, for the first time in New Zealand. Some 10,000 visitors attended this special event.

Regular contributor Derrick Rooney turns his sights on the ornamental tree Amelanchier lamarckii, and discusses its correct name, origin and occurrence overseas and in New Zealand. Inspired by a visit to a historic homestead garden site in mid-Canterbury, Derrick then discusses heirloom daffodils.

Lawrie Metcalf continues our series profiling eminent New Zealand horticulturists, by sharing his recollections of Walter Brockie, plant collector, native plant breeder and former Acting Director of Christchurch Botanic Gardens and Curator of Otari Native Plant Museum.

Chris Barnaby of the Plant Variety Rights Office then provides his insights on the naming of cultivars for commerce.

Congratulations to the RNZIH Education Trust for organising the 2014 Young Horticulturist of the Year (YHOTY) competition, now in its landmark 10th year. Congratulations also to the participants, including overall winner Patrick Malley, and Caitlin Thorburn for her winning speech. Included in this RNZIH Education Trust special feature is a travel report from Braden Crosby, who used his travel prize from winning the 2012 YHOTY competition to observe wine growing and winemaking practices in Italy and France.

We conclude this issue with further book reviews from Weekend Gardener magazine.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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Chatham Island forget-me-nots

Gordon Collier discusses the iconic Chatham Island forget-me-not, Myosotidium hortensia, based on his visits to the island group.

Wildflowers of Waikumete

Philip Smith explores the unique range of plants at Waikumete Cemetery in Auckland.

Titan arum flowers in New Zealand for the first time

Dr Ewen Cameron documents the flowering of the giant titan arum, Amorphophallus titanium, in the Auckland Domain Winter Gardens.

Amelanchier lamarckii in New Zealand

Derrick Rooney investigates this remarkable small tree, grown as an ornamental in this country.

Daffodils from the past

Derrick Rooney visits heirloom daffodils in an historic mid-Canterbury garden site.

Profile of a horticulturist: Walter Boa Brockie, some overlooked memories

Lawrie Metcalf profiles some botanical and horticultural achievements of Walter Brockie, former Acting Director of Christchurch Botanic Gardens and Curator of Otari Native Plant Museum.

Naming and trading for cultivars

Chris Barnaby explains the complexities of commercial naming of cultivars.

News from the RNZIH Education Trust

2014 Young Horticulturist of the Year

This release congratulates Patrick Malley and other winners of the YHOTY competition.

2014 YHOTY finalists biographies

The biographies of sector finalists Patrick Malley, Sarah Fenwick, Jacqui Jones, Nicolas Muir, Paul Robinson and Caitlin Thorburn.

2014 YHOTY winning speech

Caitlin Thorburn’s winning speech, delivered at the 2014 YHOTY final, is reproduced here.

YHOTY travel report: Viticulture in Europe

2012 winner Braden Crosby recounts his experiences in Europe through his Young Horticulturist of the Year travel grant.

Book reviews

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

Errata and addenda