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Front Cover

Metrosideros fulgens 'Gold', a yellow-flowered variant of the species.
Image: ©Paul Ashford (www.nzplantpics.com).

From the Editors

The *New Zealand Garden Journal* (Vol. 12, No. 2, Dec 2009) recently won silver in the offset print awards at the NIPPA (Network of In-house Print Professionals Australasia) conference. Many congratulations to our journal designer, June Lincoln of the Design Studio, Massey University for her beautiful layout work that helped win this award. Our award certificate is reproduced on the back inside cover of this issue.

In our last issue (Vol. 13, No. 1, June 2010) we congratulated Kay Baxter, CEO and co-founder of the Koanga Institute, for receiving the RNZIH Award in Garden History. Here we present an article from Kay on the work of her institute.

The RNZIH pioneered a New Zealand Plant Collection Register in the 1990s and in this issue David Sole reports on new initiatives to redevelop and update this register as an online database.

In addition to recording living plant collections – who grows what and where they are, it is essential to document cultivar names and origins – what plant selections should be called and how they arose. Murray Dawson and his co-authors present Part Two of an article tracing the origins of *Metrosideros* cultivars – here they examine cultivars of rātā and other species. This article is followed by a *Metrosideros* cultivar checklist, compiled by Murray Dawson and Peter Heenan.

The RNZIH is the International Cultivar Registration Authority for several native genera. Our last register was the *International register of Hebe cultivars*, prepared by Lawrie Metcalf and published in 2001. This is painstaking and important work and we plan to make these registers available online so that the information can be updated as new cultivars are raised and named.

We record the passing of three friends and colleagues. Dr Ross Beever was a mycologist and plant pathologist best known in horticultural circles for his work on sudden decline of cabbage trees and more recently on kauri tree dieback. Dr Eric Godley was a long standing member of the RNZIH and an Associate of Honour since 1984; Rene Orchiston was an Associate since 2003.

This edition concludes with a review of a guidebook on the New Zealand sun orchids of the genus *Thelymitra*.

For this issue we again thank the Stanley Smith (UK) Award for assistance towards the cost of publishing articles on cultivars.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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