

# CONFERENCE NEWSFLASH – WELLINGTON APRIL 2022



A reminder that planning is well underway for next year's NZGT conference to be held in Wellington, from 8-10 April 2022. Called 'Intimate landscapes: exploring Wellington's regional gardens and landscapes', the conference will have a mix of excellent lectures and visits to outstanding gardens, chosen to cover the huge range in the region. They'll include intimate city spaces, expansive country gardens, a modern sculpture garden and seaside gardens on the wild south coast. There will also be a visit to Otari-Wilton's Bush and we will have expert guides on hand at each garden. We will again be joining forces with RNZIH, who will be presenting the Banks Lecture and Awards on Thursday 7 April at Wellington Botanic Gardens.

On the lecture front, we have a mix of talented speakers covering a range of topics, including top garden designer Xanthe White who will deliver the keynote talk at Saturday night's dinner. At the conference on Sunday, Ross Palmer will talk about diversity and guardianship in design, and Clare Shearman's talk, 'Old treasures and new secrets' will explore how to create new gardens within historic places, and features Fernside Gardens. In addition, workshops on pest control and IT for gardeners will be offered before the AGM on Sunday.

The usual plant auction takes place on Saturday at Otari-Wilton's bush and we are calling on members and friends to start potting-up treasures now for donation.

The conference lectures will take place at Wellington's stunning waterfront 'Wharewaka' on Sunday 10 April, with dinner there the previous evening.

The Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture will again combine their AGM with our conference, and will host the opening session mid-afternoon on Thursday 7 April, at Wellington's Botanic Gardens' Begonia House. Clare Shearman will give a behind the scenes talk at the gardens, followed by conference registration, happy hour and RNZIH's Banks Lecture (the speaker is Jack Hobbs).

There will be ample opportunity to mix and mingle on Thursday and Friday nights and guests will be encouraged to book at Naumi Hotel in Cuba street which has been chosen as the most suitable accommodation for delegates. Rooms have already been set aside. More details are to come on how and when to book, including the early bird registration rates. Watch for our conference update in the December newsletter. In the meantime, save the date! It should be an excellent conference.