



Volume 21, Number 1
June 2018

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The Printery, Massey University
<http://printonline.massey.ac.nz>

The *New Zealand Garden Journal* is published twice a year.
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ISSN 1173-7425 (Print)
ISSN 1179-9153 (Online)

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Front Cover

Hemerocallis 'Peek-A-Boo Eyes'.
Photo: Jack Hobbs.

From the Editors

This issue begins with Emma Bodley and her colleagues providing us with an update of their *Hemerocallis* trials at Auckland Botanic Gardens.

We really appreciate the steady stream of interesting articles from Auckland Botanic Gardens, and in our last issue we also published a couple of articles from Wellington Botanic Gardens. We would gratefully receive contributions from the other New Zealand botanic gardens and from our wider readership.

Geoffrey Donovan delivered the 2017 Tāne Mahuta Lecture at the NZArb conference in Tauranga. His lecture, presented here as an article, provides research-based evidence on the intuitive and sometimes surprising benefits of urban trees.

Graham Smith, former Director of the acclaimed Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust garden delivered the 2018 Banks Memorial Lecture, during a joint RNZIH and IPPS-NZ conference in Palmerston North. Graham's lecture, recounting something of his life's horticultural journey, is presented in this issue.

Congratulations to our 2018 RNZIH awardees. Doug Grant, cucurbit and rose breeder from Pukekohe, received the RNZIH Plant Raisers' Award. For 2018 three Fellows (FRIH) were honoured: David Askin, Open Spaces Manager with the Ashburton District Council, Hayden Foulds, rose expert and horticulturist at Kilmarnock Nurseries, and Geoffrey Marshall, garden designer and organiser of the Auckland Heroic Garden Festival. The highest award of the RNZIH, the Associate of Honour (AHRH) was bestowed on Muriel Davison, creator of 'Maple Glen' garden in Southland, and David Sole, Manager of the Wellington Botanic Gardens and former President of the RNZIH. Their award citations are published here.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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Dr Geoffrey Donovan summarises his research showing how trees enhance our lives in tangible ways such as lowering our electrical bills and increasing property values, but also providing less intuitive benefits including crime reduction and improved public health.

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