



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

Newsletter

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Presidential Ponderings

Horticulture is multifaceted. It is central to food production, yet offers scope for academic and aesthetic exploration. It is probably true that the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH), leans more towards the botanical and amenity end of the spectrum. Other organisations and publications cater for orchardists, vegetable growers and nursery interests.

All of these areas are faced by the very real threat of climate change. This received much publicity in recent weeks when the COP26 meeting was held in Glasgow, Scotland.

In the RNZIH Newsletter for March 2021 I wrote:

“The key questions that never seem to be posed are ‘How large do we want the population of Auckland, and New Zealand as a whole, to become and why?’ Indeed, at a time when climate change is acknowledged to be caused by human activity, why would we want to make the situation worse by increasing the population further?”

Not once in the news coverage that I read or heard, was the core question of human population size mentioned, let alone addressed at the conference. As Greta Thunberg suggested it would be, it was a talk fest regarding symptoms and how these might be lessened, while at the same time putting in place mechanisms such as Carbon Credits that will enable some countries and industries to go on polluting.

It is fundamental to science and medicine to accurately determine the cause of a malady



before a remedy can be constructed. With climate change we know it is the uncontrolled growth of humanity itself that is the cause.

While we have no problem in demonising possums, wild horses and wildling conifers and we talk glibly about achieving a ‘Pest free New Zealand’ by a certain date, we will not discuss the human population problem.

Possibly this collective refusal to deny the obvious is a collective paradigm that humans are not simply animals and part of the global ecosystem, but somehow sit God-like, separate and above the rest of ‘creation’.

Very good examples of this mindset were the vast formal gardens of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries, which demonstrated humanity’s mastery of nature. At those times, there would have seemed vast areas of untamed wilderness with relatively few pockets of civilisation and order. Now we are belatedly coming to realise that there is very little wilderness left and we are trying desperately to conserve what there is; yet still refusing to address the key issue.

It is not simply a matter of survival; it is also a matter of quality of life. I feel for the people, especially those with children, who have been

confined in tiny 'Town Houses' during Auckland's three months COVID-19 lockdown. Very close to where I live I see frantic building of yet more such housing, both on former farmland and on sites where perfectly good houses are being destroyed to fit in a greater number of ever more smaller and taller units. Today on the news it was reported that the destruction of older homes was causing a crisis at landfill sites. Much of this 'rubbish' consists of perfectly reusable native timbers that were harvested a century or more ago.

Houseplants are no substitute for an adequate garden.

Keith Hammett
President, RNZIH

2022 RNZIH AGM



Progress was well underway for again partnering with the NZ Gardens Trust, by conducting the RNZIH AGM and Banks Lecture during their conference in Wellington, originally scheduled for April 2022.

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the NZGT conference has been postponed one year, rescheduled for April 2023.

The RNZIH executive are considering other options for holding our AGM in 2022, and will let members know what's happening in our next (March 2022) newsletter.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Mike Chapman** for being awarded the 2021 Bledisloe Cup for Horticulture.

Mike Chapman, until recently chief executive of Horticulture New Zealand, won the Bledisloe Cup for significant services to horticulture for more than 20 years. Chapman's advocacy

PTO

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HortNZ President, Barry O'Neil (left), Bledisloe Cup winner Mike Chapman (middle) and Minister of Agriculture Damien O'Connor (right). Photo: www.nzherald.co.nz/the-country/news/mike-chapman-wins-bledisloe-cup-for-horticulture/WRWWC4JR2XXE7JAWQDNYHV7OCY/.

for the horticultural industry had been untiring, forceful, and balanced, according to HortNZ President, Barry O'Neil.

"Mike always acts with the aim of achieving the best outcomes for growers and orchardists, and indeed, the New Zealand economy and health of its people through access to nutritious, locally grown food. He has firmly stood for growers on key issues such as protecting elite soils, ensuring growers maintain their social license to grow and, hand in hand with that, ensuring growers remain economically viable in a fast-changing environment," O'Neil said.

Chapman's career in the horticulture industry spanned more than 20 years, during which he was a leader, advocate, lobbyist and enthusiast for the industry.

Swapping his legal-focused work for kiwifruit,

New members

We warmly welcome our new members:

Rachael Sheridan PALMERSTON NORTH
Tim Cooper DUNEDIN

Chapman took up the role of Kiwifruit New Zealand chief executive in 2002. In 2005, he became New Zealand Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated chief executive.

Ten years later in 2015, Chapman picked up the reigns as Horticulture New Zealand chief executive, a position he held until June this year.

After stepping down, Chapman continued to work on the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme. He was instrumental in the Government's decision in early August to permit RSE workers from Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, to enter New Zealand without the need for managed isolation.

The Bledisloe Cup for horticulture was first presented in 1931 by the then Governor-General Lord Bledisloe, for a competition between orchardists for the best exhibit of New Zealand apples at the Imperial Fruit Show.

David and Judi Grey of Avogrey Avocados (near Gisborne) were featured on TVNZ's Hyundai Country Calendar, Sunday 29th August.

The episode covered the Grey family history as pioneers of developing various avocado selections including their premium new green skin varieties – Avogrey® 'Eclipse', Avogrey® 'GreyStar' and Avogrey® 'Titan' which are now available to New Zealand growers.

The new selections were developed when David planted 30 seeds from 'Sharwil', the "Rolls Royce of avocados". Renowned for its outstanding fruit, 'Sharwil' doesn't crop well under New Zealand conditions but is known to be more resistant to pests and diseases than



David and Judi Grey of Avogrey Avocados.

other selections. The work undertaken led to the development of the three new cultivars, that produce fruit earlier (between November and June), at higher volumes, and of exceptional quality.

Watch the episode at www.tvnz.co.nz/shows/country-calendar/episodes/s2021-e24 (login or signup required).

David wrote an interesting article on the Grey family quest for the perfect avocado, published in the RNZIH journal (*New Zealand Garden Journal*, 2020, Vol. 23(2), pp. 4–5).

Congratulations to researcher and author **Vivien Edwards**, for being awarded the 2021 Ian Wards Prize by Archives and Records Association of New Zealand (ARANZ), for her book on Mary Sutherland, entitled 'A path through the trees' published by Writes Hill Press, Wellington.

The Ian Wards Prize honours the outstanding contributions to the ARANZ, to cultural life generally, and to New Zealand historical scholarship, of the late Ian McLean Wards, Chief Government Historian between 1968 and 1983.

An article about the award and why it was presented to Vivien is at www.aranz.org.nz/news-and-events/read/60.



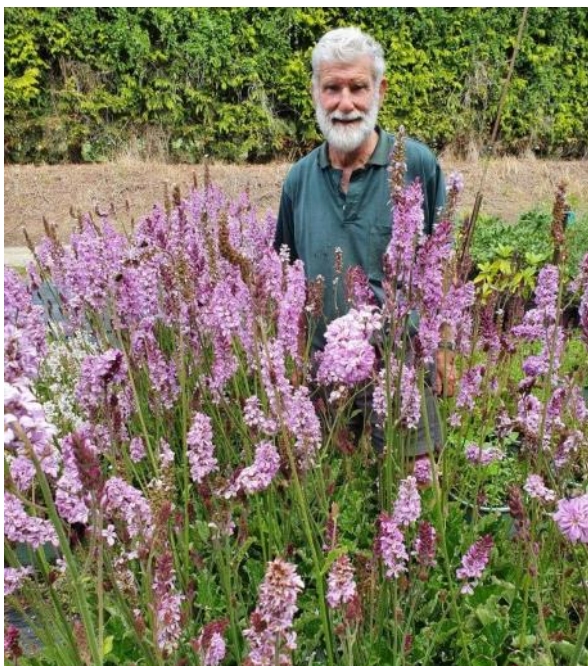
Vivien Edwards, awardee of the 2021 Ian Wards Prize. Photo: ARANZ.

Vivien's book, 'A path through the trees', was reviewed by Elizabeth Miller and published in our latest journal (*New Zealand Garden Journal*, 2021, Vol. 24(2), pp. 31–33).

RNZIH Associate of Honour **Denis Hughes** was featured in the September 2021 *New Zealand Gardener* magazine for his work with *Francoa*.

Denis is patriarch of Blue Mountain Nurseries, Tapanui, and a highly regarded plantsman. One of his many plant passions is breeding *Francoa*, an attractive evergreen perennial plant of seven species endemic to Chile. Rosettes can often be furry with deeply lobed leaves which are well designed to withstand dry and shaded growing conditions. Two new releases of *Francoa* are 'Pink Bouquet' and 'White Bouquet', bred for their larger flowers and longer, stronger flower stems. Denis will continue his breeding programme and hopes to release additional selections in summer.

Shop for *Francoa* at www.bmn.co.nz.



Denis Hughes among his selections of *Francoa*.
Photo: Blue Mountain Nurseries.

Rosarians recognised

Congratulations to **Hayden Foulds** FRIH of Woodville who has been elected President of the New Zealand Rose Society (NZRS).

Along with being President of the NZRS, Hayden is an executive member of the International Plant Propagators' Society NZ Branch.



Hayden Foulds, President of the NZ Rose Society.

Three rosarians from the Manawatu were recently honoured with awards recognising their service to the rose in New Zealand.



John Ford, Heather Macdonell and Peter Elliott.
Photo: NZ Rose Society.

Peter Elliott was presented with the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for service to the rose in Australia or New Zealand. Peter has had significant involvement with the rose at local, national, and international levels.

Locally, Peter has served three terms as President of the Manawatu Rose Society and is currently its Secretary/Treasurer. He is a past President of the NZRS and has served in the roles of Chief Judge and Chairman of the International Rose Trial Grounds Committee in Palmerston North.

Peter also served three terms representing Australasia on the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) and was presented the WFRS Silver Medal in 2015. Peter also convened the organising committee for the WFRS Regional Convention held in Palmerston North in 2013.

John Ford was presented with the NZ Rose Award for services to the rose in New Zealand.

A Past President and Life Member of the Manawatu Rose Society, John has also served on the NZRS Council and is currently the

Chairman of the NZ International Rose Trials Committee in Palmerston North.

For many years John ran a small rose nursery supplying rose plants around the country and is now involved in breeding new selections. His selection 'Bright Eyes' won the Gold and Silver Stars, along with the Nola Simpson Novelty Award at the 2020 NZ International Rose Trial Ground awards.

In receiving the award, John acknowledged the support of his wife Christine and his four children who have all assisted along the way.

Heather Macdonell was presented with the NZRS Lifetime Service Award to recognise her 42 years' service as NZRS Secretary/Treasurer. This is the first time this award has been presented and recognises Heather's outstanding contribution to the NZRS.

The NZRS has been very fortunate to have Heather's knowledge, skills and experience to guide it over the years she has served in her positions. Heather has spent many hours working for the betterment of the NZRS and roses in general, often behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the NZRS and its activities and events. Heather has also often been the first point of contact for new members or for enquiries from the public.

Hayden Foulds, President of the NZRS, said that "Peter, John and Heather have given many years of service to the rose and on behalf of all rose enthusiasts, I congratulate them on their awards".

Irish rose breeder takes top award at rose trial
Irish rose breeder **David Kenny** has taken out the main awards at the NZRS International Rose Trial Grounds in Palmerston North in late November.

Mr Kenny's selection 'FLORANZA® Eye Popping' won the Gold Star of the South Pacific for the highest scoring rose on trial and the Nola Simpson Novelty Award for the most novel rose on trial. His selection, which has masses of

blossoms of cream with a purple eye, is currently sold by Amore Roses of Hamilton. Mr Kenny also picked up a Certificate of Merit for his red shrub rose 'PIXY® Lucky Stars'.



Rosa 'FLORANZA® Eye Popping'.
Photo: NZ Rose Society.



Rosa 'PIXY® Lucky Stars'. Photo: NZ Rose Society.

Certificates of Merit were also awarded to **Colin Dickson** from Northern Ireland for the orange/yellow floribunda 'FLORANZA® Bright & Breezy' and the red shrub code-named 'Dicalfa' while New Zealand rose breeder **Rob Somerfield** also gained a Certificate of Merit for his apricot orange floribunda 'Attention Seeker'.

'Attention Seeker' and 'Dicalfa' will be introduced onto the New Zealand market in the next year or two while the other winners are already on the market.

The NZRS trials are now into their 51st year and test new sections from New Zealand and international rose breeders and are evaluated



Rosa 'FLORANZA® Bright & Breezy'.
Photo: NZ Rose Society.



Rosa 'Dicalfa'. Photo: NZ Rose Society.



Rosa 'Attention Seeker'. Photo: NZ Rose Society.

over a period of two years by a panel of 20 judges. They assess the roses in areas such as freedom of flowering, health, plant quality, flower quality and fragrance.

At the conclusion of each trial, those roses which have gained an average of 70% are recognised with awards and reflect the

consistently high performance that they have achieved during trial.

The Regional Rose Show, scaled back from a National show due to COVID-19, was a great success and included a display of past winning roses from 50 years of rose trials. A book on the trials history will be published in 2022.

New Zealand Gardens Trust



Board update, November 2021:

Important conference announcement

It is with regret that the NZGT Board has reluctantly decided to postpone the April 2022 Conference which was to have been held in Wellington. We know this decision will be as disappointing to members and friends as it is to the Board, given that the annual event is a key focus for our organisation and enjoyed by all. Although much of the planning has been underway for some time, we consider that the coming six months are just too unknown in the COVID-19 environment to proceed. This decision was not taken lightly.

In garden parlance, our world is a moving landscape. We believe we cannot expect participants to commit funds in advance by registering early and booking discounted accommodation given concerns about safety and uncertainty. It follows that without early booking it is very difficult to gauge interest in attending. The NZGT also has a requirement to commit to non-refundable deposits (venue and buses) by the end of January 2022.

Implicit in this decision, is the knowledge that under the Protection Framework, the Red Traffic Light setting would mean that the conference would have to be cancelled anyway. Under Orange and Green Traffic Lights, the conference could proceed but only in venues using vaccine certificates. Unvaccinated people would not be able to attend.

The Wellington City Council which were sponsoring the Thursday night activities (Banks

Lecture, talk at the Botanic Gardens, meet and greet and registration) is still working through its own management of events under all Traffic Lights.

Obviously, we cannot anticipate where settings will be in April 2022 or how the pandemic will run its course in New Zealand.

The Wellington 2022 NZGT Conference will therefore be postponed until April 2023. The gardens will still be there (more mature and perfectly stunning) and we should by then be able to enjoy normal socialization and ease of movement. Let's keep hoping.

We also urge members and friends to keep visiting NZGT gardens, which choose to remain open under the Protection Framework settings.

NZGT has to be innovative and flexible. Happily we, like our members and friends, are gardeners and we will respond positively to the challenges ahead.

Watch this space for more details on NZGT's 2022 plans and enjoy your summer garden!

Wendy Palmer
Chairperson, NZ Gardens Trust

RNZIH Education Trust



The Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture Education Trust is pleased to announce final new dates for the 2021 Young Horticulturist Competition, where we will also be celebrating our 17th year.

The new Grand Final dates are set for:

Day 1: Tuesday 22nd February 2022:
Business Components Day.

Day 2: Wednesday 23rd February 2022:
Practical Activities Day.

2021 Young Horticulturist Competition

Awards Dinner:

Wednesday 23rd February 2022.

All events will be held at the New Zealand Bloodstock Centre, Karaka, Auckland.

Sector finalists

We hope to see as many finalists as possible (given the current travel constraints) competing in the Young Horticulturist Competition Grand Finals.

Apprentice Florist of the Year:

Rudrik Tripathi of Pukekohe, representing Florists NZ Incorporated (FLONZI).

Young Achiever of the Year:

Danielle (Dani) McBride of Mangawhai, representing NZ Plant Producers Incorporated.

Young Amenity of the Year:

Tim Cooper of Dunedin, representing NZ Recreation Association – parks and gardens. Tim has been awarded an RNZIH Memorial Prize to help with his travel costs.

Young Arborist of the Year:

Martin Manea of Wellington, representing NZ Arb (the NZ Arboricultural Association). This is a new sector for the Young Horticulturist Competition.

Young Landscaper of the Year:

Hayden Parker of Christchurch, representing the Registered Master Landscapers New Zealand.

Young Viticulturist of the Year:

Rhys Hall of Blenheim, representing NZ Winegrowers.

Congratulations all sector finalists.

The Young Horticulturist Competition is sponsored by T&G, Fruitfed Supplies, and Countdown.



Rudrik Tripathi, Apprentice Florist of the Year.



Martin Manea, Young Arborist of the Year.



Dani McBride, Young Achiever of the Year.



Hayden Parker, Young Landscaper of the Year.



Tim Cooper, Young Amenity of the Year.



Rhys Hall, Young Viticulturist of the Year.

NZ Arb Conference 2022

Date: 13–15th March 2022.

Venue: Te Papa Tongarewa,
Wellington.

Email: lea@on-cue.co.nz



Summary Programme

Friday, 11th March:

NZ Arb Husqvarna National Tree Climbing
Championship (NTCC) Gear Check.

Saturday, 12th March:

NZ Arb Husqvarna NTCC Prelims.

Sunday, 13th March:

NZ Arb Husqvarna NTCC Masters.
Pre-Conference Workshop.
NZ Arb Husqvarna NTCC Award
Presentations & Conference Welcome
Function.

Monday, 14th March:

Conference Day 1.
Industry Award Presentations &
Conference Dinner.

Tuesday, 15th March:

Conference Day 2.
Post-Conference Workshops.

There is a great line-up of speakers planned for
this conference – see the full programme at:
www.nzarbconference.co.nz/programme

IPPS-NZ 'Seek the South' Conference 2022



Date: 28th April to 1st May 2022.

Venue: Ascot Park Hotel, Invercargill.

The International Plant Propagators' Society –
New Zealand Region (IPPS–NZ) are holding their
2022 conference in Invercargill.

For those who want to make the most of this
great experience, there are pre-conference
tour options (26–28th April). You can choose
from three different day trips: Catlins, Gore/

Tapanui (visiting Southern Roses and Blue
Mountain Nurseries), or Invercargill (visiting
Maple Glen and Queens Park).

The speakers' programme will include a mix of
local, national and international speakers.

Further details will be at:

<https://nz.ipps.org/events/events.html>

BGANZ-NZ



Webinar

In October 2021, Botanic Gardens Australia and
New Zealand (BGANZ) held a webinar on
climate change. This was successful and
received great feedback. BGANZ are looking
forward to providing another webinar,
scheduled for March 2022, with the focus on
training updates.

International Plant Sentinel Network (IPSN)

Wellington Botanic Gardens has received
funding for this surveillance work.

Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin botanic
gardens have completed pilot surveillance
which will be extended into a full programme.

The IPSN's general surveillance project has
begun and will have botanic gardens in
Australia and New Zealand involved in
surveying host species of interest to the UK.

As reported in the previous RNZIH newsletter,
these are *Fagus sylvatica* (European beech),
Picea sitchensis (Sitka spruce), *Pinus sylvestris*
(Scots pine), *Quercus robur/petraea* (oaks), and
Rosa sp. (roses).

BGANZ are carrying out general pest and
disease surveys on these species in their
collections and report the findings to the IPSN
(as opposed to focusing on surveying for
specific pest species).

Each botanic garden will carry out two surveys
on the five host species between now and the
end of Summer. The surveys should be carried
out once in spring and once in summer.

BGANZ are using the IPSN Plant Health Checker tool (explained at www.bgci.org/news-events/new-videos-on-the-ipn/) that has been specifically designed to help assess damaged plants with unknown pest/disease problems.

During the general surveillance project gardens will utilise the survey form to record damage and generally assess health problems in the host species.

NZPCN Favourite Plant 2021

After an incredible competition the 2021 New Zealand Plant Conservation Network (NZPCN) Favourite Plant has been chosen, and unlike what has happened in Bird of the Year (won by the long-tailed bat!) the Favourite Plant for 2021 is actually a plant.



Leptinella nana (pygmy button daisy). Photo: © Jon Sullivan (CC-BY), via iNaturalist NZ—Mātaki Taiao.

Congratulations to the pygmy button daisy *Leptinella nana* for taking out the competition, and in the end, it wasn't even close. The support this plant received was more than enough to put it ahead of the more well-known species that populated the top 10. This is a big win for a tiny plant that only exists in a few areas that add up to smaller than most people's living rooms. In a competition with the goal of raising awareness this is a very worthy winner.

A tough second for ngutu kākā *Clianthus puniceus*, which was favourite to win for much of the competition. Although it didn't make the

top spot its appearance near the top shed some light on just how threatened this common garden plant is in the wild.

A huge thank-you goes out to all those who campaigned for their favourite plant and all those who took part. This year saw one of the highest voter turn-outs ever, and a total of 213 plants receiving at least one vote. The top 10 are as follows:

1. *Leptinella nana* — 154 votes
2. *Clianthus puniceus* — 118 votes
3. *Metrosideros excelsa* — 52 votes
4. *Corybas carsei* — 44 votes
5. *Muehlenbeckia astonii* — 38 votes
6. *Sophora chathamica* — 35 votes
7. *Calochilus herbaceus* — 31 votes
8. *Pseudopanax crassifolius* — 30 votes
9. *Clematis paniculata* — 24 votes
10. *Vitex lucens* — 24 votes.



Clianthus puniceus (ngutu kākā). Photo: © Alan Jolliffe.



Metrosideros excelsa (pōhutukawa). Photo: © Alan Jolliffe.



Corybas carsei (swamp helmet orchid).
Photo: © Catherine Beard (CC-BY), via iNaturalist
NZ—Mātaki Taiao.



Calochilus herbaceus (pale beard orchid).
Photo: © Bill Campbell (CC-BY-NC), via iNaturalist
NZ—Mātaki Taiao.



Muehlenbeckia astonii (shrubby pohuehue).
Photo: © Alan Jolliffe.



Sophora chathamica (coastal kowhai). Photo: Peter
de Lange (CC0), via iNaturalist NZ—Mātaki Taiao.



Pseudopanax crassifolius (lancewood).
Photo: © Murray Dawson.



Clematis paniculata (puawhānanga).
Photos: © Murray Dawson.



Vitex lucens (pūriri). Photo: © Murray Dawson.

See www.nzpcn.org.nz/nzpcn/news/tiny-daisy-wins-big-in-favourite-plant-2021/ for further details.

RNZIH Canterbury Branch donation

The RNZIH National Executive wish to sincerely thank the Canterbury Branch for a generous donation of more than \$11,000.

Canterbury Branch organised the highly successful conference 'Greening the City: Bringing Biodiversity Back into the Urban Environment' in 2003. This generated a significant portion of the funds that they donated.

On the behest of branch President David Moyle, this recent donation is to be used to support the continued publication of the *New Zealand Garden Journal* in full colour.



Cover of the latest *New Zealand Garden Journal*.

This donation closes the bank account of the Canterbury Branch, and effectively the continuation of the branch itself.

As a consequence, Auckland is the only branch of the RNZIH formally remaining.

Updates to the RNZIH website

New homepage

Murray Dawson has created a first draft of the new RNZIH homepage. It is fully responsive in design, meaning that it resizes equally well on larger displays and smaller smartphone screens.

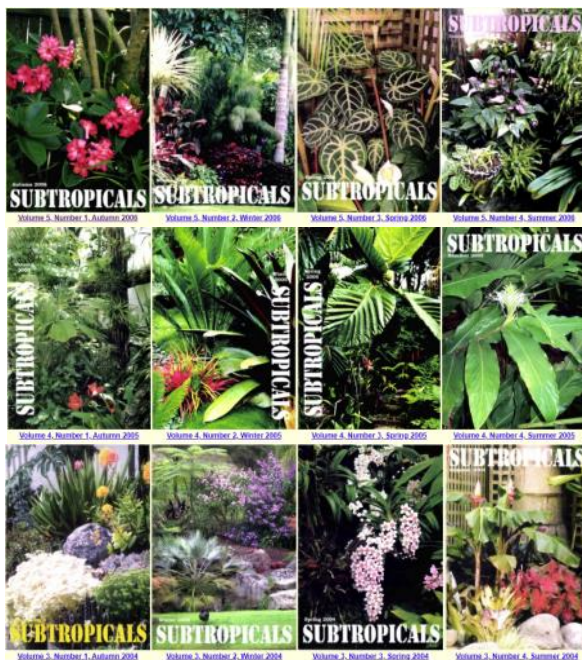
We expect that this will provide the new look of the RNZIH website. Over time, we plan to replace all pages in our website with a modern layout. Please email dawsonm@rnzih.org.nz if you would like a link to the test page to evaluate this new design.

New magazine

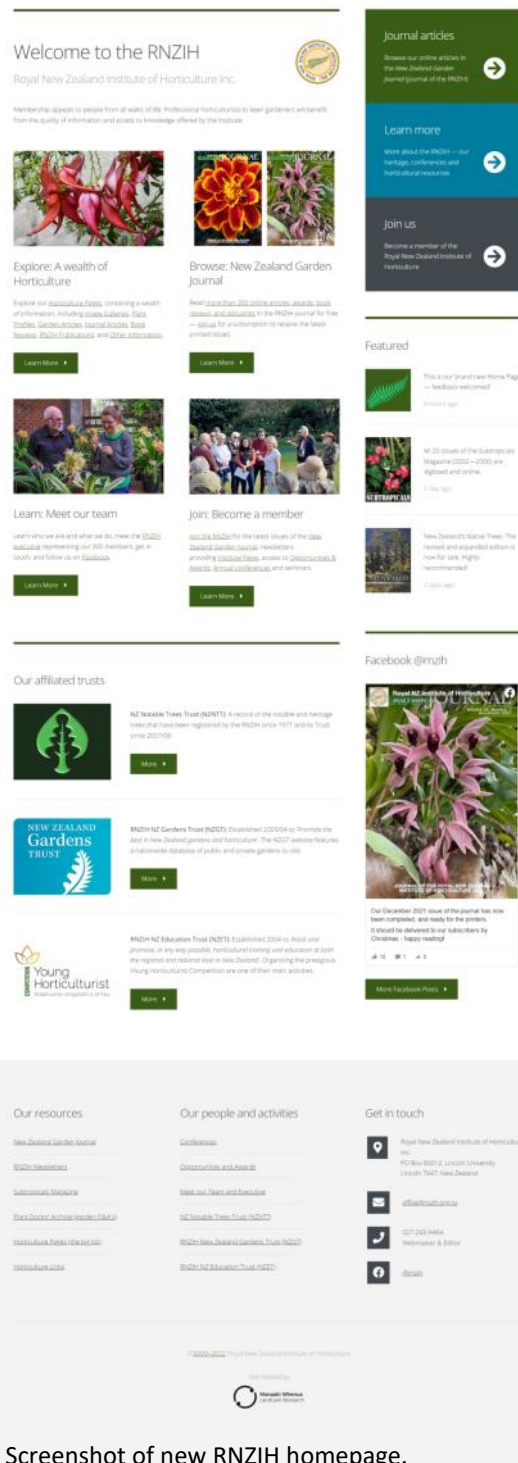
The Subtropicals magazine is now online at www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/Subtropicals_Magazine.htm.

Although published 2002–2006, the articles remain relevant – there are many interesting and rare plants discussed. Plant names in these issues are proving really helpful to the ‘Taking Stock’ plant names project.

A huge thank-you to Geoffrey Marshall of Auckland for organising the digitisation work and to Marjorie Lowe’s family for granting permission to upload the magazine.



Covers of Subtropicals magazine.



Screenshot of new RNZIH homepage.

‘Taking Stock’: Resolving New Zealand’s Cultivated Plants Problem: Project Update

Much progress has been made since I reported the beginning of this project in our March 2020 newsletter.

We have held six videoconferences over two years with a wide range of experts joining us. These ‘virtual meetings’ are well attended, interesting, and with many great ideas to help the project along.

Marion MacKay (Massey University) is Chairperson, and last year spoke about the project at the NZ Gardens Trust Conference in Palmerston North (13–15th March, 2020). This year, I presented at the IPPS conference in Hamilton (8th May, 2021), and my talk was published by *Commercial Horticulture* (Aug–Sept 2021). This and other publicity helps spread the word.

Numerous exotic species are missing from ‘official’ plant names databases, and Yvonne Baker and I have been busy resolving many thousands of names from authoritative New Zealand horticultural articles and books. These are steadily being added to Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research’s Ngā Tipu o Aotearoa – New Zealand Plant Names Database (PND) to fill the gaps. Sometimes names are completely absent from the PND, sometimes they are suppressed from public view, and often their cultivated status in New Zealand and other details need adding.

Lincoln University library has made significant progress curating their extensive nursery catalogue collection. These catalogues have been sourced from their original holdings at Lincoln (mainly collected by the late Charlie Challenger) and from the Mt Albert Research Centre library (which Keith Hammett contributed to). The Lincoln library has also digitised some of the earliest New Zealand catalogues. If you have a nursery catalogue collection, please consider donating them to Lincoln as I feel they would be in safe hands.

By the end of 2021, Marion MacKay, on behalf of the RNZIH, will have submitted an application to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), aiming to recognise 40 species of vireya rhododendrons as present (‘not new’) in New Zealand. This work is demanding and Marion has done an outstanding job for us, preparing an evidence base of 280 pages.

Further ‘Section 26’ submissions will be made to the EPA in 2022, including additional *Rhododendron* species, a tranche of orchid species being prepared by Glenys MacRae on behalf of the Orchid Council of New Zealand, and several species identified by Kathryn Hurr as important to the New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated.

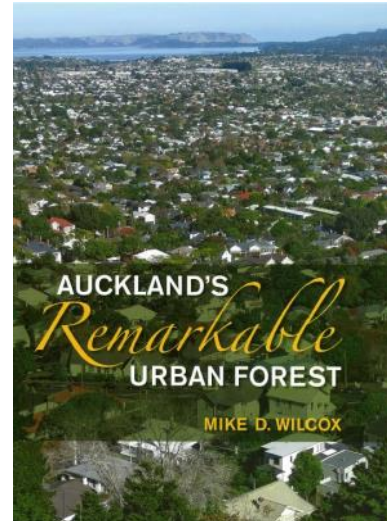
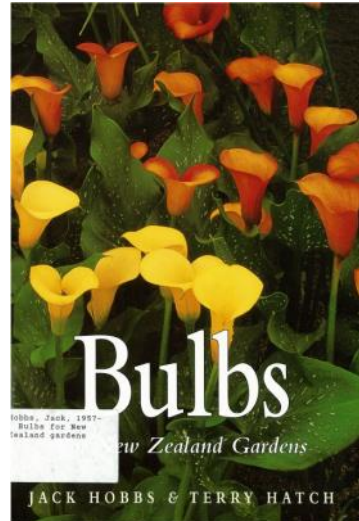
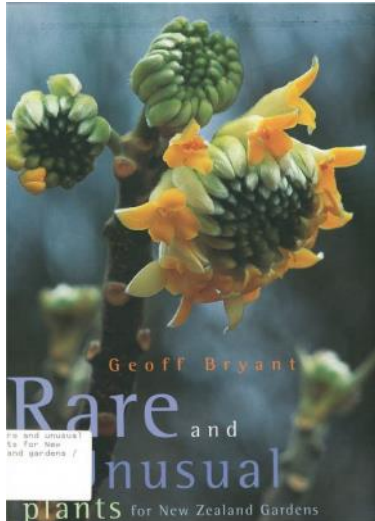
Please let us know what species are important to you and missing from Landcare Research’s PND or MPI’s Plants Biosecurity Index (PBI).

To summarise, the ‘Taking Stock’ project can be broken down into four main steps:

1. Accumulating plant names and collection resources (NZ catalogues, books, articles)
2. Resolving exotic names (especially at the species level)
3. Adding names to ‘official’ databases (PND)
4. Submitting (Section 26) applications to EPA for presence in NZ determinations (based on best evidence, priority species).

It’s interesting to note that the latest Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment report (‘Space invaders: A review of how New Zealand manages weeds that threaten native ecosystems’) advocates for a complete list of exotic species present in New Zealand. The ‘Taking Stock’ project is making a major contribution toward that goal.

Murray Dawson
RNZIH Cultivated Plants Project Manager



Three of many references providing names to the 'Taking Stock' project.

Bryant, G. 1996. Rare and unusual plants for New Zealand gardens. David Bateman, Auckland. [155 names].

Hobbs, J. and Hatch, T. 1994. Bulbs for New Zealand gardens. Random House, Auckland. [1,094 names].

Wilcox, M.D. 2012. Auckland's remarkable urban forest. Auckland Botanical Society. [1,285 names].



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