

# New Zealand Rhododendron Association Inc



## Annual Conference

### Gardens of the Country Road - Manawatu



'Puketawa'



'Springvale'



'Tiro Roa'



'Greenhaugh'

**Friday, 27 October - Monday, 30 October, 2017**  
**Civic Centre, Feilding**

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## Annual Conference

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Gardens of the Country Road - Manawatu

Heritage Park Rhododendron Charitable Trust, on behalf of the New Zealand Rhododendron Association, invite you to attend the 2017 Annual Conference. This invitation is extended to all NZRA members, overseas rhododendron group members and residents of the Manawatu.

A range of gardens have been selected for your enjoyment and we are most grateful to the garden owners for their participation in this event.

### **Bloom Display.**

The bloom display will be located in the Feilding Civic Centre and we encourage you to bring blooms to add to the display, from 1.00 pm on Friday. Labels will be provided. It will be open to view from 6.00 pm Friday until Sunday evening and is open to the public from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm on Saturday.

**Free evening.** The evening of Saturday, 28 October, is free of official commitments. There is a range of eating places available in Feilding and outlying areas.

**Additional/optional activities.** On Friday morning there is a weekly Farmers' Market in the Feilding Town Square which has a wide range of produce and goods for sale. Also on Friday morning you can arrange a tour of the large, internationally known saleyards, with a sale in progress, by contacting the Feilding Information Centre.

**Weather Conditions.** As is usual at this time of the year, the weather may be unsettled and we recommend warm clothing, wet weather gear and sturdy footwear.

**Safety.** Every effort has been made to ensure gardens and coach stopping points are safe. It is a condition of registration that you assume responsibility for your own safety and possessions during the Conference. Paths may be uneven and a walking stick is recommended if you need this assistance.

**Conference Accommodation.** South Street West Motel, Feilding Motel, Manfield Park Motel, Raceway Court Motel.

**Transport:** Coaches will collect from the listed accommodation at 5.30 Friday evening for registration and dinner at the Feilding Civic Centre. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings registrants staying in the listed accommodation will be collected from their motel each day and taken to the departure point at the Civic Centre. This will be reversed at the end of the day on Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday night buses will again collect from the listed accommodation for the Conference dinner at the Civic Centre. On Monday coaches will leave from 'Omahuri' to go to Palmerston North airport and Feilding Civic Centre.

### **Mobility**

There is a 300m walk to access a garden on Monday. Please indicate on the Registration Form if you require car transport for this distance.

**Transport from Palmerston North Airport.** There are regular shuttles to Feilding available and we will notify them as to the number coming in on each flight.

## Programme Summary

<b>Friday Oct 27</b>	9.00 am	Feilding Farmer's Market	Optional
	11.00 am	Feilding Sale-yards Tour	Optional
	1.00 pm	Bloom display set up - Feilding Civic Centre	
	3.00 pm	Registrations commence - Feilding Civic Centre	
	6.30 pm	'Meet & Greet' and evening meal	
	7.30 pm	Official Opening	
<b>Saturday 28</b>	9.00 am	Coaches depart for 'Puketawa'	
	Group A	10.00 am	Depart for the Wind Farm
Group B	10.40 am	Depart for 'Springvale'	
	10.00 am	Depart for 'Tiro Roa'	
Group A	11.00 am	Depart for "Springvale"	
		Boxed lunch at 'Springvale'	
	1.00 pm	Depart for 'Tiro Roa'	
Group B	2.15 pm	Depart for 'Greenhaugh'	
	1.00 pm	Depart for the Wind Farm	
	2.05 pm	Depart for 'Greenhaugh'	
		Afternoon Tea at 'Greenhaugh'	
	4.00 pm	Depart for Feilding	
<b>Sunday 29</b>	8.30 am	Guest Speakers and Pruning Workshop, Feilding Civic Centre	
	10.00 am	NZRA Annual General Meeting	
	10.45 am	Depart for 'Heritage Park'	
	12.30 pm	Lunch at 'Heritage Park'	
	1.15 pm	Depart for 'Cross Hills'	
	3.00 pm	Depart for 'AK Ranch'	
		Afternoon Tea at 'AK Ranch'	
	4.30 pm	Depart for Feilding	
5.15 pm	Arrive Feilding		

### Conference Dinner at the Feilding Civic Centre 6.30pm

#### Monday 30

Group A	9.00 am	Depart for 'Chatswood'
	10.30 am	Depart for 'Lansdale'
Group B	9.00 am	Depart for 'Lansdale'
	10.30 am	Depart for 'Chatswood'
Groups A & B	11.30 am	Depart for "Omahuri"
	12.00 noon	Lunch at 'Omahuri'
	2.00 pm	Depart for Palmerston North Airport
	2.00 pm	Depart for Feilding Civic Centre

# GARDENS

## **‘PUKETAWA’**

**987 Colyton Road, Feilding**  
*Ross and Jackie Whitelock*

The garden that is called 'Puketawa' was originally purchased by Nelson and Phyllis Whitelock in 1972. In those days the four hectares of native bush was unfenced and open for stock to graze as part of a bigger farm. In 1973 Nelson fenced off the bush to stock and planted some Redwood trees in a clearing.

In 1995 six hectares was surveyed off and placed under a QE2 covenant for protection.

Soaring Nikau Palms, Tawa, Redwoods and other forest giants provide the canopy, while silver ferns and Kawakawa have filled the undergrowth. A house was then built to create the lifestyle that is now 'Puketawa'. Over the following three or four years Nelson and Phyllis landscaped the property guided by the late Palmerston North landscape architect David Irvine.

In 2008 the property was sold to their son Ross and his wife Jackie. Ross and Jackie together have carried on tending the property and have endeavoured to put their own style into the visual appearance of the garden.

## **‘SPRINGVALE’**

**2180 Pohangina Valley East Road, Komako**  
*Brent and Liz Besley*

Bird life is prolific in this sprawling garden. Features include a rhododendron and campanulata cherry border planted by the original English gardeners 100 years ago. Four further generations have made their mark. Plantings include azaleas and rhododendrons, conifers and deciduous trees. Chatham Island forget-me-nots are planted beneath towering totaras and beech trees. Many of the specimens have been named with the year of planting to further contribute to the history of this property. Even the fish pond has its history - old black and white photos show local families using it as a swimming pool.

## **TE APITI WIND FARM**

Te Apiti Wind Farm is located on 1150 hectares of farmland and is the first wind farm built by Meridian in New Zealand.

The wind near the Manawatu Gorge is exceptional, even by international standards. The strong, unimpeded winds from the Tasman Sea and the funnel effect of the Manawatu Gorge make this the perfect place for a wind farm.

Twenty-one kilometres of roads were built to transport the turbine parts and fifty-five foundations were excavated for the turbines which were installed by a 400 tonne crawler.

Te Apiti Wind Farm generates enough electricity each year for about 39,000 average New Zealand homes.

## **'TIRO ROA' GARDENS AND NURSERY**

1116 Pohangina Road, Pohangina

*Steve and Dee Edwards*

A lovely cottage garden set against the stunning backdrop of the Ruahine Ranges and overlooking the green terraces of the Pohangina Valley. There are mature trees, a small stream, bird house, garden seats and a pond. Borders line the gardens, with hundreds of different varieties of perennials, most of which are available for sale in the on-site nursery.

## **GREENHAUGH GARDENS**

914 Napier Road, Palmerston North

*Lynne Atkins*

A Garden of National Significance, Greenhaugh Gardens surround a colonial homestead built in 1874. The two hectare semi-formal gardens have been developed over the past thirty eight years. Old roses, perennials, self-seeding annuals and bulbs are restrained by box hedging closer to the house. Shell rock paths lead through the pergola to the more informal water and woodland gardens. Each season boasts its own display and always there is much to see. Enjoy views of the surrounding fields where the donkey, horse and sheep graze. Plants for cash sale in the plant nursery - many rare and unusual.

## **HERITAGE PARK RHODODENDRON GARDEN**

Haggerty Street, Kimbolton

*Heritage Park Rhododendron Charitable Trust*

This magnificent garden contains about 2000 rhododendrons, trees and shrubs. Enjoy lawn areas, interlinking ponds, heritage rhododendrons from around the world, older New Zealand hybrids and unique deciduous azaleas. This park has an ever evolving landscape and fascinating history.

## **CROSS HILLS GARDENS AND NURSERY**

339 Rangiwahia Rd, Kimbolton

*Rodney and Faith Wilson*

A park-like garden that features one of the world's finest collections rhododendrons and azaleas, with over 2,000 varieties. Many other rare trees, shrubs and perennials have been planted to add interest to all seasons and provide a colourful and vibrant display. An on-site maze gives children, and the young at heart, hours of fun!

## **AK RANCH**

**459 Terrace Road, RD 7, Feilding**

*Alistair and Kay Milne*

34 years ago the one hectare garden and 0.8 km drive was a bare paddock. John and Francis McColl started developing the garden in 1982 with a mostly deciduous tree lined drive and landscaped garden. A variety of conifers, oaks, gums, maples, and birches with an understory of camellias, (140 before we cut some out) rhododendrons, large rocks, rambling roses, etc. were planted, including some rare and unusual specimens.

We bought the farm in 2006 and started overhauling areas which had become overgrown. The re-development is ongoing with natives, deciduous and evergreen azaleas, annual/perennial borders, garden art, fruit trees and vegetable gardens being added to the mix.

## **‘CHATSWOOD’**

**1416 Kairanga Bunnythorpe Road, Kairanga**

*Bruce and Sandra Wilson*

Be impressed by the extensive potager garden, rows of olive trees and lavender beds, oak and hazelnut plantings, herbaceous borders, heritage roses, gazebos, small oriental garden, woodland areas, a classically designed labyrinth, orchard with its beehives, plant nursery and a composting area. The extensive formal and informal area blend together effectively, as do the ornamental and productive plantings.

## **‘LANSDALE’**

**126 Karere Road, Kairanga**

*Robin Tanner*

An expansive park-like garden originally designed in 1912 by Buxton, an English landscape gardener from Christchurch. Large oaks, elms, horse chestnut, plane, ash and sequoias in this five acre garden are over 100 years old. Admire the cascading water feature, and walk over the many bridges which link the gardens and lakes. Tuis, grey herons and kingfishers are regular visitors to the garden.

## **‘OMAHURI’**

**115 Staces Road, Aokautere, Palmerston North**

**Lindsay and Sue Davies**

Sue and Lindsay describe their 10 acre property as “a place of young trees”, despite owning the garden for thirty years. The drive features a bank of double azaleas which have been raised by Sue. The house garden is intensively planted with trees, rhododendrons, bulbs and perennials and includes specimens of rhododendrons which Sue has hybridized and grown. There are views of the garden from every window in the house.

Two ‘blocks’ of the property have been intensively planted with rhododendron species and there are many mature trees, some of which are planted as hedges.

A native tree area is being developed by Lindsay and Sue’s latest project is a pond in the same area.

## **SPEAKERS**

**Graham Smith**

*“New Zealand’s Heritage Gardens-Repositories of the Past, Present and Future”*

Graham will use Gwavas Woodland Garden as an example.

**Andrew Brooker**

*“What grows blooming well for you...”*

A powerpoint presentation of favourite rhododendrons, selected by Trial Committee members in different parts of the country.

## **WORKSHOP DEMONSTRATION**

**Andrew Brooker**

*Pruning rhododendrons*

## **AUCTION**

On Sunday night there will be an auction of rhododendrons which have been especially propagated for the Conference by Sue Davies, including a mystery collector’s item.



## **SALES**

A sales table will be available at the Conference venue and it includes rhododendron species sourced from gardens throughout New Zealand, as part of the NZRA conservation programme. Cash/cheque sales only as there are no eftpos facilities available.

## **DINING**

4 Flames

The Strong Room

Essence

Mekong (Thai)

Amayjen

The Drover’s Return

There is also a wide range of take away outlets.





'Heritage Park'



'A K Ranch'



'Cross Hills'



'Chatswood'



'Lansdale'



'Omahuri'



R. 'Kit Collier'



R. 'Ian's Delight'



## NZ RHODODENDRON ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017 REGISTRATION FORM

Please forward to the registrar with your payment or deposit advice

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr).....Phone .....

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr).....Cell Ph .....

Names and home town for name tag .....

Address ..... Post Code ..

E-Mail address .....

Please note any special needs dietary/mobility .....(See note on Page 2)

I/We have booked accommodation at .....

I/We are staying privately at.....

I/We are arriving at Palmerston North airport at ..... AM/PM on Flight No. ....

I/We would like transport to Palmerston North Airport on Monday. **YES / NO** No. ....

I/We are travelling by car **YES / NO**

Full Registration 3 lunches 2 dinners		Partial Registration	
Early bird before September 1, 2017	\$380.00 pp	Opening Night October 27	Light meal/Keynote Speaker \$45.00 pp
After September 1, 2017	\$430.00 pp	Saturday October 28	All gardens, bus and lunch \$99.00 pp
		Sunday October 29	All gardens, bus and lunch \$99.00 pp
		Sunday Formal Dinner	\$80.00 pp
International Transaction Fee*	\$25.00	Monday October 30	All gardens, bus and lunch \$99.00 pp
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	

Cheque enclosed: **YES / NO**      Direct Credit: **YES / NO**

**NZRA Membership:** A membership fee for NZRA is **NOT** required for: first time attendees; overseas registrants; members of affiliated Societies e.g. Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust; registrants who live within NZRA Ward 5 region. Full membership of the NZRA is required for New Zealand registrants living outside the Ward area.

Please tick where applicable:

Current member/s       First NZRA Conference/Overseas Visitor       Local Resident/s

**Cheques** payable to RHODONZ 2017 CONFERENCE

**Direct Credit/Online Banking** 38-9018-0221048-00 **Account Name:** Rhodonz 2017 Conference. Reference: *Your surname*. **\*Overseas registrants please add \$25.00 International Transaction Fee.**

If using direct credit/online banking you can scan and e-mail your form and deposit details to the e-mail below.

**Receipts** – Receipt required **YES / NO**. If a receipt is required it will be sent by e-mail or please supply a self addressed stamped envelope.

**Cancellations** – After 01 October, 2017, these will incur a \$50 cancellation fee, no refunds after 15 October, 2017

**Registration Form** – Please complete all details and return with your cheque or deposit advice to the registrar: Chris Wilson, 17 Tawa Street, Te Kuiti, 3910 E-mail: [rhodonz2017@gmail.com](mailto:rhodonz2017@gmail.com)

**Privacy Act** – If we do not hear from you to the contrary, it is assumed that we have permission to use your name and accommodation details on the list of participants provided for all registrants.