



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND  
INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

Newsletter

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## Presidents' Annual Report

We live in an era of rapid social, technological and climatic change. Unless organisms and organisations adapt to change, they become extinct. The advent of COVID-19 during the last three years has seen the most immediate and tangible change in how we live our lives.

However for the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH) the reality is that we have been adapting incrementally over the years and will celebrate our centenary in 2023. The only real difference has been that we held our 2020 AGM virtually as we shall again this year.

Early in its existence, the RNZIH was organised on the basis of regional branches throughout New Zealand. One by one, these branches have ceased, with the exception of the Auckland branch. Notwithstanding, the Institute continues as a single entity with members of the Executive from throughout New Zealand. This situation has been greatly helped in recent years, by the ability for Executive to meet monthly via Internet videoconferencing.

Horticultural education has always been of major importance to the Institute, and at one stage we had the responsibility of organising the National Diploma of Horticulture qualification. Despite this role being taken away, we have continued to contribute through the RNZIH Education Trust. Their main effort is the organisation and running of the Young Horticulturist Competition. This was held again this year after a year in abeyance.

In a similar way, we see liaison with the RNZIH NZ Gardens Trust to be important. In addition to showcasing high quality amenity horticulture, many of the gardens act as repositories of plants not freely available in the nursery trade.

The Institute has a website built by Murray Dawson, work he began more than twenty years ago. This was a major achievement as the website has considerable depth. However to younger eyes it looked out-dated, so Murray has 'refreshed' the home page so that it now works well on smart phones as well as large screens and is easy to use.

From 2006, Institute Newsletters and the Journal have been available digitally on our website. We should be proud of these publications produced in recent years by Murray Dawson, with the journal co-edited by former RNZIH Chairperson Andrew Maloy. There are however, Journals and Newsletters dating back to 1925 that exist only as hard copy. An application for funds to digitise these publications has been successful, which will make much historically valuable information accessible.

A precursor to this has been that Geoffrey Marshall has organised the scanning work and obtained permission from the family of former editor Marjorie Lowe to digitise the complete run of the 'Subtropicals' magazine. These are now freely available on the RNZIH website.

In a similar vein regarding contemporary means of communication, five years ago, the Institute established a Facebook Page, where items of botanical and horticultural interest are posted. The page is gaining increasing traction.

As has been reported previously, the Institute has been working on the very important project 'Taking Stock: Resolving New Zealand's Cultivated Plants Problem'. This seeks to establish which exotic taxa exist in New Zealand.

All in all, I think that the RNZIH with a healthy age range and gender balance on the Executive is adapting to change and we look forward to our Centenary with confidence.

**Keith Hammett**  
President, RNZIH

## RNZIH Annual General Meeting 14th June 2022, 7.30 pm via videoconferencing

This newsletter contains the reports ready for our AGM to be held via videoconferencing.

**Email [office@rnzih.org.nz](mailto:office@rnzih.org.nz) if you wish to join our Zoom videoconference or register an apology**

### AGM Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies / In Memoriam
3. Minutes of the 2021 AGM
4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2021 AGM
5. Presidents' Annual Report
6. Statement of Accounts for 2021, Budget for 2022 and confirmation of Auditor
7. Update of RNZIH Constitution
8. Branch report (Auckland)
9. Trust reports
10. Publications and website report
11. Election of Officers
12. General Business.

<b>Associated Trusts</b>	
Hamish Gates (RNZIH Education Trust Chairperson)	Email: <a href="mailto:chair@younghort.co.nz">chair@younghort.co.nz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.younghort.co.nz">www.younghort.co.nz</a>
Julie Sperring (Trust Manager, New Zealand Gardens Trust)	92a Forest Lakes Road, RD3, Ōtaki 5583 Mobile: 027 694 8778 (027 NZGTrst) Email: <a href="mailto:nzgt@rnzih.org.nz">nzgt@rnzih.org.nz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.gardens.org.nz">www.gardens.org.nz</a>
Brad Cadwallader FRIH (New Zealand Notable Trees Trust)	33 Cropp Place, Richmond, Nelson 7020 Email: <a href="mailto:nzntt@cropp-place.nz">nzntt@cropp-place.nz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.notabletrees.org.nz">www.notabletrees.org.nz</a>

<b>RNZIH National Office</b>	PO Box 85012, Lincoln University, Lincoln 7647 Email: <a href="mailto:office@rnzih.org.nz">office@rnzih.org.nz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.rnzih.org.nz">www.rnzih.org.nz</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/RNZIH/">www.facebook.com/RNZIH/</a>
<b>Patron</b>	Governor General of New Zealand The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro, GNZM, QSO
<b>Vice Patron</b>	Beverley McConnell, MNZM, QSM, AHRH

<b>National Executive</b>	
Dr Keith Hammett QSM, AHRH (RNZIH President)	488C Don Buck Road, Massey, Auckland 0614 Phone: (09) 833 9453 Email: <a href="mailto:hammettk@rnzih.org.nz">hammettk@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Alan Jolliffe AHRH (RNZIH Vice President)	7 Greenbank Place, Waitikiri, Parklands, Christchurch 8083 Mobile: 027 204 5679 Email: <a href="mailto:jolliffea@rnzih.org.nz">jolliffea@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Penny Cliffin FRIH (Notable Trees Trust representative)	34 Lloyd Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 Phone: (09) 846 7193 Mobile: 021 488 000 Email: <a href="mailto:cliffinp@rnzih.org.nz">cliffinp@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Murray Dawson MNZM, AHRH (RNZIH Webmaster; Journal Editor)	Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, PO Box 69040, Lincoln 7640, Canterbury Phone: (03) 321 9645 Email: <a href="mailto:dawsonm@rnzih.org.nz">dawsonm@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Tom Mayo	The Gatehouse 9C Onslow Road, Khandallah, Wellington 6035 Phone: 027 606 5920 Email: <a href="mailto:mayot@rnzih.org.nz">mayot@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Clare Shearman FRIH (BGANZ representative)	Wellington Botanic Gardens 101 Glenmore St, Kelburn, Wellington 6012 Phone: (04) 499 1400 Email: <a href="mailto:shearmanc@rnzih.org.nz">shearmanc@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Chris Webb FRIH (RNZIH Treasurer)	'Woodbridge', 8630 Paeroa Kopu Road, RD 4, Paeroa 3674 Mobile: 021 234 3936 Email: <a href="mailto:webbc@rnzih.org.nz">webbc@rnzih.org.nz</a>
Barbara Wheeler	Auckland Botanic Gardens, 102 Hill Road, Manurewa 2105, Auckland Phone: (09) 267 1457 Email: <a href="mailto:wheelerb@rnzih.org.nz">wheelerb@rnzih.org.nz</a>

## Financial report

The RNZIH has a surplus of \$5,570 for the year ended 31 December 2021, compared to a surplus of \$148,118 for 2020.

Fluctuations in our surpluses will continue for 2022, as a result of receiving milestone payments from the 'Taking Stock: Resolving New Zealand's Cultivated Plants Problem' project and then awarding subcontracts from this fund.

In 2021 we received a generous donation of more than \$11,000 from the former Canterbury Branch following the closure of their bank account.

Thank you to those who have paid their 2022 subscriptions to the RNZIH. Please contact me if you are one of the few members who have not done so yet.

**Chris Webb**  
Treasurer RNZIH

**McCoy & Co.**  
ACCOUNTANTS AND ADVISORS

## Performance Report

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

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## Compilation Report

### Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) For the year ended 31 December 2021

Compilation Report to the Directors of Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.).

#### Scope

On the basis of information provided and in accordance with Service Engagement Standard 2 Compilation of Financial Information, we have compiled the financial statements of Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

These statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to these financial statements.

#### Responsibilities

The governing body are solely responsible for the information contained in this financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet your needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

The financial statements were prepared exclusively for your benefit. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the financial statements.

#### No Audit or Review Engagement Undertaken

Our procedures use accounting expertise to undertake the compilation of the financial statements from information you provided. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review engagement has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

#### Independence

We have no involvement with Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) other than for the preparation of financial statements and management reports and offering advice based on the financial information provided.

#### Disclaimer

We have compiled these financial statements based on information provided which has not been subject to an audit or review engagement. Accordingly, we do not accept any responsibility for the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the compiled financial information contained in the financial statements. Nor do we accept any liability of any kind whatsoever, including liability by reason of negligence, to any person for losses incurred as a result of placing reliance on this financial report.

McCoy & Co. Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Level 1, 189 Victoria Street  
Christchurch 8013

Dated: 14 March 2022

## Entity Information

### Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) For the year ended 31 December 2021

"Who are we?", "Why do we exist?"

#### Legal Name of Entity

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)

#### Entity Type and Legal Basis

Incorporated Society with Charity Status.

#### Registration Number

Charity Registration Number CC30414

#### Entity's Purpose or Mission

To encourage the science of horticulture

#### Entity Structure

Institute Structure: Our executive committee currently comprises of the following executive office positions: A president, a Treasurer and secretary and three additional members.

Operational Structure: The executive committee manages the day to day affairs of the RNZIH.

Name	Position
Dr Keith Hammett	President
Penny Clifflin	Secretary
Chris Webb	Treasurer
Murray Dawson	Executive members
Alan Jolliffe	Executive members
Yvonne Baker	Executive members
Claire Sheaman	Executive members
Barbara Wheeler	Executive members
Tom Mayo	Executive members

#### Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources

Membership subscriptions.

#### Main Methods Used by Entity to Raise Funds

Subscriptions and Donations.

#### Entity's Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services

100% reliance of volunteers.

## Approval of Financial Report

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

The Governing body are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) for year ended 31 December 2021.

APPROVED

Keith Hammitt  
President

Date 31 March 2022



Chris Webb  
Executive Member

Date 31 March 2022



## Statement of Service Performance

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Description of Entity's Outcomes

Over the past year, we responded to all incoming correspondence to provide advice, information and guidance. We have overseen several other charitable trusts under our guidance and supported plant conservation projects, including completion of a National Register of Significant Collections.

Provided educational and scientific publications on horticultural matters and held workshops and tours on ornamental and commercial horticulture.

The RNZIH in conjunction with Landcare Research are managing a Project on behalf of the Ministry of Primary Industries under the Sustainable Future Fibre Fund in relation to plants in New Zealand.

### Additional Output Measures

Mission and Outcomes: To encourage and improve horticulture in New Zealand by promoting the understanding, appreciation, conservation and use of plants.

## Statement of Financial Performance

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

'How was it funded?' and 'What did it cost?'

	NOTES	2021	2020
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue from Government Funding	1	155,659	150,500
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	1	11,457	395
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members	1	13,440	15,520
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1	1,548	4,854
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>182,104</b>	<b>171,269</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Volunteer and employee related costs	2	-	217
Costs related to providing goods or service	2	170,298	22,502
Other expenses	2	178	19
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>170,464</b>	<b>22,139</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>5,570</b>	<b>148,118</b>

This statement has been prepared without conducting an audit or review engagement, and should be read in conjunction with the attached Completion Report.

## Statement of Financial Position

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
As at 31 December 2021

'What the entity owns?' and 'What the entity owes?'

	NOTES	31 DEC 2021	31 DEC 2020
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	3	240,389	208,368
Debtors and prepayments	3	28,750	463
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>272,139</b>	<b>208,831</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	12	29
Investments	3	170,029	173,481
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>170,041</b>	<b>173,480</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>442,080</b>	<b>404,322</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	4	5	20,047
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>20,047</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)</b>		<b>442,043</b>	<b>404,175</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Accumulated surplus or (deficit)	8	202,108	206,909
Accumulated Funds - 3PP Project	7	145,845	146,569
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>448,045</b>	<b>404,175</b>

This statement has been prepared without conducting an audit or review engagement, and should be read in conjunction with the attached Completion Report.

## Statement of Cash Flows

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

'How the entity has received and used cash'

	2021	2020
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Donations, fundraising and other similar receipts	11,437	365
Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members	58,215	11,748
Receipts from Government Funding	166,750	173,075
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	120	3,103
Cash receipts from other operating activities	15,260	-
GST	(95,690)	12
Payments to suppliers and employees	(205,082)	(80,394)
<b>Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(44,979)</b>	<b>179,025</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>		
Receipts from sale of investments	-	10,000
Payments to purchase investments	-	(5,028)
<b>Total Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,972</b>
<b>Net Increase/ (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>(44,979)</b>	<b>174,999</b>
<b>Cash Balances</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	288,248	113,289
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	243,269	288,288
Net change in cash for period	(44,979)	174,999

This statement has been prepared without conducting an audit or review engagement, and should be read in conjunction with the attached Completion Report.

## Statement of Accounting Policies

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)  
For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Basis of Preparation

The entity has elected to apply PBE SFRA (NZ) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

### Income Tax

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

### Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

### Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards Applied

There were no Tier 2 accounting policies applied.

### Changes In Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.



## Notes to the Performance Report

### Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture (Inc.) For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
<b>1. Analysis of Revenue</b>		
Revenue from Government Funding		
Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures Project	155,659	150,000
Total Revenue from Government Funding	155,659	150,000
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue		
Donations Received	11,437	895
Total Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	11,437	895
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members		
Subscription Receipts	13,440	15,328
Total Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members	13,440	15,328
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue		
Interest Received	1,548	4,834
Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1,548	4,834
	2021	2020

<b>2. Analysis of Expenses</b>		
Volunteer and employee related costs		
Travel - National	-	217
Total Volunteer and employee related costs	-	217
Costs related to providing goods or services		
Accountancy Fees	947	772
AGM Expenses	287	-
Bank Charges	86	40
Donations	1,000	-
General Expenses	206	-
Honourarium - Journal Editor & Website Maintenance	-	435
Licences & Registrations	844	538
Newsletters & Journals	15,753	11,983
SFFP Project - Expenses	156,216	3,584
Skullcap Award	-	4,348
Small Asset Purchases	-	485
Xero	724	720
Total Costs related to providing goods or services	176,286	23,202
Other expenses		
Bad Debts	161	-
Depreciation - Loss on Sale	18	-
Depreciation as per Schedule	3	17

Non-deductible Expenses	-	2
Total Other expenses	178	19

	2021	2020
<b>3. Analysis of Assets</b>		
Bank accounts and cash		
BKZ Cheque Account	12,297	6,395
BKZ Publishing Account	86,572	100,007
BKZ Funding Account	158,530	173,075
Total Bank accounts and cash	267,399	289,477

Debtors and prepayments		
Accounts Receivable	500	463
GST	10,236	-
Total Debtors and prepayments	26,750	465
Investments		
BKZ Term Deposit 03004	71,037	71,036
BKZ Term Deposit 03007	204,902	164,423
Total Investments	176,009	175,461
	2021	2020

<b>4. Analysis of Liabilities</b>		
Creditors and accrued expenses		
Accounts Payable	5	-
GST	-	20,847
Total Creditors and accrued expenses	5	20,847
	2021	2020

<b>5. Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
Furniture and Fixings		
Furniture and fittings owned	285	46,654
Accumulated depreciation - furniture and fittings owned	(273)	(46,423)
Total Furniture and Fixings	12	21
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	12	21
	2021	2020

<b>6. Accumulated Funds</b>		
Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	246,008	295,307

Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	6,287	1,552
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>303,196</b>	<b>296,909</b>
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>303,196</b>	<b>296,909</b>
	2021	2020

### 7. Accumulated Funds

<b>Sustainable Future Fibre Fund</b>		
Opening Balance	146,566	-
Accumulated Funds - Sustainable Future Fibre Fund	(717)	146,566
<b>Total Sustainable Future Fibre Fund</b>	<b>145,849</b>	<b>146,566</b>
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>145,849</b>	<b>146,566</b>

### 8. Commitments

There are no commitments as at 31 December 2021 (Last year - nil).

### 9. Related Parties

There were no transactions involving related parties during the financial year.

### 10. Events After the Balance Date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (Last year - nil).

### 11. Ability to Continue Operating

The entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

## Update of the RNZIH Constitution

The last amendments to our constitution were made more than ten years ago, on 11th August 2010.

We are proposing some minor changes to reflect current practices and to make a few corrections to our previous constitution by Charities Services of New Zealand).

We will circulate the proposed updates and seek ratification of these amendments at our 2022 AGM.

**Alan Jolliffe**  
Vice President, RNZIH

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## RNZIH Auckland Branch Chairperson's Report 2021–2022

Branch Committee members:

**Chair** – Penny Cliffin  
**Secretary** – Bronwen Rowse  
**Treasurer** – Geoffrey Marshall  
**Newsletter editor** – Ross Ferguson  
**Committee members** – Colin Bradshaw,  
Sue Davison, Dave Dawson, Andrew  
Maloy.

This has been another year hampered by COVID 19 restrictions, but hopefully we are on the way to coming out the other side.

Many thanks to our committee for continuing to contribute to branch activities. Thank you to Bronwen Rowse our Secretary, for keeping our minutes and to Ross Ferguson for preparing the branch newsletters. Thanks also to Geoffrey Marshall who has joined the committee and taken up the Treasurer role.

### Auckland Branch Activities:

Our **Annual General Meeting** for 2021 was held on Wednesday 23rd June, in the Garlick Room at the Mt Albert YMCA. The committee was re-elected unanimously and the annual accounts approved. We were very pleased to receive an offer from Geoffrey Marshall to become our Treasurer. We had an informal survey regarding what the most important features of our current RNZIH website were for members. Access to plant information from the digitised journals came through strongly, as did access to contact details for executive members.

Keith Hammett our National President presented the following awards:

- 2020 Fellowship: Yvonne Baker
- 2020 Fellowship: George Tregidga
- 2021 Fellowship: Liz Powell
- 2021 Award in Garden History: Ross Ferguson.

Members, awardees and visiting family members enjoyed a catered lunch together.

Having gone into lock-down in August, there have not been any activities over the spring or early summer, however we did have a late summer trip – see below.

### Summer Trip to Tindalls Bay, Whangaparaoa February 23rd, 2022

This was a visit to Johanna and Mike Quirk's seaside garden. Johanna studied landscape design with Penny at Unitec and knows Chris through the Neurological Foundation.



RNZIH Auckland branch members enjoying Johanna Quirk's garden at Tindalls Bay.

We had a very pleasant morning tea, followed by a guided tour of the different areas of the garden, including the Jungle Garden.

**McPherson prize:** There were no nominations for the McPherson prize this year.

**Notable Tree Registrations:** There have been no Auckland Branch sponsored tree registrations this year.

**Penny Cliffin**  
Auckland Branch Chair

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## New Zealand Gardens Trust Report 2021–2022



*“A year with nature: we gardeners are accustomed to that, but this year has really taken the biscuit. Plagues and pestilence, floods and droughts, hurricanes and typhoons and that was only in these islands. However, as gardeners we are constantly in pay it forward mode. There is hope and future in our gardens. And as we adjust to our new normal it seems that a large part of the world’s population is joining us. Yep, COVID 19 made gardening trendy! As we slowly exit the pandemic tail, I see many opportunities for the Trust and its members. The important thing will be to seize them.”*

**Wendy Palmer**  
Chair, NZ Gardens Trust

The Board meets via Zoom every 3rd Wednesday of the month. However, in July last year we met face-to-face in Wellington to set clear goals for the next few years’ work. We were very well aided in this by the generosity of strategic planning consultant Russ Ballard, whose valuable insights helped us to hone our Vision and Strategic Plan. The plan is based on four key goals:

1. Promotion
2. Education
3. Relationship building
4. Infrastructure.

**1. Promotion:** Our shop window is our website, but it is starting to show its age, so developing a new site is a priority for 2022. This will help us make the most of the increasingly digital tools at our disposal, by allowing us to link up our e-newsletters and social media posts and other online opportunities. Google’s free advertising for charities has helped drive more visits to our website, so it needs to offer the best experience for people looking for NZGT gardens to visit.

It was great to hear a plug for NZGT on RNZ’s Afternoons programme in a conversation between Wallace Chapman and Jo McCarroll. Jo had been sponsored to our Christchurch conference in 2021, as was Julia Atkinson-Dunn who regularly mentions the Trust in her articles for Stuff. There is a lot to do to raise our profile, but our efforts are starting to pay off.

**2. Education:** Our conference in 2021 was very well attended. Conferences are a key learning opportunity for delegates, and we were deeply disappointed to have to postpone this year’s event. We had intended to start an annual scholarship for a young industry professional to attend. This will now commence from 2023.

**3. Building Relationships and Networking:** One of the gifts of the trust is its collegiality. We want to work on this further with regional meetings. Our Canterbury team have made a great start on this and we are keen to follow their example in other regions.

We continue to work together with the RNZIH and associated Notable Trees and Education Trusts to share opportunities. Again, our new website will play a role here.

**4. Infrastructure:** Developing a stable infrastructure supports all our work and we are continually reviewing, updating and fine-tuning our processes.

## Assessments

The ever-changing COVID landscape had a big impact on the assessment process. Jan Woodhouse our Chief Assessor reshuffled and reshuffled with endless patience, but ultimately some areas had to be postponed for a year due to movement restrictions. Despite this, the team still managed to visit five new and twenty current gardens. The assessment team are all volunteers, so enormous thanks to them for their time and commitment to this work. Four new gardens were welcomed to the Trust, and all achieved 5 stars. These were The Urban Jungle in Auckland, Bradley's Garden in Taumarunui, Eliza's Garden Cottage in Blenheim and Longfield Garden, also in Marlborough.

## New membership category

To really flourish, the Trust needs more members and one of our most exciting projects is developing a new category for membership based on plant collections. Trustee Brian Coker is leading this project and the Board are meeting together to workshop the detail of this significant development. For important discussions such as this, Zoom is not an option!

Thank you to our Chair, Wendy Palmer, trustees Jen Horner, Peter Gillies, Susan Gifford, Mel Haskell, Wolfgang Bopp, Brian Coker and Daryl Spooner, and to Trust Manager Julie Sperring for hard work, a productive year in 2021 and a positive outlook for 2022.

**Julie Sperring**  
NZGT Trust Manager  
nzgt@rnzih.org.nz

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## RNZIH Education Trust Report 2021–2022



Beginning on the back of a cancelled competition the 2021 year started with optimism and enthusiasm.

The RNZIH Education Trust (The Trust) faced its most challenging year in 2021 with the competition expanding over 15 months, January 2021 – March 2022. After two postponements due to COVID the competition was held on February 22nd/23rd 2022 with Rhys Hall from Viticulture NZ taking the winning position and Danni McBride from NZPPI taking second place.

It gives me great pride to say that The Trust was one of very few public events to be held during the easing COVID restrictions in Auckland. With careful planning and safety measures we ran the event safely without receiving any reports from attendees that they had caught COVID as a result of attending the Young Horticulturist event.

While facing challenges and having our resolve tested in many ways, The Trust had a range of successes throughout 2021:

- Another sector was introduced to the competition with NZ Arboriculture coming on board.
- Another Trust member – Hadley Edwards joined. Hadley is from Rabobank bringing strength to the Trusts financial understanding. Hadley is from Ashburton making him the first Trust member to be appointed who lives outside the Auckland region.
- In December 2021 Hayley Gravoko resigned her position as event manager. However, Hayley's business Alcova Event Management remained the service provider with Leanda Childs taking on the role. Leanda is proving herself to be hard working, reliable and effective as she grows into the role. We have full confidence that Leanda will be integral in helping the Trust grow to reach its goals.

- The Trust moved event locations to the Karaka Blood Stocks in South Auckland. This venue proved to be very successful.

May 16th was the post competition Professional Development Day where the latest (2021/22) finalists returned to reconnect. This involved four presenters who shared their experiences and offered advice around starting a new business and leadership.

- Patrick Mally, the 2014 winner spoke about his experiences after winning and his journey to start his new businesses.
- Belbin NZ returned to take our finalists through their teamwork profiles and highlight their strengths and weaknesses with advice on how to optimise them.
- Greg Lozzaro spoke about leadership during challenging times. Greg is the ex-global head of health and safety from Fonterra.
- ANZ presented on starting a new business and formalised points made by Patrick that morning and offered some processes for finalists to consider when approaching this new daunting process.

Winston Pond was contracted to facilitate a strategic development day for The Trust to help us realign our goals and mission. This provided very valuable direction/alignment and amongst other points helped us to redefine our mission statement to:

*‘The purpose of the New Zealand Education Trust is to foster, uplift and inspire the next generation of talent across the horticulture industry’.*

Financially The Trust had a difficult year with two postponements of the event and the associated delayed costs. The Trust still managed to make a surplus of roughly \$9,000

but is less than is comfortable in a standard year. We have found recently we will be receiving a large GST return of close to \$10,000 in 2022 taking our surplus to near \$19,000 – a much more comfortable position. These funds are in addition to \$105,000 that we have in reserves for emergencies.

In 2020 AGMARTD pulled their sponsorship, leaving only three partnering sponsors, and proving a difficult position to replace. The event manager and trust members are doing well at growing sponsorship at smaller levels helping to make up that shortfall, but it is a challenging task.

In summary 2021–2022 was a very challenging period that tested the resolve of The Trust. Through determination and dedication, The Trust members pulled together and executed an event that received high praise and enthusiasm. It was a testament to the team as working methods had to change quickly with video calls being a regular feature for fast discussion and decision making in a time where agility and flexibility was critical to success.

I am very proud of my team and want to thank them for everything they did. It was a privilege to have been leading the Trust through that time.

**Hamish Gates**  
**RNZIH Education Trust Chairperson**

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## Publications and website report 2021–2022

### Website

There have been significant new developments to the RNZIH website since our last AGM.

In October 2021, PDFs of a new online resource, the ‘Subtropicals’ magazine, was uploaded and made freely available on our website. ‘Subtropicals’ was published from 2002 to 2006 and contains a wealth of information.

A huge thank-you to Geoffrey Marshall of Auckland for organising the digitisation work and to Marjorie Lowe's family for granting permission. The Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures fund met the digitisation costs as part of the 'Taking Stock: Resolving New Zealand's Cultivated Plants Problem' project.

The RNZIH is the International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for several New Zealand native genera. To help meet these responsibilities, a new page of cultivar checklists and related articles published by the RNZIH ([www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/cultivars.html](http://www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/cultivars.html)) was created in March 2022. Information on cultivars is now provided for the genera *Cordyline*, *Leptospermum*, *Metrosideros*, *Phormium*, *Sophora*, and *Veronica* (New Zealand hebes).

In April 2022, the test version of our new homepage ([www.rnzih.org.nz/index.html](http://www.rnzih.org.nz/index.html)) was uploaded to replace the old one. This new homepage is fully responsive, meaning that it resizes dynamically on larger displays and smaller smartphone screens. I still have to work out how to enable the search box but otherwise I'm happy with this new implementation. It's colourful, informative, easy to navigate, and meets criteria requested by our members and national executive. The next challenge will be to replace all pages in our website with this modern layout – this is no small task as we have some 1,600 webpages to reformat.

In May 2022, permission was granted to the RNZIH by members of the NZ Clivia Club to archive elements of their former website, especially their newsletters (2003–2015), to help preserve the information about clivias and their horticultural history in New Zealand. This new archive is at [www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/NZ\\_Clivia\\_Club.htm](http://www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/NZ_Clivia_Club.htm).

Also in May of this year, the Lottery Environment and Heritage Committee advised us that they have decided to fully fund digitisation of our old journals, bulletins, newsletters, and other publications.

The project '100 years of horticultural history' will involve scanning and uploading more than 11,500 pages from 200+ publications produced from 1925 to 2005. Work will be completed as part of the RNZIH centenary celebrations in 2023.

### **Publications**

Over the last year or so, publication and dissemination of our journals and newsletters has improved with fewer delays than some previous years.

Feedback on these publications remains positive, although it continues to be a challenge for the editors to attract high quality articles, edit the content, format the layout, and keep our distribution/membership lists up-to-date, all on a voluntary basis.

Some of the RNZIH executive are considering a publications strategy to help meet these challenges. Certainly it would be good to foster a wider pool of authors contributing interesting new content for our journal.

Special thanks should go to June Lincoln of The Printery and Design Studio, Massey University. For 17 years she has done outstanding work for us designing the layout of the journal. It is June's expertise that makes the journal look so professional and attractive.

Upload of our printed journal as PDFs is deliberately delayed by at least one year to encourage new subscriptions/memberships. However, the online versions ([www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/NZ\\_Garden\\_Journal\\_index.htm](http://www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/NZ_Garden_Journal_index.htm)) are currently five years behind the printed copies so a catch-up is needed.

This contrasts with our newsletters which are primarily distributed by email and promptly archived at [www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/news.html](http://www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/news.html).

**Murray Dawson**  
**RNZIH Webmaster and Journal Editor**



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