

# ROYAL NEW ZEALAND Institute of Horticulture

# Newsletter

2012 No. 2, June ISSN 1174-6947 (Print) ISSN 1179-7444 (Online)

# **President's Comments**

The months are passing since the New Zealand Gardens Trust conference but who could forget the magnificent Hamilton Gardens – a genuine garden of gardens. Peter Sergel's dogmatic adherence to his design principles underpinned by thorough and systematic research make the Hamilton Gardens unique in Australasia. Given the economic climate the conference was very well attended. Thanks to Irene Collins, the NZGT Administration Manager, for all of her organising that made this conference so successful.

The NZ Notable Trees Trust continues to seek people's assistance to update old records and to include new trees on the New Zealand Tree Register (NZTR). It is a big task so if you know of a significant tree in your community that should be included on the NZTR you can now do this online via the website (<a href="www.notabletrees.org.nz">www.notabletrees.org.nz</a>). Any contributions are greatly appreciated. We are losing too many of our important trees and even if they cannot be preserved forever a comprehensive record of them remains important.

The New Zealand Horticulture Industry Training Organisation (NZHITO) is in merger and in the final stages of negotiations with NZ Sports Turf ITO. This is part of the government policy to reduce the number of training organisations, application of the substantial reserves that a number of them hold and to reduce the duplications in qualifications, unit standards and administrative services. While I have no opposition in principle to the merger the standard of amenity horticultural qualifications is of concern especially as NZQA drives a policy of flexible learning. A survey by Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand - NZ region showed that of the nine gardens surveyed there were only three unit standards commonly delivered in a L4 Certificate in amenity horticulture. It is thought that there may be up to 100 different versions of a L4 certificate in horticulture throughout the country. I think that this is farcical and if anything there needs to be less flexibility. RNZIH along with BGANZ-NZ region will be following this closely.

On a more positive note we should celebrate our successes with this year's awards. Andrew Maloy's Associate of Honour is truly well deserved.

His quiet and determined approach has led him on a journey through most facets of horticulture including his business now recognised around the world for producing outstanding bromeliads. Kerei Thompson's award of an FRIH recognises the significant input he has made to the NZGT and also his commitment to excellence in horticultural practice. Jim Rumbal's Plant Raisers' Award recognises not only Jim's contribution to the introduction of new plants to the market over many years but also represents that body of skilled industry professionals who are the stalwarts of horticulture in New Zealand. Alan Jellyman's Garden History award recognises a seminal book on Duncan and Davies, one of New Zealand's most famous nurseries, and one that is likely in one way or another to have touched the lives of almost every person in this country. We look forward to the opportunity to recognise other horticultural leaders in the future.

And of course the award of the RHS Veitch Medal to Bev McConnell is an even more remarkable achievement that reflects not only Bev's commitment to her garden Ayrlies as the country's foremost private garden but also her commitment to the wider horticultural community.

I am very pleased that the Young Horticulturist of the Year competition will proceed in 2012 with no small measure of thanks going to the New Zealand Education Trust team and Elenka Nickoloff. Without the work they have put in there was little hope of it proceeding this year. I am pleased to say that there are three and possibly four entries into the amenity sector finals from the Wellington region this year.

We welcome George Tregidga to the RNZIH National Executive. George takes over from Alex Gardiner on behalf of NZET. George brings formidable experience in production horticulture and good business practice. He is known to many of you personally or by reputation. I look forward to his contributions to the executive.

Best wishes for the winter season!

David Sole President, RNZIH

#### **RNZIH New Zealand Gardens Trust**

#### Conference 2012 - "Waikato Bouquet"

More than 70 members arrived on Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup> ready to visit gardens, meet friends and listen to a variety of speakers.

Friday dawned grey and quickly turned to heavy rain. Umbrellas and boots were deployed for our first garden visit to Moondance Manor where Jeanette and Stephen Williams told us the story of their garden and provided a morning feast. From there it was on to Sarnia Park, a Garden of Significance, where Beverley Gower welcomed us to her magnificent lodge and park. Mature and shapely trees in both these gardens add structure and grace.

Rosenvale was the lunch venue, and then off to Parkwood, also a Garden of Significance and home of Ailsa and Carey Sanson for our last visit of the day. Everyone relished the varied plantings, the inviting layout, the changing colours of the deciduous trees, the peace of this true gardener's garden – and the generous afternoon tea.

Friday evening the AGM of the RNZIH took place, followed by their annual awards and the Banks Memorial lecture.

The highlight of the conference was the Saturday visit to Hamilton Gardens, preceded by Dr Peter Sergel's fascinating lecture on the development of the gardens as a whole and the philosophy behind each of its awe-inspiring gardens which represent different cultures and different ages.

Dr Sergel has been Director of the gardens for 30 years and everyone was in awe of the breadth of his vision as well as his single-minded determination to implement that vision and at the same time take on the responsibility of raising funds for each new project.

Dr Sergel's presentation followed on from two speakers, Justin Watson (from Tourism New Zealand) and Andrew Stone (scheduled to speak at last year's conference but prevented by adverse weather), who focussed on marketing. The popularity of Hamilton Gardens served to emphasise the point made by both Justin and Andrew, about the need to provide a memorable experience for tourists, whether they be garden visitors or thrill seekers.

A day of inspiring speakers was topped off at the dinner on Saturday night. Hosted by the Woodlands Trust at their atmospheric old homestead in Gor-

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donton, this occasion, as always, was the glamour event of the conference. At the dinner, we were transported to New York by Barry Ferguson who spoke of his great love for the city where he lived and worked for more than 30 years as a gardener, florist and host to the rich and famous.

Sunday morning provided more manna for the brain. Jack Hobbs, with an evocative set of photos, made us think about New Zealand gardens by showing examples of how to enhance them by putting plants together that complement each other.

David Sole and Murray Dawson urged us all to let the RNZIH know about plants that need to be entered on the Institute's plant register to help ensure that a comprehensive record of existing plants is maintained and to help with conservation efforts.

A large part of the morning was devoted to the Open Forum. Discussion was robust, repartee quick and amusing and after much discussion, some thorny issues were ironed out, seemingly to the satisfaction of the majority.

A big thank-you to the staff at Woodlands and to Irene Collins who put so much time into making a success of the conference.

#### 2013 NZGT Conference

See you in Dunedin next year. Fran Rawling and her team have prepared a great programme – interesting speakers, great gardens in Southland and around Dunedin and, as always, a chance to get to know a corner of New Zealand better.

#### Updates from the Trustees

As signalled last year the Trust has appointed two new trustees, nominated by members, who are both NZGT garden owners. We are pleased to welcome on board Fran Rawling from Wylde Willow, a Garden of National Significance at Abbotsford, near Dunedin, and Jenny Oakley whose Taranaki garden also has the status of National Significance.

Pamela McGeorge Trustee, NZGT

Summarised from *The Garden Path* (Newsletter of the NZ Gardens Trust, Autumn 2012).

## **Congratulations**

Our congratulations to Beverley McConnell for receiving the prestigious Veitch Memorial Medal.

#### Mrs B.M. McConnell QSM, VMM, AHRIH(NZ)

At the RNZIH Gardens Trust Conference at Hamilton, Jack Hobbs had great pleasure in announcing that the Royal Horticultural Society (UK) was awarding Mrs Bev McConnell the Veitch Memorial Medal for 2012. It was an ideal gathering for such an announcement as Bev is a Vice-Patron of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture and a foundation assessor and trustee of the Gardens Trust. Bev received a standing ovation, a sign of affection and the respect in which she is held by her fellow gardeners.

The Veitch Memorial Medal is the highest award which the Royal Horticultural Society can bestow on those non-British nationals who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement and improvement of the science and practice of horticulture. The medal commemorates James Veitch, one of the dynasty of the most important British nursery in Victorian and Edwardian times.

The list of recipients of the Veitch Memorial Medal reads as a veritable who's who of horticulture.



Beverley McConnell. Photo: Jack Hobbs.

The list includes E.H. Wilson, George Forrest, Frank Kingdon Ward, Sir Harold Hillier and, more recently, Roy Lancaster and Helen Dillon. Bev is one the few New Zealanders to have won the medal – including Leonard Cockayne, Douglas Cook (of Eastwoodhill), Dr John Yeates (the lily breeder), Sir Victor Davies, Lawrie Metcalf and Alan Jellyman. She is a very worthy addition to this distinguished group.

We all know Bev's garden at 'Ayrlies', near Whitford, Howick, as one of New Zealand's greatest modern gardens. This is recognised by the RNZIH's Gardens Trust as being a garden of international significance. 'Ayrlies' is also widely recognised overseas as one of New Zealand's most important gardens. It is now frequently visited by overseas groups of gardeners on tour in New Zealand as a well as by local societies and individuals. 'Ayrlies' is noted for the exuberance and boldness of its plantings, the courage with which Bev has approached her plants and her plantings, and the way in which the garden connects to the landscape. Recently, the significance of 'Ayrlies' was acknowledged in the BBC TV program by Monty Don, Around the World in 80 Gardens.

The importance of 'Ayrlies is due not only to its size but also to the quality of the plantings and the design concepts used. It is appropriate to consider the creation of gardens as an art form, and as such, the creation of 'Ayrlies' can be thought of as one of the great art works, one of the great cultural achievements of the last century within New Zealand, a cultural achievement of truly international standing. Bev deserves recognition as a great artist, a cultural ambassador who has enriched our lives and has brought distinction to New Zealand horticulture.

However, she has done much more than "just" create a great garden: she has made many other distinguished contributions to horticulture in New Zealand as shown by her election as an Associate of Honour and as a Vice-Patron of the RNZIH. She helped organise the Auckland Trinity Garden Festival which introduced so many new people to the enjoyment of gardens and plants, as well as raising funds towards completion of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. She has worked for many years for the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust, she has been a trustee of the Friends of the Auckland Botanic Gardens, she was a foundation assessor and a trustee of the RNZIH Gardens Trust ensuring the credibility of the Trust when it was first established. She has been a judge at the Ellerslie Flower Show and assisted with the New Zealand entries at the Chelsea Flower Show, which were so successful in raising the profile of New Zealand in the international horticultural world. She has been a very generous donor to the Auckland Botanic Gardens. She frequently opens her garden to raise funds for community groups and she has also been much involved in non-horticultural community activities. Her contributions to the community have been recognised by her being awarded the Queen's Service Medal.

Bev is arguably New Zealand's most distinguished horticulturist. Indeed, her achievements justify considering her as one of the world's most distinguished horticulturists. We are all delighted that her stature has now been recognised by the award of the Veitch Memorial Medal.

#### A.R. Ferguson

A version of this congratulatory note was published in the *The Auckland Garden:* Newsletter of the Auckland Botanic Gardens and Friends, June 2012, pp. 8–9, 24.

#### **RNZIH Education Trust**

#### The Young Horticulturist of the Year 2012 Competition

Partnered by AGMARDT, Fruitfed Supplies and Turners & Growers.

It is with great pleasure the RNZIH Education Trust, in conjunction with the partnering sponsors AG-MARDT, Fruitfed Supplies and Turners & Growers, are proud to announce the launch of the 2012 Young Horticulturist of the Year competition. It was a shaky start with funding undecided until early April and the Education Trust would like to sincerely thank AGMARDT and Fruitfed Supplies for their additional grants to ensure the 2012 competition went ahead. The Education Trust also thanks the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture for their grant to the 2012 competition.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for making this event possible:

Partnering sponsors: AGMARDT, Fruitfed Supplies, Turners & Growers.

**Supporting Sponsors**: Bayer, Ballance Agri-Nutrients, Massey University, NZ Gardener magazine, NZ Horticulture ITO.

**Affiliated Sponsors**: City Park Services, NZ Gourmet, Yara Fertilisers, Everris, Manukau Institute of Technology School of Horticulture, Yates NZ, Rainbow Park Nurseries, Cornwall Park Trust, Auckland Botanic Gardens.

#### **Grand Final Dates**

- Wednesday 14th November 2012
- Thursday 15th November 2012

The awards dinner will take place Thursday 15th November at the Rendezvous Hotel, Auckland City.

#### **Sector Competitions**

Floristry NZ Inc: Annika Horgan will represent Floristry in the Grand Final.

**Fruit Sector of Horticulture NZ:** The Young Grower of the Year regional competitions will be held in June 2012:

- Hawkes Bay on 6th June
- Bay of Plenty on 20th June
- Nelson on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**Vegetable Sector of Horticulture NZ:** A national competition was held in Christchurch on 10<sup>th</sup> May. The winner will join the regional fruit winners for a playoff, for the Young Grower of the Year title, during the Horticulture NZ conference to be held 24–25 July in Auckland. The Young Grower of the Year winner will represent both the fruit and vegetable sectors at the Grand Final.

**Landscaping New Zealand**: The City Parks Services Young Landscaper of the Year competition will take place during their conference in Hamilton on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July. The winner will represent Landscaping New Zealand at the Grand Final.

**Nursery and Garden Industry Association:** The HortFertplus Young Achiever competition will take place during their conference in Auckland on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July. The winner will represent NGIA at the Grand Final.

**NZ Winegrowers:** The Markham Young Viticulturist of the Year regional competitions will take place in Hawkes Bay, Marlborough and Central Otago during July. A playoff will take place at the Bragato wine conference from 22–24 August. The Markham Young Viticulturist of the Year winner will represent NZ Winegrowers at the Grand Final.

**NZ** Recreation Association – Amenity Horticulture: The Young Amenity Horticulturist competition will take place in Hamilton or Wellington in late July, date and location still to be advised. The winner will represent NZ Recreation Association at the Grand Final.

#### Main Judges Confirmed

Our main judges for 2012 will include Jack Hobbs (Auckland Botanic Gardens), Errol Hewett (Emeritus Professor at Massey University), Lesley Slade (consultant in Leadership Management). The Education Trust appreciates the huge input and commitment of judges to the competition each year.

#### **Academic Advisor and Moderator Appointments**

- David Puflett, Horticultural Training Solutions, is the academic advisor to the competition.
- Alastair Gordon, NZ Horticulture ITO, is the independent moderator to the competition.

David and Alastair work behind the scenes formulating the practical activities and appoint the activity judges. Their input and management of the practical activities is an extremely important area within of the competition and is greatly appreciated.

#### **Practical Activities**

The AGMARDT Market Innovation Project starts with a one day seminar on 27th August 2012. Finalists then have 8 weeks to prepare a 10-page integrated business and marketing plan before the Grand Final.

Planning and development of the computer exercise and the practical activity categories are in conjunction with David Puflett, Alastair Gordon and Elenka Nikoloff.

#### Further News Updates

#### Young Horticulturist of the Year Forum for Aspiring Leaders

Bayer, Fruitfed Supplies and Turners & Growers generously sponsored a two-day forum in mid-May 2012 for the 2011 Young Horticulturist of the Year finalists. The forum included an outline of the business activities of the sponsors, a site visit to Status Produce growing tomatoes for local and export markets, an introduction to leadership and an overview of managing risk in the rural sector. The Education Trust sincerely thanks these sponsors for supporting this new initiative to support past finalists in their careers in horticulture.

#### Updates on our 2010 and 2011 Winners

**Ben Smith**, our 2011 Young Horticulturist of the Year winner is using the travel scholarships totalling \$11,000, for further training. He has submitted an application to the FAME course for entry to the November 2012 intake. If Ben secures a place on this course he will develop the skills to export to the US, Europe and China and visit these countries to experience these markets first-hand. We wish him every success with his application.

Rebecca (Rangi) Green, 2011 second placegetter, won \$7,000 in travel scholarships in the competition plus secured a grant from the Friends of the Auckland Botanic Gardens. Rangi commenced a 7-week volunteer internship at the Royal Horticulture Society Wisley Garden, located in Surrey, UK in mid-May 2012. This placement will develop her knowledge and techniques in plant collections and field trials. Rangi then plans to spend six weeks viewing gardens in England and Europe before returning to her position at the Auckland Botanic Gardens.

**Dave Harris**, 2010 second placegetter, has recently visited California learning tissue culture techniques thanks to the scholarship he received as part of his prize.

Elenka Nikoloff, YHOTY Competition Manager



# George Tregidga: new RNZIH executive member and Education Trust representative

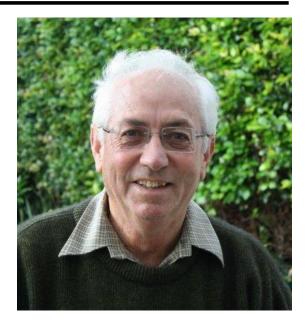
George Tregidga of Auckland is well known throughout New Zealand as an innovative tomato grower with more than fifty years involvement in the industry. He was elected as a board member of the RNZIH Education Trust in 2008.

George was Project/Procurement Manager for Status Produce Ltd, the biggest tomato production enterprise in New Zealand. He retired at the beginning of 2012. For many years George and his brother Mark managed the family tomato growing business, PTO Growers, which was the largest of its kind in NZ at that time.

When, in 2002 Turners and Growers purchased the PTO Group and Status Produce, George became heavily involved in managing the expansion and development of the company.

George has a long interest and involvement in industry training. He was an active member of the Management

Committee of the Auckland Horticultural Cadet Scheme for fifteen years.



George was a member of the Manukau Institute of Technology horticultural advisory board for eighteen years. George served his community as a Rotarian for 28 years and in 1995 he was awarded a Paul Harris Award in recognition for this. He has been a trust member of the Mangere Lawn Cemetery Trust since 1992.

We profiled George previously when he was first appointed to the board of the Education Trust (RNZIH Newsletter, No. 1, April 2008).

#### **BGANZ** seminar

The BGANZ – Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand – display seminar, hosted by Hamilton Gardens in April 2012, saw many areas covered from sign design, garden planning and implementation. The range of topics allowed for an overview of current best practice and insight into where some of the gardens around New Zealand are heading.

Well attended by 80 participants both from NZ and Australia, the 2012 seminar continued on the themed workshops that allow for exchange of ideas and better networking amongst the botanical gardens sector.

The seminar was preceded by the executive committee meeting of BGANZ–NZ to discuss a range of topics including apprentice training standards, RNZIH New Zealand Plant Collection Register, young horticulturist of the year, millennium seed bank, biosecurity and the international sentinel plant project.

Jeremy Hawker RNZIH BGANZ-NZ representative



#### **RNZIH Notable Trees Trust**

#### **Notable Tree Notes**

In each edition of the Newsletter we feature a tree from the New Zealand Tree Register. The idea is to highlight a specimen with outstanding attributes and/or an especially interesting history. Please visit the website for more information.

#### AR/G0967 Western Park, Ponsonby, Auckland

The trust's database holds records of several important tree group collections. Western Park, in Ponsonby, represents one of these. Dating back to the mid-19th century Western Park is one of the city's most distinguished open spaces. The park falls away from the Te Rimu Tahi (the lone rimu tree) ridge. Orea (eels) were caught from the Tuna Mau stream, that once flowed through the centre of the park out to Waiatarau –

Freemans Bay. The original park consisted of a coffin-shaped wedge extending from Ponsonby Road to Beresford Street, with access to the park being gained from a very narrow Ponsonby Road frontage.

In 1873 the council put forward the considerable sum of ten guineas as prize money for the best new park design and 11 different concepts were submitted. The winners were Messrs Hammond and Blackmore with an intricate design entitled 'Lily of the Valley'. The new park was finished and in 1874 the City Parks Committee noted that "the committee have caused upwards of 1,100 deciduous and coniferous trees of the choicest kind to be planted in the park."

The park was vested to the City Council in 1875 and in 1897 the *Auckland Star* reported that the city had followed the example of "the civilised world" when the park was officially opened.

Trees identified as being of particular historic value in the Proposed Auckland City District Plan 1993 are: a Cook pine (Araucaria columnaris, AR/0964), a Bhutan cypress (Cupressus cashmeriana) and two Canary Island pines (Pinus canariensis, AR/0975). The Cook pine (from New Caledonia) is thought to be the largest of this rare species growing in New Zealand. It is noted in Burstall & Sale's Great Trees of New Zealand (there are six smaller trees growing near Mansion House, Kawau Island). Other early plantings include: a Queensland kauri (Agathis robusta), a hoop pine (Araucaria cunninghamii), a camphor laurel (Cinnamomum camphora, AR/0966, considered by Burstall (1971) to be "the best known in the City"), two Mexican cypress (Cupressus lusitanica), a Mediterranean cypress (Cupressus sempervirens, stated by Burstall, (1971) to be "the largest recorded in the Auckland region and possibly the oldest"), two Bhutan cypress (Cupressus cashmeriana), two stone pine (Pinus pinea), a number of common English oak (Quercus robur) including one very large specimen (AR/0965), two redwood (Sequoia sempervirens), a common elm (Ulmus procera) and a Monterey pine (Pinus radiata) which, at





Top: Cook pine *Araucaria columnaris* located at Western Park, NZTR record AR/0964. Photo: Russell Van Wijngaarden.

Bottom: NZNTT database search results for Western Park, shown in 'Map View'. Summary data for record AR/0964 is displayed.

approximately 36 m in height, is thought to be one of the tallest in the region (AR/0978, Van Wijngaarden, 2012).

#### Submitting NZNTT tree records

Thanks to Russell Van Wijngaarden (arborist at Cornwall Park, Auckland), whose records form the basis of this article. Russell and others have submitted tree records to assist the trust in developing its database, which is a free and valuable online resource for everyone. You can submit tree records yourself – it's easy and requires only a modest amount of time and effort. Know a great tree in your area? Please – submit the record to NZNTT.

NZNTT welcomes anyone who would like to contribute to expanding the database – it's simple – just follow the straightforward standard method described in step-by-step detail on the NZNTT website. Whether you're an experienced tree recorder or a first-timer, your effort is appreciated. Your record may make a genuine difference – and it all helps to build a comprehensive database of New Zealand's notable trees.

#### Bryan Gould

#### Trustee, New Zealand Notable Trees Trust

The New Zealand Notable Trees Trust manages a free public database containing verified details of the most notable and significant trees in this country. The database is constantly being updated. New trees may be registered at any time – together with any contributions of information or support. View online at <u>www.notabletrees.org.nz</u>.

### The NZ Arboricultural Association's Annual Conference 2012



**Date:** 25–28 October 2012 **Venue:** Amora Hotel, Wellington

Website: <a href="http://nzarbor.org.nz/conference/">http://nzarbor.org.nz/conference/</a>

Contact: Lea Boodee – Conference Organiser (onCue Conferences & Events Ltd)

**Email:** lea@on-cue.co.nz **Phone:** (03) 546 6330 Ext. 1

After a 'gap' year in 2011, the NZ Arboricultural Association brings you their 2012 Annual Conference. This conference is the largest event for arboriculture-related business and features key international and national speakers within the industry and wider tree care community.

The theme of PAST to PRESENT offers participants the chance to look at any aspect of the theme from the vantage point of time.

The Conference is running in conjunction with the Husqvarna-NZ Arb National Tree Climbing Championship on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th October at the Wellington Botanic Gardens. On Friday evening there will be the Conference Dinner, Auction and Awards Ceremony.

In addition to these major activities, there will also be the following events:

- NZ Arb AGM
- The Tane Mahuta Free Lecture
- The Exhibitors' Function
- The Climber's BBQ
- The NTCC Awards Presentation.

Visit the conference website (<a href="http://nzarbor.org.nz/conference/">http://nzarbor.org.nz/conference/</a>) for updates, registration and further information.

## New Zealand Plant Collection Register: June 2012 update

David Sole and I spoke on the Plant Collection Register project at the NZ Gardens Trust conference in Hamilton on Sunday 29 April. We outlined:

- Why the register is needed (conservation of rare plants and heritage cultivars, to facilitate plant exchange, access to material for plant breeding, management of potential weed escapes and better importation and biosecurity decisions)
- Its background (dating from the pioneering register established by the RNZIH 1989–1993)
- Workshops held (two) and funding obtained (TFBIS and BGANZ-NZ)
- Its relevance to other initiatives (including the NZ Biodiversity Recording Network and the NZ Organisms Register).



Some members of the RNZIH NZ Gardens Trust maintain significant plant collections and are therefore important potential contributors to the project. We appreciated the opportunity to explain the Plant Collection Register to them.

Recently I received some excellent news – we have additional co-funding to digitise the historic Duncan and Davies (D&D) Nursery Catalogue collection. This funding will be made available from the Sir Victor Davies Foundation and the Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship. It will not only mobilise plant names for the Plant Collection Register project, but will also provide online (PDF) versions of each D&D catalogue.

D&D is arguably the most significant nursery in New Zealand. They produced about 100 historic catalogues from c. 1916 to 2004. The catalogue collection is a valuable resource for plant names, descriptions, building cultivar registers, tracing plant origins, researching garden history and reviewing horticultural trends.

Complete sets of this resource are rare (I know of only two near-complete sets) and the information is largely inaccessible (non-electronic and held as reference-only material in research libraries). Free digital access will reduce wear-and-tear on the remaining print-based catalogues and help to secure this resource in perpetuity.

Murray Dawson New Zealand Plant Collection Register Project collections@rnzih.org.nz

Note: my previous update (March 2012) was not printed on the back page of the last Newsletter as it should have been. However, the version that was distributed via email was complete and is also uploaded at <a href="https://www.rnzih.org.nz/Newsletter/Newsletter\_March\_2012.pdf">www.rnzih.org.nz/Newsletter/Newsletter\_March\_2012.pdf</a>.



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