



## Chairman's Comments

Once again we move from summer to autumn and once again it has come around all too quickly. I recently had the pleasure of meeting with a group of new migrants to Wellington and giving them a quick tour of the Botanic Garden. It was rewarding to be able to talk with them about public gardens, that they were places for people, and that every time you visit the garden the experience is different.

In a round about way that leads me to the work we are continuing to do around the future of the RNZIH. Ross Fergusson and Jack Hobbs are looking at our awards and how they can be configured to create greater value and restore the aspirational associations of the awards. David Glenn and Murray Dawson, along with the Notable Trees Trust members, continue to work towards a web solution for their database while Andrew Maloy and Murray continue with their editorship of the journal. Across executive we continue to look to how we structure the administration of the RNZIH and how we move towards a more representative board and increased advocacy.

We should not forget the work of the New Zealand Education Trust. Elenka Nickoloff and the board are already working on this years round of Young Horticulturist of the Year and Eddie Wullems continues to represent RNZIH on the New Zealand Horticulture Industry Training Organisation Board.

The New Zealand Gardens Trust Conference '*The Rugged Frontier – A World of Difference*' is being held

in Cromwell this year. Central Otago is certainly one of New Zealand's iconic landscapes so the conference will be a great opportunity to explore the region and the gardens within it. With an optional visit to the new Dunedin Chinese garden followed the next day by the ride on the Taieri Gorge Railways it will prove to be a conference that has something for everyone. Douglas (Mick) Field is presenting the Banks Memorial Lecture this year focusing on the new Dunedin Chinese Garden. I'm sure this will be a fascinating insight not only into the technicalities of the gardens but also the deliberations and considerations undertaken from conceptualisation to completion.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held in Dunedin on the evening of 23 April at 7.00pm. I expect to have a discussion paper on the future of RNZIH and its configuration circulated to members before the meeting which I hope will stimulate some lively conversations before, during and afterwards!

Enjoy the remains of the summer. I look forward to catching up with you in the fascinating autumn landscape of Central Otago.

**David Sole**  
**Chairman, RNZIH**

## Congratulations

### Keith Hammett awarded the Reginald Cory Memorial Cup

The Royal Horticultural Society (UK) has awarded Dr Keith Hammett of Massey the Reginald Cory Memorial Cup for 2008. This cup is awarded annually to a raiser whose hybridization programme within a particular genus or single species has resulted in the recent introduction and availability of new hardy hybrids of merit. The Awards Advisory Committee viewed Keith's ongoing work with dahlias to be more than worthy for this award.

### Trevor Davies elected a Life Member of the Friends, Auckland Botanic Gardens

Congratulations to Trevor Davies who was recently elected a Life-Member of the Friends, Auckland Botanic Gardens. He is a most worthy recipient of life membership as he has had a long and distinguished involvement with the Gardens and with horticulture in general. He served for more than 20 years on the Executive of the NZ Nurserymen's Association including a term as President. He is also a member of the New Plymouth City Council and in 1966 was President of Floral Festivals (Taranaki Inc.).

Trevor studied for a Diploma of Horticultural Science at Massey College and then joined the family firm of Duncan and Davies, of which he was later to be managing Director for nearly 20 years. After moving to Auckland in 1976 he worked with Zealandia for two years before becoming committed to the genus *Wisteria*.

Trevor was "persuaded" to join the Friends in 1976, and he served as fourth President. Particularly notable has been his work for the Shrub Evaluation Panel, of which he is currently Chairman. He was also noted for running remarkably short meetings. It is gratifying to see his service recognised.

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## New Members

We warmly welcome the following new members who joined the RNZIH since August 2008:

Mr J M & Mrs G M Christie	ROLLESTON	Mr R Jubb	CORNWALL	UK
Mr N O Stephenson & Mr S Estick	AUCKLAND	B Stark	AUCKLAND	
Mr J I Crawford	PALMERSTON NORTH	Ms M J Sneyd	DUNEDIN	
Mr G H Haughey	WAITAKERE	Mr N Rush	AUCKLAND	
Ms V Belwalkar (re-joined)	AUCKLAND	Ms R Abbott	NELSON	
Mrs K Froome	MASTERTON	Mr G Phillips	LEVIN	
Mrs A M Bampton	AUCKLAND	Mr S Mitchener	WELLINGTON	

*Members via Gardens Trust*

R I C & D M Mackenzie	Akaunui	ASHBURTON	Ken & Jennifer Horner	Puketarata	HAWERA
A & C Buchanan	Assissi Garden	MASTERTON	John & Eileen Sanderson	Sanderson Garden	MANAIA
Ms J Lawrence	Arum Wines Vineyard Garden	CROMWELL	Helen Love	Seaforth Garden	HOKITIKA
Ms A Ellis	Awanui	LEVIN	George Pratt	Tasman Bay Roses	MOTUEKA
Kay McLachland & Rudy Steyn	Breedenbroek	RANGIORA	Te Puna Quarry Park Society Inc	Te Puna Quarry Park	TAURANGA
Brian & Helen Airey	Brookgreen Park	ALBANY	Mrs Jo Kerr	Te Wepu Native Garden	CHRISTCHURCH
Kay & Gary Green	Broomfield	MARLBOROUGH	Kay & Lance Peterson	Te Whau Garden	AUCKLAND
L & L Ferguson	Butler Point	MANGONUI	Josie Martin	The Giant's House	CHRISTCHURCH
Graeme & Jan Worthington	Gordon Dale Gardens	STRATFORD	Harry & Ngaire McLemon	The Moorings	CHRISTCHURCH
Lois & Wynne Going	Harbourbank	WHANGAREI	John & Fiona Wills	Trelinnoe	NAPIER
John & Barbara Coull	Henderson Gardens	WAIKANAЕ	Brett & Margo Schneideman	Villa Tamahunga	WARKWORTH
Patricia Hosking	Hosking Garden	ROTORUA	M P Hogan & L Knorr	Waitati Gardens	COROMANDEL TOWN
Scott & Carolyn Robertson	Katikati Bird Gardens	KATITAKI	The Bel Air Trust	Willow Glen	HAMILTON
Revd Peter & Mrs Noelene Bean	Larchwood House Garden	TASMAN	Sue & Richard Macfarlane	Winterholme	MARLBOROUGH
Chris Ludbrook	Ludbrook House	NORTHLAND	Malcolm & Dael Wright	Wrights Watergardens	PUKEKOHE
Jennie Chillingworth	Ohorere	WANGANUI	Mrs J Blair	Blair Garden	QUEENSTOWN
Liz Morrow	Omaio	WARKWORTH	Don & Marylou Blue	The Briars	OMARAMA
Taupo Museum	Ora Garden of Wellbeing	TAUPO			
Lamington Investment Group	Palmco Display Garden	NORTHLAND			

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### RNZIH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held in Dunedin.

**Venue:** Botanic Garden Administration Building, Meeting Room, 36 Opoho Road. This is near the Gardens Shopping centre and located on the edge of the Botanic Garden.

**Date:** Thursday 23 April 2009.

**Time:** 7.00 pm.

#### Agenda

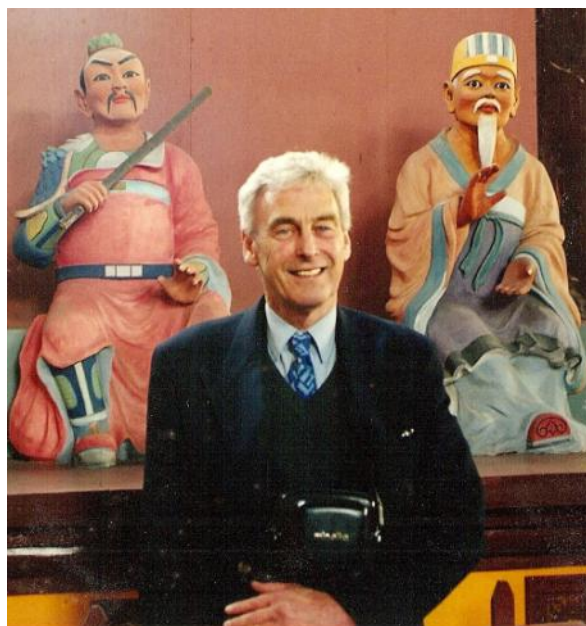
1. Apologies/In Memoriam
2. Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2008 AGM
4. Chairman's Report
5. Statement of Accounts for 2008 and budget for 2009
6. Branch Reports
7. Election of Officers Patron, Vice Patrons, President, National Executive, Auditor and Hon. Solicitor
8. General Business:
  - 8.1 Subscriptions
  - 8.2 Notable Trees
  - 8.3 Publications
  - 8.4 NZ Gardens Trust
  - 8.5 RNZIH Education Trust
  - 8.6 Annual Conference 2010
  - 8.7 Other

**2009 RNZIH BANKS MEMORIAL LECTURE (a free public lecture)**  
***The amazing story of Dunedin's Chinese Garden***  
**by Douglas (Mick) Field**

The Banks Memorial Lecture this year focuses on the new Dunedin Chinese Garden.

The Banks Memorial Lecture is a *free* lecture open to the public. It commemorates Sir Joseph Banks, botanist on Captain Cook's first voyage to New Zealand. During a later distinguished scientific career, he was Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London.

**Date:** Friday 24 April 2009.  
**Time:** 6.30 pm.  
**Venue:** Golden Gate Conference Centre, Cromwell.



**Abstract:**

Douglas (Mick) Field will share his personal and professional involvement with the development of the Dunedin Chinese Garden. This should be of great interest to the local public, members of the RNZIH and the New Zealand Gardens Trust, and also those people visiting Dunedin and Cromwell for the NZGT Conference on the weekend of the 24th April.

Some previous Banks Lectures have focused on the more scientific and technical facets of botany and horticulture so, with more of a “garden” emphasis, Mick Field will share with us the story of how the Chinese Garden was conceived and brought to completion as a special exercise of achievement in all the fields of politics, plants, people and of course his own expertise. This insight into a specialised area of landscape garden design will certainly provide some inspiration and also better understanding of what has been created in Dunedin.

**Biography:**

Douglas Field, who will deliver the 2009 RNZIH Banks Memorial Lecture, has a long and varied career in the world of horticulture.

Having completed an apprenticeship at Christchurch Botanic Gardens in the early 1950s, Douglas went on to study for a National Diploma in Horticulture before going to England where he continued his horticultural studies at Wisely and Lower Basildon.

Returning to New Zealand in 1962 he again worked in Christchurch where he designed and built several parks/sports-fields.

From Christchurch he moved to Australia where he was involved in construction of the Mt Lofty Botanic garden, design work at the Adelaide Botanic Garden and the teaching of students.

From Adelaide, Douglas moved back to New Zealand, working from 1971 for the Dunedin Parks and Recreation Department as a Landscape Architect. Following local body reform in 1987 he was appointed Recreation Planning Manager. In 1988 he was made a Fellow of the NZ Institute of Parks and Recreation Administration.

His work in Dunedin has included input into the development strategy for the Otago Harbour, boat harbour development, cemetery design, the establishment of Polytechnic Training for Ornamental Horticulture and numerous community amenities, latterly as a private consultant. His involvement in the establishment of the Dunedin Chinese Garden started 13 years ago when the idea was first mooted.

## **CONFERENCE 2009**

### **"The Rugged Frontier - A World of Difference"**

This conference will be held in Cromwell 24-26 April 2009 and is being organised by the RNZIH NZ Gardens Trust.

Central Otago is one of New Zealand's iconic landscapes so the conference will be a great opportunity to explore the region and the gardens within it.

For further details contact Liz Morrow: [morrowl@rnzih.org.nz](mailto:morrowl@rnzih.org.nz).

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#### **New Zealand Gardens Trust Report**

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**Website upgrade** – The NZGT website ([www.gardens.org.nz](http://www.gardens.org.nz)) is currently being revamped and we expect the new site to go live in time for the Cromwell Conference.

**Cromwell Conference, “The Rugged Frontier – a World of Difference”, 24-26 April 2009** – Liz Morrow has met with the organizing team and all is going well. The registration brochure has been circulated and it would be great to get more RNZIH members attending this year, particularly as the RNZIH Banks Memorial Lecture is being held at the same venue prior to the conference.

**Ellerslie Flower Show, Christchurch, 11-15 March 2009** – The NZGT will be having a presence at this show in the “Hort Galore Marquee”. Rob Lahood (*Weekend Gardener* magazine) is going to print another 8,000 supplements to distribute at the Show and we are very grateful for his sponsorship.

**Trustees meeting** – The last meeting was held in Auckland on 24th February 2009. This was an all day meeting to deal with a full agenda of issues.

**Mick Reece**  
**Chairman**

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#### **RNZIH Education Trust update**

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The 2008 NZ HITO Young Horticulturist of the Year (YHOTY) competition wound up on a high note with NGIA (Nursery & Garden Industry Association) representative Jason Green of Rainbow Park Nurseries in Auckland taking out the big prize, just narrowly edging out Jim Smith (Fruit) in second place and Toby Potter (Vege) in third.

NZHITO (New Zealand Horticulture Training Organisation) will again be naming sponsors for the 2009 competition, the organisation of which is well under way.

David Pufflett's employment by the trust came to an end at the end of December 2008 following the NZHITO decision to carry out moderation and accreditation using their own staff this year. David has set up a consultancy and is doing contract work for a number of clients.

Financial - at present it looks as if there may be a small surplus of income over expenditure for the 2009 year.

The main role of the Education Trust this year will be running the YHOTY competition with a corresponding reduced workload for trust board members. The first meeting of 2009 for the trust board was 9 February.

**Andrew Maloy**

## RNZIH OPPORTUNITIES & AWARDS

Contact the office for further details and application forms.

**\*Please note that the Executive has agreed to extend the deadline for applications for the Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship to 31 May 2009 for this year only.**

### The Memorial Prize Fund

Purpose:

"To assist RNZIH members who are bone fide full or part time horticultural students with the costs of attending seminars, conferences or workshops that are being held within New Zealand."

The Fund:

The Memorial Prize Fund is made up from a number of previous RNZIH awards. These were: Rita Skellerup Prize, David Tannock Memorial Prize, Dugald McKenzie Prize, Junior Memorial Prize.

Eligibility:

Any financial member of the RNZIH who has been a member for a minimum period of one year and who is a registered full or part time horticultural student at an institution in New Zealand.

Conditions:

1. It is expected that the member would make a contribution towards the cost of attending the seminar/conference/workshop to demonstrate their commitment.
2. The RNZIH will consider applications for up to 75% of the cost of attending, including travel, registration and accommodation.
3. Successful applicants must provide evidence of attending by way of receipts or other papers following the event. Failure to comply with this condition the applicant shall be liable to refund all award moneys to the RNZIH.

The National Executive of the RNZIH reserves the right not to make an award if in its opinion the application is not of sufficient merit, or for any other reason National Executive may decide from time to time.

Applications:

Applications should be submitted at least **two months** prior to the conference, seminar or workshop.

### The Peter Skellerup Plant Conservation Scholarship

Purpose:

"To assist with the conservation of the exotic and indigenous plant resource in New Zealand"

Objective:

The Scholarship will be granted for research field work, publication, propagation, protection and/or cultivation of plants, production of educational resources, and any other activity likely to promote and assist the conservation of New Zealand's indigenous and exotic plant genetic resources.

The main criterion shall be the value of the work in conserving a plant or group of plants, especially those that are threatened. Plants include trees.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be New Zealand residents or citizens. The Scholarship may involve travel and/or study

outside New Zealand. However, the work must be of benefit to the plant genetic resource **within** New Zealand.

Applications:

Applications must be typed on the appropriate form obtained from the Institute and lodged with the RNZIH no later than \*31 March. A synopsis of the proposed project must carry a statement of support by an acknowledged authority on the topic. Late applications will not be accepted.

## **Plant Raisers' Award**

Objective:

The Award is granted to any nominated individual or organisation who has raised in New Zealand a cultivar considered to be sufficiently meritorious. The Award shall consist of an inscribed medal.

Note:

A cultivar is a cultivated plant which is distinguished by any characters significant for the purposes of horticulture and which when reproduced sexually or asexually retains its distinguishing features. The term 'cultivar' and 'variety' are synonymous for this award.

The requirements of the award are that:

- it should have been raised in New Zealand
- it should have been in cultivation for at least 3 years
- the cultivar should have been bred by seed

the cultivar should have been registered if it belongs to a genus registered by an International Registration Authority.

Nominations can be made by a Branch or by National Executive, any horticultural organisation affiliated to RNZIH, or any incorporate horticultural organisation.

Closing date: 1 November each year.

## **Garden History Award**

(Award in Horticultural History and Conservation)

The aim of the award is to help focus Institute support for horticultural history and the conservation of cultivated plants, promote public interest in horticultural history and conservation, promote public awareness of the Institute, and encourage cooperation with other bodies such as the Historic Places Trust.

The award is granted to any nominated individual or organisation within New Zealand making distinguished contributions to horticultural history and conservation. The award is an inscribed medal similar to the Plant Raisers' Award. The contributions may include scholarly publications on any aspect of horticultural history or of the development of cultivated plants, studies on individual gardens, horticulturists or plants, projects on the conservation of cultivated plants, projects involving the conservation and/or restoration of gardens or garden structures.

Nominees need not be members of the Institute. Nominating bodies are the national Executive, any branch or affiliate of RNZIH, any incorporated horticultural organisation, or the Historic Places Trust or any branch thereof.

Closing date: 1 December each year.

