

Fellow of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (FRIH)

Carroll John Walsh



Carroll Walsh, Fellow (FRIH) of the RNZIH for 2021. Photo supplied by Janice Walsh.

Carroll Walsh has always been interested in plants and gardening. This provided a good pastime to focus on as his health was not always good. He was an active member of the Hawera Horticultural Society and the South Taranaki Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture branch.

He has enjoyed meeting like-minded people interested in horticulture, including well-known Taranaki horticulturists Felix Jury, Melva Yarrow, Miss Edna Free, and many others. Carroll has regularly enjoyed visits around Taranaki to many beautiful gardens and undertaking field trips with members and their families. During these trips, plenty of knowledge and plants were shared, and enduring friendships formed.

In the later years Carroll served on the Taranaki branch committee and took over the Treasurer role until the branch formally closed in 2019 – as he was the only remaining member. With the RNZIH National Executive's approval, the remaining branch funds have been donated to the South Taranaki District Council to help with plants, shrubs, and trees for the new Hawera library, culture and arts centre. A plaque will be installed recognising this contribution.

Construction of the new centre will provide a major upgrade in Hawera, as the existing buildings are in poor condition and need replacing.

Like many other organisations, the ongoing viability of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (RNZIH) is dependent upon the long-term support of its loyal members. Carroll Walsh of Hawera is such a member – he joined the RNZIH in 1951 as a teenager and has supported us for a truly remarkable 70 continual years.

National recognition of Carroll Walsh's contributions to the Taranaki region, and his long-standing support of the RNZIH, is well overdue. Accordingly, the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture is delighted to bestow him with a Fellowship.

**Citation prepared by
Murray Dawson**

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David Sydney Hobbs



RNZIH President Keith Hammett (left) presenting David Hobbs (right) with his 2021 Fellowship certificate at the awards ceremony. Photo: Jack Hobbs.

David Hobbs of Christchurch owns and established the 3.5-hectare Broadfield NZ Landscape Garden on the outskirts of Christchurch 27 years ago.

In partnership with professional landscape designer Robert Watson, Broadfield was created out of a bare country paddock. The entire section is

devoted to the garden and as such no dwelling has been constructed. It was developed with an important focus – to showcase New Zealand raised selections of plants including azaleas and rhododendrons, camellias, cherry dogwoods, daffodils, lilies, maples, peonies, roses and other perennials.

Native plants also feature and include: 1.5 km of tōtara hedges bordering the garden and creating various garden 'rooms'; a kauri grove comprising more than 100 kauri trees and more than 100 associated species of trees, shrubs, climbers and ferns; and a large beech forest. Other features include a raised viewing mound, a 120 m New Zealand plants border, a 140 m canal, a sedge pond, a formal rose garden, and a cricket oval. Originality and excellence in design are priorities for David.

Broadfield is a 6-Star garden of the RNZIH New Zealand Gardens Trust (NZGT), a category reserved for achieving and maintaining the highest levels of presentation, design, and plant interest throughout the year. This highest ranking provides testament to David's vision and horticultural skills.

David has been a member of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture since 2000, first as an individual and then through his garden listing with the NZGT. David Sydney Hobbs continues to be supportive of the Gardens Trust, until recently serving as Treasurer, and always promoting excellence in New Zealand's gardens – he is a most worthy Fellow of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture.

**Citation prepared by
Alan Jolliffe and Murray Dawson**