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Front Cover

Rosa 'Prospero', a David Austin English Rose that produces deep crimson double flowers with purple tones. Photographed by Jack Hobbs at Ayrliès Garden.

From the Editors

Derrick Rooney is one of our regular contributors who writes on a wide range of topics. In this issue, he discusses growing loquat trees in cool climates.

Next, Bill Sykes explores a fascinating range of food plants from the Andes of South America that are grown in a Christchurch community garden and elsewhere in New Zealand.

Last year Linda Sallabanks and Murray Dawson profiled ornamental plant breeder Dr Keith Hammett, based on transcribing a Radio New Zealand interview (*New Zealand Garden Journal*, 2012, Vol. 15, No. 2). Since then, Keith has become President of the RNZIH. In this issue they follow a similar approach by profiling Beverley McConnell, creator of Ayrliès Garden in Auckland and Vice-Patron of the RNZIH. This profile is based on transcribing Kathryn Ryan's interview with Bev on Radio New Zealand on 12th October 2012.

At the New Zealand Gardens Trust conference venue in Dunedin, Alan Matchett delivered the Banks Memorial Lecture on the evening of 5th April 2013. Alan spoke on some of the history around the early establishment of New Zealand botanic gardens. His lecture was timely as both Christchurch and Dunedin Botanic Gardens celebrated their 150th anniversaries this year. Alan presents an article based on his lecture.

Next, staying with a garden theme, John Adam explains that clear recognition of all elements of New Zealand's historic gardens is vital to their effective management and conservation.

We make a concerted effort to document the lives and achievements of New Zealand horticulturists who have recently passed away. Neville Davies was one of the managers of Duncan and Davies Nurseries and son of founder Sir Victor Davies. Long after his retirement from that nursery, Neville made a continuous contribution to horticulture in other roles. We also celebrate the lives of three eminent plantsmen from Otago – Les Cleveland, Ross Stuart and Stewart Preston.

We finish this issue with two book reviews. Abbie Jury reviews Beverley McConnell's book on the development of Ayrliès, complementing the interview of her also in this issue. Murray Dawson then reviews a new book by Hugh Wilson on the botany of Banks Peninsula.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

Contents

- 2 A loquat conundrum**
Derrick Rooney observes flowering and fruiting of the loquat tree in cool climates.
- 4 Crops of the Incas in New Zealand**
Botanist Bill Sykes discusses edible Andean plants that he has grown.
- 8 Profile of a horticulturist: An interview with Beverley McConnell, creator of Ayrliès Garden**
Linda Sallabanks and Murray Dawson transcribe an interview conducted by Kathryn Ryan.
- 15 The 2013 Banks Memorial Lecture: 150 years of Botanic Gardens in New Zealand**
Alan Matchett traces the early establishment of New Zealand botanic gardens, through to the 150th anniversaries of Christchurch and Dunedin Botanic Gardens.

- 23 Centre field: A case for visualising the fabric of the New Zealand historic garden**
John Adam argues for clarity in defining historic gardens and their physical elements.
- 28 Obituaries**
Neville Davies
Les Cleveland
Ross Stuart
Stewart Preston
- 34 Book reviews**
Ayrliès: My story, my garden
By Beverley McConnell, reviewed by Abbie Jury.
Plant life on Banks Peninsula
By Hugh Wilson, reviewed by Murray Dawson.