Horticulture

in New Zealand

Bulletin of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)



HORTICULTURE

IN NEW ZEALAND

BULLETIN OF THE ROYAL NZ INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

NUMBER 20, WINTER 1981

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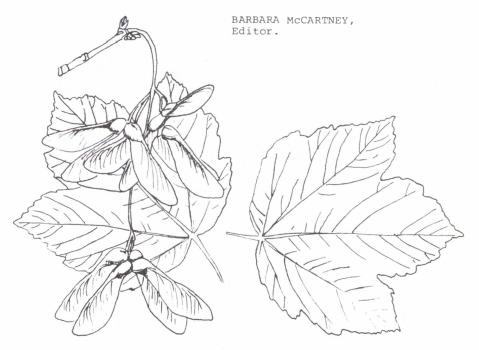
.ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC) Patron : His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir David Beatty Vice-Patron : The Hon. Duncan MacIntyre, Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries President : Dr J.D. Atkinson, OBE, D.Sc., M.Sc., AHRIH Chairman of Executive : Mr J.O. Taylor, MBE, NDH, AHRIH, FIPRA Chairman of Examining Board : Dr R.C. Close, M.Sc., Ph.D. National Secretary : Mr R.A. Foubister, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln College Annual Journal Editor : Dr M.B. Thomas Bulletin Editor : Mrs B.V. McCartney The Editors welcome articles, letters and news items for consideration for publication. Contributions should be address to the Journal Editor, or the Bulletin Editor, RNZIH, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln College, Canterbury. Views expressed are not necessarily those of RNZIH. Registered at Post Office Headquarters, Wellington, as a magazine.



~ Editorial ~

The Annual General Meeting and Conference is always a happy get-together of RNZIH members from throughout the country. Current travel costs no doubt prevent many from attending, but this year's meeting in Christchurch was once again enjoyed by all present. The Saturday afternoon visits to Meadow Mushrooms Ltd., Jerard's Chrysanthemums and the Zealandia Nursery Co. Ltd. revealed something of the wide scope of activities within the range of 'Horticulture' - one member told me she never wanted to see another mushroom, but I am sure others found their mouths watering at the sight. After admiring Mr Jerard's chrysanthemums and the scope of his establishment, the last visit, to Zealandia Nursery, was especially appreciated with its very welcome afternoon tea.

Back in the office, we are currently teeing up examiners for our November examinations. As everything has to be done by mail, or if no reply, by toll call, we are one of the Post Office's best customers. Students will receive their examination entry forms in June. They should of course, already be well into their study by now!



Items of Interest from the A.G.M. ~

Our Chairman, Mr J.O. Taylor, extended a warm welcome to all members present. Particular mention was made to the pleasing number of delegates and members from District Councils outside Canterbury, and a special welcome was extended to the President, Dr J.D. Atkinson, of Auckland.

His Worship the Mayor of Christchurch, Mr Hamish Hay, gave an address of welcome, speaking of Christchurch as the Garden City and the dependence on horticulture for the beautification of its parks, gardens and city streets. He referred to the increasing costs of maintaining civic parks and gardens and the effect reduced allocations could have. The co-operation of the City Council would continue to be available for oral and practical examination facilities for RNZIH students, and Mr Hay commended the Institute for its work in horticultural education, saying that a future role for the Institute could be to further the popular theme of diversifying exports into horticultural products.

Mr Taylor referred to his Chairman's Report (see Bulletin #19) and expressed particular thanks to Mrs R.W. Shepherd of Wellington, for her untiring work as Chairman of the Regional Horticulture Sub-committee and her contribution to the Notable and Historic Trees, and Plant Evaluation Schemes. He issued a call to District Councils to take an active part in these schemes. Reference was made to the proposed formation of the Horticultural Science Society and to the part that RNZIH could play in it.

Adjustment to the Accounts : the Secretary advised of an adjustment to the Accounts as published in Bulletin #19, following audit being completed. This resulted in an increase in the surplus for the year of \$916.97 to \$6,724.08.

Dr R.C. Close, Chairman of the Examining Board, presented his Annual Report, which appears in precis after this article, together with the Regional Horticulture sub-committees' Reports, and District Council Reports.

Remit No. 1 - 'that consideration be given to providing a one fee family subscription rate' was amended to include 'by National Executive' after 'consideration', and carried.

Remit No. 2 - 'that National Executive consider compiling a yearly calendar of events to be published each year in the Winter Bulletin (to include dates of National Executive and Examining Board meetings, closing dates for registration and entry for RNZIH examinations, and other closing dates)' was discussed and approved in principle for consideration by National Executive.

Remit No. 3 - ' that National Executive investigate the reintroduction of a paid Life Membership' was discussed at length. Since the remit sought only investigation

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE A.G.M. ...

of the proposal and not immediate introduction, it was carried.

Remit No. 4 - 'that annual capitation to District Councils be increased from \$1.50 to \$2 per financial member' was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers : the ballot to elect four members to National Executive to replace those who retired by rotation resulted in the re-election of Mrs R.W.Shepherd, Mr R.J.Ballinger, Mr G.G.Henderson, and Professor J.A.Veale for a further term of three years.

The proposal that the next highest polling candidate be invited to join the National Executive in the event of a vacancy occurring during the current year was carried.

Office bearers for 1981/1982 were elected as follows :

Patron - His Excellency the Governor General Vice-Patron - The Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries President - Dr J.D. Atkinson Vice-President - Mr T.H. Warburton

National Executive - Mr J.O. Taylor - Chairman Mrs M. DeCastro Mrs R.W. Shepherd Mr R.J. Ballinger Mr I.D. Galloway Mr G.G. Henderson Mr G.D. Mander Mr A.L. Mason Mr R.J. Nanson Prof. R.N. Rowe Mr M.L. Steven Prof. J.A. Veale

Auditors - McCulloch Menzies & Co., Christchurch.

Editors - Dr M.B. Thomas (Annual Journal) Mrs B.V.McCartney (Bulletin)

Presentation of Awards : Mrs M.J. Amos (Auckland) and Mr G.B. Malcolm (Christchurch) were awarded the Associate of Honour distinction, and citations were read to the Meeting. Mr Malcolm was presented with his AHRIH certificate by Dr Atkinson, who would also present Mrs Amos' certificate at a suitable Auckland District Council function.

The Award of Fellow of the RNZIH (FRIH) was made to two Canterbury members, Mr W. Fielding-Cotterell, and Mr R.A. Edwards. Dr Atkinson presented the Certificates.

<u>Venue for 1982 A.G.M.</u>: Mr S. Foster was asked to convey an invitation to the combined Taranaki District Councils to host the 1982 A.G.M.

Student representation on National Executive : it was agreed that National Executive consider the possibility of co-opting a student member.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE A.G.M. ...

Horticultural Education in Schools : the RNZIH is involved with the current proposal to increase the level of horticultural education in schools, and there were clear indications that such additions to the curriculum would be made in the near future.

Honorary Life Membership : Mrs A.J. Endt, of Auckland, was elected an honorary life member of the Institute.

Acknowledgement : a tribute to the Chairman, Mr J.O. Taylor, for his work for the advance of the Institute and for his chairmanship of the meeting, was carried by acclamation.

FROM THE EXAMINING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED MAY 1981 :

Dr R.C. Close, Chairman of the Examining Board, presented the Board's Report to the A.G.M. In expressing his appreciation to Board members, and all others who contributed to the administration of examinations and student registrations, he referred to the growing importance of this aspect of the Institute's activities.

In many respects, 1980 was a year of change from previously accepted conditions, to a more up-dated approach to all aspects of the Board's responsibilities and functions. These changes involved not only comprehensive reviews of the various course syllabi and compilation of lists of qualified examiners, but also a close look at policy measures designed to cope more adequately with the financial aspects of conducting the work of the Board.

1980 Examinations

Examination entries continue to increase annually, reflecting the 100% increase in student registrations since 1977. A total of 343 candidates entered for the 1980 examinations, involving 1080 subject entries. This number of entries is expected to increase in future years commensurate with the average of 200 new registrations per year over recent years.

The administrative work involved in arranging examiners, examination centres and supervisors, together with preparation, moderation and dispatch of examination papers, followed by collation of results, is becoming a major exercise. The establishment of a panel of examiners, and the recent production of a "Guide for Examiners" which will help to standardise question papers, will generally streamline this aspect of the examinations.

Student Registrations

Total student registrations as at 31.5.80 numbered 738. New registrations approved between 1.6.80 and the date of this Report totalled 219, to which will be added an expected 75 Horticultural Cadets taking the Certificate in Horticultural Practice, plus approximately 30 new¹ NDH registrations anticipated by 31.5.81. It is expected that after de-registration of over 100 students who have not taken examinations for the past 3 years, total student numbers will exceed 900 in 1981.

Financial Requirements

The Examining Board is concerned that in the financial year ended 31.12.80 some \$1100 of general members' funds was required to subsidise the cost of examinations in 1980. To avoid this situation in future, and to meet the pressing need to bring examiners' fees up to present day standards, as well as guard against rising costs of administration, the Board has prepared a financial budget for presentation to Government in support of a claim for increased Government Grant.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Board, Dr Close acknowledged thanks to all who assisted with the 1980 examinations. This acknowledgement covered moderators, examiners and supervisors in both written and oral examinations, Local Authorities in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch, and the Horticultural Research Centre in Levin for making facilities available for Oral and Practical examinations, university authorities, headmasters of schools, and private organisations,*for providing examination centres, and the many voluntary workers who assisted in one way or another in conducting the examinations.

Congratulations were extended to Diploma and Certificate graduates, and to the winners of the various prizes awarded for outstanding academic achievement.

1980/81 ANNUAL REPORT REGIONAL HOPTICULTURE COMMITTEE

There has been a full attendance at the quarterly meetings of Regional Horticulture, members being : Messrs R. Nanson, A.Mason, G.Mander, M.Steven, and Mrs Shepherd. Professor Rowe attended when available. The practice of convening with committees of Notable and Historic Trees and Plant Evaluation was continued.

Plant Evaluation Scheme(P.E.S.)

This scheme was first announced at the A.G.M. last year. Since then efforts have been made to publicise the scheme with information being given to the Bulletin and letters sent to appropriate associations and journals. Mr Gill has approached Parks Directors and Curators of Botanic Gardens. Support for the scheme is asked from all District Councils, specialised societies and plantsmen, as it is the only scheme which evaluates a plant under a range of growing conditions. Besides material already submitted, a recent enquiry for evaluating a new unnamed *Callistemon* has been received from the Hamilton City Council.

During the year the Plant Varieties Office (P.V.O.) has sought advice from Mr Gill but as yet requests are for information rather than for using our trial grounds and procedures. Liaison with the P.V.O. is being maintained and it is emphasised that where a Plant Variety Right is being sought this is an evaluation of a plant more for its potential as new breeding material and the sale thereof, rather than as a test of its garden suitability in all localities.

REGIONAL HORTICULTURE REPORT CONT ...

Notable & Historic Trees

A detailed report from this Committee is tabled separately. A sincere vote of thanks is extended to this hard-working Committee, and in particular to the Secretary, Mr D. Rowe, In the Wellington area the Tree Registration Officer, Mr R. Mole, has been outstanding with trees being registered from as far north as Otaki. Waikato and Blenheim are beginning to process trees in their areas but there has been no support from Taranaki, Auckland, Bay of Plenty, and little from Otago and Canterbury. In other areas Tree Registration Officers have just been appointed. One is a recent graduate from Lincoln and his keenness and awareness of the value of the scheme is encouraging from this younger section of our membership.

The Committee is concerned that letters to a Tree Registration Officer and District Council are as yet unanswered after several months. This is very discouraging for the Secretary. District Councils are again urged to process trees for registration. The greater the number of trees on the National Register the sooner we can, with the Historic Places Trust, press for greater protection of these trees. A recent article in a Wellington newspaper brought enquiries about seven trees and it seems that outside support for the scheme grows faster than our own District Councils'.

Floral Art Handbook

The revised edition of the Floral Art Handbook is now available. District Councils are asked to promote the book and ensure that all those involved in Show Work in their areas use this edition and not previous ones.

Environment

As a member of E.C.O., the RNZIH monitors much of the published matter issued by them. Possible mining in the Coromandel is an issue on which members may have personal views. Because some areas of virgin bush with historic trees could be endangered, Regional Horticulture brought the matter before the National Executive. It was agreed that members be informed but at this stage the RNZIH should not join the protesters.

Services to Members

The Committee is aware that some District Councils have a low attendance of members at meetings whilst in other areas members are not served at all by a District Council. There is also a large increase in student membership. It was suggested that the Bulletin could be upgraded to carry articles of interest to both categories of membership and this was brought to the attention of the National Executive. They have referred this to the Publications Committee for consideration.

Finally I wish to thank members of Regional Horticulture for their help and support through the year, the P.E.S. and Notable and Historic Trees sub-committees, and Ashley Foubister and John Taylor for help and advice.

> R.W. SHEPHERD, Chairman, Regional Horticulture.

MAY 1981

MAY	190					
1.	Committee Membership					
	(1)	The Chairman, Mr G.Nind, resigned late last year. A replacement is yet to be announced.				
	(2)	Mrs D. Menzies recently resigned.				
	(3)	Mr Ross Jackson, Senicr Landscape Architect for the MOWD, Wellington District Office, has replaced Mrs Menzies.				
	(4)	The Committee currently comprises :				
		Mrs R.W. Shepherd - Acting Chairperson Mr M. Reece Mr R. Flook Mr R. Jackson Mr D. Rowe - Hon Secretary/Treasurer Mr C. Howden - Dist. Committee Member Mr G. Nind - Dist. Committee Member				
2.	Tree Registration					
	(1)	28 trees/groups of trees are now registered under the scheme.				
	(2)	21 trees were registered at the same time last year.				
	(3)	The Tree Register is available for perusal.				
3.	Tree Registration Officers					
5.	The	re are Tree Registration Officers operating in the following as :				
	Nord Cant Wail Otag Auch Well Mar Man Wain Nels Whan Hast Napi Kapi	kland - Mr A. Tagg lington - Mr R. Mole lborough - Mr B. Soper (assisted by Mr R.Bollinger) awatu - (UNOFFICIAL - Mr J. Reeves, Mr A.Mason) roa - Mr B. Teague son - Mr D. Bell ngarei - Mrs E.K. Reynolds tings - Mr N. Christoffels ier - S.J. Wheeler iti - Mr M. Cardiff				
		following District Council are <u>not</u> represented by Tree istration Officers :				

Bay of Plenty, Manawatu, Southland, South Taranaki.

4. Funds : 1981 Financial Budget

Expenditure :		
Essential payments committed 1981	975.	00
Letterhead stationery	118.	00
"Listener" advertising programme	400.	00

NOTABLE & HISTORIC TREES COMMITTEE REPORT - CONT ...

RNZIH/Historic Places Trust Brochure Provision for Tree Registration Officers		400.	00
travel expenses		250.	00
Total funds required	Ş	2143.	00
Source of Funds : In hand - current a/c Investment a/c National Executive Grant		551. 400. 1200.	00
	Ş	2151.	91

The application to the Environmental Council for funds last year was declined.

- 5. Publicity proposed for this year
 - (i) brochure
 - (ii) negotiations with magazines, especially NZ Listener, and newspapers for feature articles
 - (iii) 3 small feature advertisements with NZ Listener

6. Supplementary Information Boards

Progress has been slow but with the imminent injection of funds and two replacement committee members becoming familiarised with the administration of this scheme, results should be evident by the end of the year.

7. Labels

Mr R. Mole, Wellington Tree Registration Officer, has inspected labels attached to trees two years ago and they (labels), and the signwriting, have weathered well.

CONCLUSION

Progress is steady but nonetheless disappointing. It is felt that publicity is essential and the Committee will work hard this year to effect the goals outlined in 5. above.

Also, it is felt that support from many District Councils and some Tree Registration Officers has been lacking. After the four years the scheme has been in operation, it is particularly disturbing to note that some District Councils have been unable to find someone willing to act as Tree Registration Officer.

It is unfortunately a certainty that this very worthwhile scheme will fail to make substantial headway without the assistance of all District Councils and Tree Registration Officers. With this in mind, a circular letter is being sent to all Tree Registration Officers, and District Councils, requesting more support, especially in regard to investigating enquiries and applications for registration, which the Committee will forward to them at an increasing rate with the forecast response to publicity.

> R.W. SHEPHERD Acting Chairperson.

RNZIH DISTRICT COUNCILS ANNUAL REPORTS

WHANGAREI :

I wish to present my presidental report to the Whangarei District Council RNZIH and to the Whangarei Horticultural Society Inc. at the conclusion of the 1979-80 year. Only time will tell whether the decision to operate the two committee meetings on separate nights and to change the monthly combined meeting place will have the desired effect. Too few committee officers forced the decision to shift the Whangarei District Council business from the Whangarei Horticultural Society Meeting, allowing the Horticultural Society to operate with a greatly reduced number of committee meetings. An endeavour to reduce our overheads was the reason for the decision to change the venue of the monthly combined meetings. An increase in the number of new members would of course be of immense benefit to the Societies, but like many groups these days this is not easily done.

The type of programme offered to members could be a key to success and the incoming committees face a challenge in their endeavour to achieve this. I wish to thank all committee members for their work for the societies during the year and in particular Mrs M. Kennedy and Mrs Ann Reed for their many years of service to both groups. Both Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Reed do not wish to stand for re-election to the committees.

Approximately 69 members are accredited to the Whangarei District Council at this time, 53 of these being widely scattered around the northern areas, which means they have only newsletter contact with us. This leaves 19 members within a 20 mile radius of Whangarei, 10 of these members make up our executive and regular attenders number 7 to 9 at committee and monthly meetings which we share with our Whangarei Horticultural Society members. We have been enabled to carry on the work of the RNZIH over the past 10 years in this way because the 10 attending District Council members are also members of the Horticultural Society.

In closing my report, I give the new executive my best wishes for the future. I also do not seek re-election, but do assure members that like Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Reed, I will continue to support the societies.

K. YOUNG, FRIH.

BAY OF PLENTY :

It has been a successful year, with finances satisfactory and many community activities shared. Our membership is approximately 100, about half being 'Friends of the Institute'. We have held 12 committee meetings and 11 monthly meetings, the December one being a social and barbecue. Speakers' subjects, usually illustrated, were as follows :

Australian trees and shrubs (Daisy Hardwick), Gardens in England and Relgium (Noel Bowyer), Hybrid Flaxes (Margaret Jones), Camellias (Ray Bambery), Parks and Gardens Abroad (Mr & Mrs Howard Hawke), Local Parks and future plans (Bill Turner), Pot Plants (Laurie Clark), Narcissi Culture (Arthur Crew), Vegetable Garden (C. Hamilton).

One evening we joined the local Forest and Bird Society to see Geoffrey Moon's slides of native birds.

Each month we have an interest table, a sales table, and supper. We have organised the Spring and Rose Shows, and the annual 'Gardens

DISTRICT COUNCILS ANNUAL REPORTS CONT ...

of the Year' competition, sponsored by the Tauranga City Council.

A special sales table at the National Rose Show in November helped our funds considerably. We are fortunate to have such a gualified man as David Henderson for our Treasurer.

Mrs D.A. Hardwick, AHRIH.

WELLINGTON :

Wellington District are pleased to be able to give a brief summary of their year's activities.

Having resolved to eliminate evening meetings, except for our A.G.M. and Christmas Party, we held a number of successful meetings and tours on weekends through the year.

We held two successful pruning demonstrations within the region and plan two further similar meetings this year.

We were pleased to have the opportunity to participate on Arbor Day with planting celebrations and held a combined tour of gardens with the local branch of the Camellia Society.

Prior to the RNZIH examinations we held a student day to assist students in practical work and we held an enjoyable Christmas Party.

We were sorry to have to farewell Graeme Nind, our Chairman, who moved to Christchurch. Graeme also served as Chairman of the Notable and Historic Trees Committee, so his move is a loss to Wellington.

The valuable work by David Rowe as Secretary of the Notable and Historic Trees Committee was acknowledged by his Fellowship award.

Mary McKenzie of Lower Hutt also received the Fellowship award for her work in the local garden circle.

Diane Menzies, FRIH.

SOUTH TARANAKI :

This year three open meetings were held, one each at Manaia, Opunaki and Eltham, and three committee meetings were held during the year.

Although the Institute did not take part in any Arbor Day functions as such during Conservation Week it was involved in plantings at Opunaki School, Manaia Domain, Manaia School, and later at the Council buildings in Patea.

Shrubs and trees to the value of \$39 were purchased for Opunaki School; shrubs and trees to the value of \$34 were purchased and planted by members at Manaia Domain (all natives); native trees to the value of \$28 were purchased for the Manaia Primary School to finish our project there.

The Institute later donated \$100 worth of trees and shrubs to help landscape the new Council Building. Mr R. Syme organised this, assisted by members with the planting.

Although the tree registration of Notable and Historic Trees has not got as far as I would wish this year, it has made headway to the extent that the public should well know about it this coming year.

A plant swapping programme in our newsletter is under way.

DISTRICT COUNCILS ANNUAL REPORTS CONT ...

We did not conduct any public demonstrations this year, but an endeavour will be made to have some this season.

S.S. Foster.

MANAWATU :

1980 has been a mixed year for the District Council. We started the year with a very poor attendance at the last A.G.M. It was difficult to know if the lack of attendance was due to complete confidence in the present administration or if due to utter disgust. We being optimistic presumed the former.

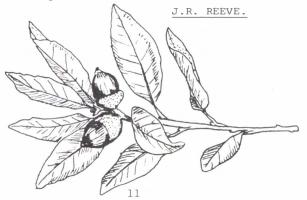
One of the suggestions made at the A.G.M. was for a display of produce at the A. & P. Show. It was hoped to show off the horticultural industry and also to promote the RNZIH. When in about March the local Jaycee Chapter said that they intended to run a project promoting New Zealand products, it seemed to be a better way of achieving our objectives. Planning therefore proceeded and resulted in Hort'80 at the Rangitane Pavilion.

We had one meeting this year which was addressed by Mr Alan Smith of Ivon Watkins-Dow Ltd on the subject of safety with chemicals, covering the subject from manufacture to the end use. I have heard few better speakers and was embarrassed that only 3 members and 2 guests turned up.

The exhibit which we staged at Hort'80 has been used twice since, once at a cottage industry fair and secondly at the local rose show. There was quite a bit of interest generated.

I wish that I could end my two years of being Chairman by saying that the local District Council has become a strong and viable entity. Unfortunately I think that we are in just the same position. I am shortly moving to Hamilton and therefore will be unable to continue as Chairman. Also Dr Ella Campbell would appreciate someone taking over the secretary's work. One suggestion has been that the committee should be situated in Levin. I ask that you give the future some consideration - do you really wish to see the District Council wind up? It has, or could have, an important part to play in promoting horticulture. Recently I was asked if the District Council could assist some ladies studying flower arranging, with plant identification.

I have enjoyed the challenge and wish my successor well, hoping that he or she may find that I have laid a basis on which to build.



NATIONAL CONSERVATION WEEK CAMPAIGN.

Take a note of this year's Conservation Week theme -NATURE'S PLACE IN TOWN, and the dates - 1-9 AUGUST.

The national opening is planned for Timaru and promises to be quite an event.

In tackling a predominantly urban theme, the first of its kind in the country, Conservation Week Campaign is undertaking a very relevant, exciting and challenging campaign. It will focus attention on nature found within urban areas, generate activities and projects to increase and sustain urban wildlife and, overall, encourage people to make towns and cities more attractive places in which to live.

Many schools, organisations and individuals have begun working towards this campaign. The type and number of projects and activities being planned vary, as one would expect, from place to place. Each region tends to be placing special emphasis on those conservation issues which affect the people in that locality.

The National Committee will be producing a variety of educational and publicity material - Wallchart, Filmstrip, Boardgame, Field Guide to Common NZ Trees and Shrubs - Volume II, Field Guide to Birds in Town, Trees Resource Folder, Pollution Leaflets, Recycling Leaflet, Conservation Kit, Things to make and do, A better way to live, and The Choice is Yours (leaflets), Conservation crossword, Tree planting Certificate. Bees leaflet. Poster, Bookmarks, Envelope stickers and re-use labels.

All major towns and cities, as well as some smaller centres, have one or more distribution outlets for our material. These include S PLACE IN TOL not only Conservation Week district representatives, but also Environment Centres and some Dept. of Lands and Survey district offices. If your efforts to locate material in your area fail, write direct to the :

National Conservation Week Campaign Committee P.O. Box 12-200, WELLINGTON NORTH.

OBITUARIES :

WILLIAM JEFFERY (Bill) WILSON (New Plymouth)

Mr Wilson was a keen horticulturist and broadcast a gardening session over Radio Taranaki for about 25 years. Born in Dunedin Mr Wilson came to Taranaki after leaving school, and established a cane shop in New Plymouth as a wicker worker. He later sold this and owned and operated a gardening shop for eight years.

Mr Wilson was associated with many gardening groups, and had an especial fondness for lilies. He was awarded a Fellowship of the RNZIH for his services to horticulture.

ERLAND WRIGHT (Palmerston North)

Mr Wright had been a member of the RNZIH since 1949, and was a well-known florist in Palmerston North, operating two shops there.

STOP

IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE LATEST IN HORTICULTURE TECHNOLOGY, BE SURE TO VISIT

HORTICULTURE TRADE FAIR 1981

Auckland Showgrounds, 30 June - 2 July.

New Zealand's first ever specialist exhibition for the Horticulture Industry.

Plant varieties - fertilisers - herbicides - irrigation techniques spraying equipment - electronic control equipment - glasshouse technology - plastic developments - handling & coolstore techniques process & packaging methods - tools - scientific research developments and other aids to advanced horticulture.

Sponsored by Horticulture News, published by Trade Publications Ltd.

Special public lectures given during the exhibition.

Enquiries to : Tony Brown, H.T.F. '81, Trade Publications Ltd., Box 1614, Auckland, Ph. 795-500

The book "Flowers for Shows", a Guide for Horticultural Shows, revised and reprinted January 1978, has proved so popular that our stocks have almost been exhausted. We expect to revise and reprint this book in 1982.

The "Floral Art Handbook" was completely revised and reprinted in 1980, and is available from the RNZIH office at \$3.50 per copy, less 10% for orders of 10 or more.

PARSLEY - AN UNDER-RATED GARDEN HERB

Parsley (Petroselinum hortense) is one of the most familiar, and at the same time most under-rated of all garden herbs. It should be used more extensively in the kitchen. All too often it is relegated to the position of garnish and tossed aside as soon as the meal is served. And yet parsley contains three times more vitamin C per ounce than oranges, more Vitamin A than carrots, and twice as much iron as spinach.

Parsley tea is said to be a good tonic, especially for rheumatism.

Parsley was almost certainly introduced throughout Europe and Britain by the Romans, although it officially arrived in the latter from Sardinia in 1548. It was thought at that stage to be a disinfectant and later was used during the plague. Nowadays, apart from its use as a garnish and a medicine, parsley can be added to salads, green soups, sauces, stuffing, rissoles, minces and stews.

It is also a natural deodoriser - eaten after garlic or onions, it subdues their strong odour.

There are two distinct varieties of herb parsley : curled and Italian, or fern-leaf (the latter is still grown on the continent but is nowhere near as popular as the former). Parsley is a smooth skinned biennial, but is usually grown as an annual. In the first year it produces long-stalked bright green leaves, 6-11 inches in length, their segments usually curled and crisp in most varieties. In the second year, if allowed to continue, it will produce solid erect flowering stems surmounted by flat clusters of small yellow-green flowers.

Planting should take place in a sunny place. It prefers a deep, rich soil, although it can also be grown in a clayey soil or in sand. In addition to herb parsley there is also a variety called Hamburg or turnip-rooted parsley which is grown for its swollen parsnip-like root. It is normally used as a soup ingredient or boiled and served with a sauce, and its flavour has been compared to that of celeriac. Its leaves are compound as in wild parsley, not curled and crisped like most of the cultivars grown for their leaves. In contrast to this pungent tasting root parsley, a sugar root parsley has been developed.

*reprinted from "Fruit and Produce", February 1981



"If parseley be thrown into fish ponds, it will heal the sick fish therein" - Turner (1551), but do not give it to your pet birds - it is absolute poison for our feathered friends!

NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL FIELDAYS SOCIETY (INC)

The NZ NATIONAL FIELDAYS SOCIETY is very pleased to announce that the NZ Sport and Recreation Fieldays Committee has set the dates for staging another popular event. The Committee invites you to consider your participation for the

3rd New Zealand SPORT & RECREATION FIELDAYS Saturday & Sunday, 17-18 October 1981 Mystery Creek - Hamilton. The theme this year is 'Leisuretime' Trafe (shibits - hobbies - sports - games - clubs More information available from : 3rd NZ Sport & Recreation Fieldays - 1981, NZ National Fieldays Society (Inc)., Private Bag,



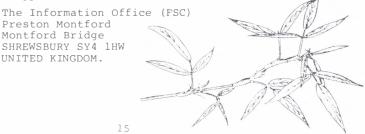
HAMILTON.

The protection of the environment, especially the conservation of the plants and animals, is the concern of all nations. For more than 30 years the Field Studies Council in the United Kingdom has organised short outdoor courses in many aspects of ecology, geography, geology and conservation for students of all ages as well as for mature persons with or without any formal academic training.

Visitors to the U.K., whether students coming to study for a year or two, or teachers or private persons on short visits who are concerned about the environment will be warmly welcomed at our Centres.

The week-long courses are held throughout the year at nine residential Field Centres in England and Wales, and cover a wide range of outdoor subjects. Fees range from 32 pounds to 90 pounds for a course.

Should you require more information, you could contact the, RNZIH office for a copy of the brochure, or write direct to :



Preston Montford Montford Bridge SHREWSBURY SY4 1HW UNITED KINGDOM.

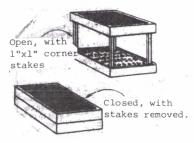
Nine portable cold frames

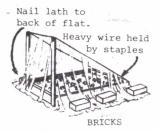
For the person who intends to grow only a few plants for the coming season, a small, portable coldframe is usually all that is required for seed propagation.

These temporary plant shelters can be placed conveniently on the south side of the house, near a hose connection, and out of the wind.

You can build a portable coldframe in about an hour, making good use of materials you may have on hand. Reduced to its simplest form, a coldframe can be nothing more than a box with a transparent roof.

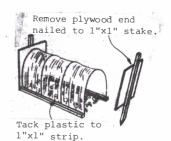
Here are some emergency variations for the gardener who needs a coldframe in a hurry :





Two flats are separated for ventilation by removeable corner stakes. Top flat is covered with plastic-wire glass.

Two supports are nailed to one end of flat to hold up piece of clear, flexible plastic. Bricks hold plastic in place.

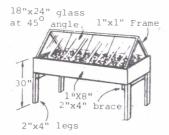


Ends of stiff wire hoops are pushed into ground to support plastic covering.



Cover ends with plastic, nail to sash, weigh down.

Stakes hold plywood ends in place. Hinged sash is attached to side of house for covering raised bed of plant box. Prop cover open for ventilation.



Elevated plant box can have glass roof or lath or cheesecloth cover. Board-up ends or use plastic attached with staples.



U-frame of lumber or l" pipe in the ground supports tent of plastic. Edges are weighted with bricks or battens. Cut box end diagonally Place over plants



Glass rests on l"xl" strip

Wooden box has bottom, one side removed. Ends are cut at angle to hold glass at a slant to face sun.



Slanted box of 1" boards has lightweight cover of reed fencing attached to battens to give filtered sunlight.



Tuck plastic under flat.

Wire coat hangers are hung on dowel supported by two wood posts, giving a tent frame for the plastic cover.

> (Contributed by Mrs Bradford-Smith reprinted from 'Weekend Magazine' Whangarei)

VIRUS DISEASES OF GRAPE VINES

Dr E.E. Chamberlain recently spoke on the above subject to the Whangarei District Council of RNZIH, and the following is an extract from their report :

In recent years the Wine Making industry has grown tremendously in New Zealand and it is therefore imperative for growers to have healthy vigorous stock in order to increase quality and yields. Because of propagating methods of early days, e.g. cutting grown vines from infected stocks, almost all our existing stock was found to be virus infected, and scientists of Plant Diseases Division, DSIR, faced the task of researching this situation and dealing with it.

Viruses cannot be distinguished even with the most powerful microscopes and they can pass through the smallest filter that will retain the most minute of bacteria. Unlike bacteria and fungi which cause plant diseases, viruses cannot be controlled with sprays. The symptoms alone are evidence of the disease, the effects often disastrous.

Virus A - Fan leaf - there is malformation of leaves, depression of apex, and the angle of the five main veins is reduced. In other countries where this virus is rife the yield can be reduced by as much as 70%.

In virus B - Leaf roll virus- there is premature autumn colouring showing beautiful dark reds and purples. The leaves roll on the margins. The yield is considerably reduced. Leaf roll virus also causes delayed ripening of the fruit, so that sweet grapes that should be ready in March are often delayed until cooler April. At this time adverse weather can cause heavy losses.

To overcome the problems and breed virus-free vines, tip cuttings were taken and subjected to heat treatment, 68-140 days at 100 F. Massey University propagates virus-free stock and several vineyards now are able to grow virus-free vines.

One cheerful fact that has emerged is that these viruses are transmitted by a particular nematode which we do not have in New Zealand. Quarantine specialists inspect importations and a constant watch is kept. Dr Chamberlain's research took him to North America and to Europe. He quoted figures showing the drastic reduction in yields of quality wines in infected vineyards, and the consequent drastic reduction in incomes. There is a reduction in sugar content, an increase in acidity. The vintner then adds sugar and water, and the cost of producing an inferior wine is then greatly increased.

Dr Chamberlain said that the European varieties of grape were more affected than the hybrids, and said that Albany Surprise (black) and White Niagara (white) were two varieties suitable and reliable for the home garden. Buy vines on Phylloxera-free stock.

CARNATION

What's in a Name? by Mary Vanaman O'Gorman, reprinted from 'Garden', January/February 1981.

The 18th-century English journalist William Cobbett once said he would prefer 'the plant of a fine carnation to a gold watch set with diamonds'. The Greek naturalist Theophrastus had, in 300BC named the carnation *Dianthus* - the divine flower. In his day the modest little flower scarcely resembled the complex and colcurful hybrids developed later, but it smelled exactly like the sun-dried flower buds of the clove tree, used for centuries as a spice and in perfumery. The clove tree was once named *Caryophyllus aromatica*, from the Greek *karyon*, nut, and *phyllon*, leaf; and the carnation's species name, *caryophyllus*, arose from the olfactory resemblance.

13thC. Moslems grew carnations in North Africa, and it is believed that the Arabic word for carnation, *quaranful*, derived from *caryophyllus* and became *garofalo* in Renaissance Italy, *giroflé* in France, and gillyflower in Elizabethan England.

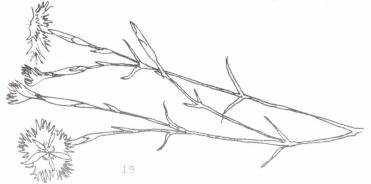
Gillyflower and carnation have been used as common names for *Dianthus* caryophyllus during the 20 centuries it has been in cultivation. The word carnation may simply come from a Latin root for flesh, carn-, a reference to the flower's colour. However, carnation has also been spelled 'coronation', which, from the sense of its early literary use, referred either to the weaving of the flowers into festive garlands, or to the way in which the toothed petals form the crown-like flowers.

A third common name for the flower is clove pink. "Pink" was not at first a description of the flower's colour, but the archaic Dutch pinck ooghen, denoting blinking or twinkling eyes.

Carnations were intensively cultivated in France and England from the l6th century on. So many varieties were developed that they had to be classified in descriptive groups : "Selfs" for flowers of one solid colour; "flakes" if striped with a second colour; "bizarres" if striped with two or more colours; "picotées" if the petals were only edged with a second colour.

Probably the best known carnation today is Ohio's state flower - the clove-scented "florist's carnation" with its long stiff stem, two small leaves at each of the widely spaced leaf-nodes and a fat vase-shaped calyx bearing a dense bouquet of bright, jagged-edged petals.

This is the American carnation bred over a period of at least 50 years by gardeners on both sides of the Atlantic who sought a strain adaptable to commercial growing and able to survive well as a cut flower. The carnation may not offer the fanciness of the featherpetalled chrysanthemum ncr the lush delicacy of the rose, but it remains, in all its colourful variations, one of the most popular flowers sold.



District Council News

WHANGAREI : In our March meeting, Mrs Gwen Edge spoke on the care of house plants, emphasising the importance of correct watering and feeding, and pointing out that it is essential to know the requirements of your plant so that appropriate conditions can be provided. Other points she made were :

the value of humidity control, using either a mister or a humidity tray;

lack of light can inhibit flowering, although leaves can be burnt if too close to a window;

liquid (weak) fertilisers or the slow-release type are most suitable;

when potting-on or repotting, a pot only one inch bigger should be used;

pests, most commonly aphids, mealy-bug or scale, are most easily removed by hand or washed off.

The Forest Energy Cycle : like all green plants, trees are food producing organisms, they trap energy from the sun and use it to transform carbon dioxide from the air and water and nutrients from the soil into food substances. The forest is thus an energy bank. Each tree continues to accumulate capital as it grows, drawing nutrients from the soil and incorporating them into its tissues. Ultimately it dies, falls to the ground and there decomposes, its stored energy then being released back into the soil.

It is in the way this cycle operates that we see the most fundamental difference between tropical and temperate forests. In temperate forests leaves typically fall at one time of the year and are broken down slowly over a long period. The floor in these forests accumulates a thick layer of humus. In a tropical forest leaf fall is irregular with leaves broken down rapidly and in turn being swiftly used by the living trees again. This leaves a poor soil which can support agriculture for only a short time as the remaining nutrients are rapidly used by crops. This is why ground that supported a lush forest does not indicate a deep fertile soil.

<u>AUCKLAND</u>: Our February walk through the Auckland University gardens was voted a great success by all who attended - our thanks to Mr Tony Palmer for conducting us around the grounds.

Our March meeting featured Dr Braggins' talk on 'Local Ferns', i.e. ferns easily found in the Auckland area. The very fine colour slides not only showed the diversity of types to be found, but something of the beauty of the sporangia, spores and other structures when seen under magnification. A number of people are engaged on fern research and classification which has led to a lot of name changes - about 1/3 of the ferns being renamed in the last 10 years. A checklist of NZ ferns is to be published in the NZ Journal of Botany in about a year.

Botanic Gardens play an active part in re-introducing endangered species. Thanks to the Goteborg Botanic Garden in Sweden, *sophora toromiro*, a once common tree of Easter Island, seems likely to survive. This tree, which is peculiar to Easter Island, provided the natives with their only source of timber for house frames, canoes and wood carving. The introduction in the 18th C. of sheep heralded the tree's death. Seedlings were devoured and mature trees ringbarked, so that by 1917 only one specimen remained. A few more were found in 1955 but even they had disappeared by 1962. However Thor Heyerdahl, on one of his trips to the island, had collected

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS (CONT) ...

seeds and deposited them at the Goteborg Garden - these germinated in 1979 and three trees have resulted.

NORTH TARANAKI : Are you thinking of diversification into horticulture with all its pitfalls and problems? This is in fact the title of a Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries leaflet from the Advisory Services Division. Another is entitled 'General Introduction, Making a fortune in Horticulture'.

Other titles include :

Container mixes for pot plants and nurseries (alternatives to peat); Soilless mixture for vegetables under glass; Trickle irrigation, establishment and management; Microtube trickle irrigation under glass; Chemicals, hazards and safe use; Fruit trees - budding, grafting and rootstocks; Herbicides in commercial vegetable crops; Poultry manure - a cheap fertiliser in the home garden;

and from the Research Division :

Soils - mycorrhizal fungi introduced for improved phosphate utilisation.

<u>Plant a Walnut</u>: There are 17 economic species of walnuts commonly in cultivation. Within each of these are many excellent high yielding cultivars and strains. The successful growth of the Juglans species depends very much on the choice of the right cultivars to suit local environments, the presence of good pollinators, proper grafting and budding onto appropriate rootstocks, etc. Only material from high yielding disease-free material should be planted.

A Persian walnut tree in 1977 in Alexandra is recorded as having produced 296 kg. Another tree at Blenheim has been checked regularly producing over 180 kg of nuts in one year.

Most recommended cultivars bear some nuts at quite an early age and will often carry crops of up to 5 kg at 12 years of age in good years. A grafted specimen will sometimes bear in less than 5 years, but 5 to 10 years is more usual.

Walnuts are grafted and then packed very closely in a box in which the temperature is thermostatically maintained at 20 to 21 degrees centigrade. The grafts stay in the box for about 3 weeks.

Juglans regia - Persian walnut (also called English walnut) " nigra - Eastern black walnut - timber value " major - Arizona black walnut - small nut, low habit " california - Sth.Cali - small tree, drought resistant ailantifolia var cordiformis - Heartnut, a form of Japanese walnut hindsii - Nth. Cali. black - street tree or stock
ailantfolia - 'Siebold' or 'Japanese walnut' " australis - Argentine black walnut ... " boliviana - Bolivian black walnut ... columbiensis - Columbian black honorei - Ecuador walnut " ,, insularis - Cuban walnut ... mollis - Guatemalan walnut " mandshurica - Manchurian walnut 11 linerea - White nut, or butternut - indigenous to SE Canada and Eastern USA.

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS (CONT) ...

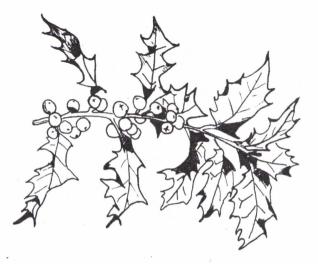
<u>POVERTY BAY</u>: Two Golden Anniversaries take place this year - the Poverty Bay Gardening Circle was formed by 8 Gisborne ladies, each visiting their gardens in turn. It has flourished and given much pleasure to hundreds of women through the fifty years and is the second oldest in New Zealand. The event will be marked by giving an ornamental garden waterbath for birds to the new Frail Aged Home. The Poverty Bay Horticultural Society is organising the planting of these new gardens.

The other Jubilee is to be celebrated by the Poverty Bay Country Women's Institute. Many of our Horticultural Society members first cultivated their interest in the garden surrounds of their country homes.

SOUTH TARANAKI : The planting scheme, organised by Mr Syme, was carried out last year at the District Council's new complex at Patea, several members taking part in the planting which has greatly improved the surroundings of the new building. At the official opening our President and Patron were guests of the Patea Council, and several speakers paid tribute to the Institute for its practical interest and excellent choice of plant material.

WELLINGTON : The first meeting for NDH students will be held on Wednesday May 27th at 5pm at the Basin Reserve. This meeting will deal with plant identification and pests and diseases, and will be followed by regular monthly meetings.

Miss Myrtle Presants grew 15 kgs of potatoes from just two 'eyes' planted late last year. Her recipe : plenty of compost, regular doses of bone dust and a smattering here and there of milk powder as well as 'companion planting' - she plants buttercup, squash and sweet corn around the potatoes. Miss Presants also picks off the potato flowers to divert the growth energy to the roots. Worth trying!



Congratulations ~

The J.A. Campbell Memorial Prize, for the candidate completing National Certificate (all Schedules) with the best average marks in subjects nos. 10-14 :

GILBERT H. WELLS (Lincoln)

The David Tannock Memorial Prize, for the candidate achieving the highest mark in Oral and Practical Stage III - Schedule I : Mrs JUDITH A. PETHERAM (Hamilton)

The Junior Memorial Prize, for the candidate achieving the highest mark in Oral and Practical Stage I (all Schedules) at first attempt :

GRAEME B. KING (Blenheim)

The Peter Skellerup Prize, for the candidate completing subjects 1-9 (all Schedules) with the best average marks :

KELVIN A. GRANT (Nelson)

The NZ Vegetable & Produce Growers' Federation Prize, for the candidate achieving the best record for the year in Schedule III: GILBERT H. WELLS (Lincoln)

The NZ Nurserymen's Association Prize, for the candidate achieving the best record for the year in Schedule IV : A. EDGAR REESE (Christchurch)

The Dugald MacKenzie Memorial Prize, for the best thesis presented for NDH (Schedule One):

BRIAN L. BUCHANAN (Auckland)

Mr Buchanan's thesis was on the "Propagation and Cultivation of Stapeliads".

The Whangarei District Council Prize, for the best thesis presented in Schedule IV, and the Rita Skellerup Prize for the best thesis in Schedules II or III, were not awarded this year.

Welcome to the following new members :

Mrs E. Boon, North Taranaki Mrs E.L. Bowden, Waikato Mr & Mrs G.E. Goodwin, Waikato Mrs C.R. Heal, North Taranaki Julie F. Paine, Manawatu Mrs Doris E. Smith, North Mr & Mrs L.B.Taylor, " Taranaki Jay-Pee Farms, Whangarei Whakatane High School Mrs O. Adlam, North Taranaki Mr A. Davis, Timaru Mrs J. Barron, North Taranaki Mr P.A. Tayler, Pakuranga G.L. Andrews, Bay of Plenty C.P. Ashworth, Whangarei Mš L. Beazley, Auckland A.L. Buchanan, Waikato G. Cant, Wellington Ms J.E. Charles, Wellington J.C. Ciardelli, Whitianga M.W. Clark, Alexandra C.M. Cooney, Auckland N.B. Cooper, Hawkes Bay Ms L.J. Crossan, Waikato Ms J.K. Dawe, Christchurch A.N. Gray, Christchurch G.A. Green, Poverty Bay R.C.G. Hall, Auckland S.A. Haswell, Wairarapa Ms B.I. Hunt, Auckland A.L. Knight, Riverhead P.W. McKee, Bay of Plenty R.N. McLachlan, Christchurch I.G. McNeill, Auckland Miss P.M. MacNicol, New Plyth. Ms L.A. McRae, Otago R.W. Marshall, Sth Canterbury Ms J.E.R. Mills, Napier Mrs B.E. Parker, Whangarei R.J. Hollier, Auckland Ms S.I. Levy, Wellington Ms P.A. Piggott, Clevedon J.L. Sayers, Ngaruawahia C.J. Solomon, Wellington Ms S.D. Waterman, Maramarua R.G. Webster, Auckland P.R. Wells, Auckland

A.B. Penfold, Christchurch D.G. Rowley, Bay of Plenty Ms C.V.E Smith, Wellington Ms M.I. Spence, Wellington Ms J. Todd, Auckland S.A. Wilson, Auckland M.D. Rykers, Christchurch S.B. Bell, Christchurch Ms S.M.Chisnall, Ashburton D.J. Cooper, Auckland G.B. Cullen, Nelson G.J. Elmer, Cambridge Ms S.D. Franks, Ashburton M.A. Glanville, Wellington Ms M.L. Gosden, Mt. Cook Ms K.G. Henderson, Christchurch Ms K. Hetherington, Auckland Ms L.L. Holder, Auckland M.L. Hopkins, Waihi J.J. Humm, Waimate M.W. Jones, Dunedin E.J. Larsen, Auckland Ms A.M. Lunt, Rotorua M.W. McGusty, Christchurch Ms A.E. McIlroy, Ashburton M. McPhillips, Oamaru J.K. Mackwell, Hamilton Ms C.I. Mooney, Dunedin Ms L.D. Moss, Timaru J.J. Murray, Woodville Ms J.A. Naisbitt, Te Awamutu A.S. Nicholls, Hamilton M. Nicholson, Auckland A.J. Rees, Wellington K.G. Robertson, Patumahoe I. Simpson, Taupo G.M. Smith, Dunedin Ms R.S. Smith, Hamilton A.D. Strong, Hamilton Ms E.M. Styra, Wellington Ms M.E. Trotter, Auckland P.J. Visser, Nelson B.A. Weller, Oamaru P.J. Wilkins, Hamilton D.S. Blake, Auckland Ms L.R. Brodribb, Hamilton Ms J.A. Brounts, Wellington

DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARIES

AUCKLAND : Mrs K.J. Veal, FRIH, 9 Gray Crescent, Torbay, AUCKLAND 10.

BAY OF PLENTY : Mrs D.A. Hardwick, AHRIH, Minden Road, Te Puna, TAURANGA.

CANTERBURY : Mr Roy Edwards, Dept. Horticulture, Landscape & Parks, Lincoln College, CANTERBURY.

MANAWATU : Dr E.O.Campbell, FRIH, 26 Frederick Street, PALMERSTON NORTH.

NORTH TARANAKI : Mrs Marie Ward, 52 Lyn Street, NEW PLYMOUTH.

OTAGO : Mr G.G. Henderson, AHRIH, P.O. Box 5195, DUNEDIN. POVERTY BAY : Poverty Bay Hort.Society, P.O. Box 1275, GISBORNE. (Liaison only)

SOUTHLAND : Mr G.A.R. Petrie, AHRIH, Rochdale Road, INVERCARGILL.

SOUTH TARANAKI : Miss E.A. Free, 23 Egmont Street, HAWERA.

WAIKATO : Mrs S. Payne, 120 Comries Road, Chartwell, HAMILTON.

WELLINGTON : Mrs Diane Menzies, FRIH, 7 Huia Road, Days Bay, Eastbourne, WELLINGTON.

WHANGAREI : Mrs M. Kennedy, AHRIH, 14a Takahe Street, Tikipunga, WHANGAREI.

RNZIH Notable & Historic Trees Committee - P.O. Box 11-379, WELLINGTON.

RNZIH Regional Horticulture Sub-Committee - P.O. Box 11-379, WELLINGTON.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE (INC).

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