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Front Cover

The 'dry garden' at Landsend's subtropical garden.
Photo courtesy Annemarie Endt-Ferwerda.

From the Editors

This issue begins with the latest plant trial from Auckland Botanic Gardens. In past issues of this journal, Emma Bodley and her colleagues have evaluated ornamental cultivars in genera including *Arthropodium*, *Begonia*, *Hemerocallis* and *Kniphofia*. Here, Emma and Jack Hobbs present us with their trials of edible bean selections.

Next, Ross Bicknell and his colleagues at Plant & Food Research untangle a mānuka cultivar mix-up. Plants sold throughout New Zealand in recent years as *Leptospermum scoparium* 'Keatleyi' have not been true-to-type.

This production error highlights a lack of safeguards that have crept into New Zealand horticulture. The current environment places New Zealand-raised cultivars at risk of becoming lost or confused to horticulture. There is a decline of expertise following smaller family owned nurseries going out of business. These specialised nurseries are renowned for selling and sometimes breeding an interesting range of niche stock. We now have a situation where fewer high-volume production nurseries provide a reduced range of the most marketable "in-fashion" selections. Surely it's time that New Zealand follows the UK's lead in establishing an official network of national cultivar collections held in private (and botanic) gardens? These would provide valuable long-term repositories and living reference collections independent of stock used for nursery production.

The RNZIH recognise the value in profiling notable horticulturists, past and present. Here, author Juliet Trevethick remembers the achievements of her great-great-grandfather Charles Trevethick, a notable sweet pea grower and breeder.

We also take on the responsibility of remembering our horticultural friends and colleagues who have passed away recently.

George Fuller passed away on the 19th June 2015, aged 86. George was a former curator of Pukekura Park, New Plymouth. He joined the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture in November 1965, and was made a Fellow (FRIH) in 1989.

Sadly, there have been many losses in 2018. On 5th January 2018 botanical and horticultural treasure Bill Sykes passed away in Christchurch, aged 90. 'Botany Bill' as he was known was an incredibly knowledgeable and modest man. He first joined the RNZIH in November 1961, and was made an Associate of Honour (AHRIH) in 1992.

Jolyon Manning passed away 9th April 2018, aged 84. Jolyon was a passionate environmentalist and arboriculturist who with his wife Enny created Jolendale Park on their property in Central Otago.

Dick Endt passed away 17th July 2018, aged 81. Dick was a subtropical horticulturist and creator of Landsend gardens, Auckland.

Bob Berry, creator of Hackfalls Arboretum, Tiniroto, passed away 2nd August 2018 in Gisborne, aged 102. Bob was made an AHRIH in 1991 and received many other awards that recognised his achievements.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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