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Front Cover

The succulent collection at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona.
Photo: Karin van der Walt.

From the Editors

This issue begins with another plant trial from Auckland Botanic Gardens. Emma Bodley and her colleagues evaluate the performance of *Calendula* (pot marigold) selections as winter bedding plants in Auckland.

The spread of myrtle rust throughout the world, and more recently its establishment here in New Zealand, is of great concern. The potential of myrtle rust to impact our 27 native Myrtaceae species, including ornamental cultivars, and its effect on the mānuka honey industry and more than 100 exotic species, was largely unknown. Robert Beresford and his colleagues at Plant & Food Research provide us with an important update.

The 2019 Banks Memorial Lecture was held at Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, on 24th October 2019. The lecture was held in conjunction with the RNZIH AGM and a one-day symposium to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook and his botanist's arrival in Aotearoa-New Zealand. The Banks lecturer this year was Ross Ferguson, who presented a fascinating account of the domestication and commercialisation of kiwifruit. His lecture is published here as an article. Ross Ferguson also presented the Banks Memorial Lecture in 2008.

We then present two trip reports to the USA. Karin van der Walt, Wellington City Council, received a RNZIH Memorial Prize Fund for 2019. This award assisted Karin in attending and speaking at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Society for Cryobiology: 'Preserving the Past. Protecting the Future', 22–25th July 2019, in San Diego. Karin tells us of her journeys. Barbara Wheeler, Collections Supervisor at the Dunedin Botanic Garden, was selected for the prestigious 2019–2020 Fellows Program of Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. Barbara shares with us some of the experiences she has had.

Congratulations to the RNZIH Education Trust for their 15th year of successfully running the Young Horticulturist Competition. Simon Gourley of Central Otago became the overall winner for 2019. The full results of the YHOTY competition are presented here.

We remember friends and colleagues who have passed away. Travis Nonnet Flint passed away 12th July 2018, aged 94. Travis was heavily involved with roses and horticultural societies in Auckland. Another rosarian, Dr Samuel Darragh McGredy passed away 25th August 2019, aged 87. Sam was an internationally renowned rose breeder based in Auckland. He was made an Associate of Honour of the RNZIH in 1994. Lady Anne Sophia Berry passed away 18th September 2019, aged 99. Lady Anne founded Rosemoor Garden in Devon, one of Britain's best-known public gardens. She emigrated to New Zealand and married Robert ('Bob') Berry in 1990. Bob Berry passed away 2nd August 2018, aged 102, and we published an obituary for him in our December 2018 issue of the *New Zealand Garden Journal* (Vol. 21, No. 2, pp. 33–35).

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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