

# Wenza Ngubeni

## New Zealand Trip



# South Africa to New Zealand

- MEETING JASON AT OR THAMBO
- CURRENCY EXCHANGE
- 23 HOURS
- DUBAI SANDSTORM
- LONGEST FLIGHT OF MY LIFE



# Arrival in Auckland, New Zealand

06/11/25

- Excitement plus tiredness
- Meeting Antony Toledo
- Visited Multiflora lab
- Maungawhau Pau (Once Maori's home)
- Rush to get sim cards
- Spend the night at Antony's



# Visit to Nga-Rakau & Scott Base Nurseries. 07/11/2026

- ❖ **Scott Base Nurseries** (Family business)
- ❖ Run by Kathryn & Michael Scott
- ❖ A liner/plug grower (30 years running)
- ❖ Only 12 employees
  
- ❖ **Nga-Rakau Nurseries** (Family business)
- ❖ Location: Taupaki
- ❖ Run by Mark Struthers (contract grower)
- ❖ All automated nursery
- ❖ Supply plugs: Cut flowers, Pinnus radiator, vegies and spathiphyllum.



# Auckland Botanical Gardens

07/11/2025

- ❖ After a good lunch we headed to Auckland Botanical Gardens.
- ❖ Antony introduced us to **Clayton Hart and Owen Newson**.
- ❖ Four sections to the Botanical gardens:
- ❖ **Conservation and Research** (rare and endangered plants)
- ❖ **Education & Participation** (teaching to the public)
- ❖ **Recreation & inspiration** (Landscaping)
- ❖ **Health and wellbeing** (Connect to nature)
- ❖ *Pseudopanax ferox* (Lancewood)
- ❖ *Leptospermum scoparium* (Manuka)
- ❖ Our day ended with some fun



# IPPS Symposium: Auckland Botanical Gardens 08/11/2025

- ❖ Hosted by Clayton's Family
- ❖ Lost Jason's presentation
- ❖ Presentation (Met a lot of IPPS Members)
- ❖ My presentation
- ❖ Walk around the botanical garden
- ❖ Informative walk at botanical garden with Mr Pollard
- ❖ Maori culture at the botanical garden
- ❖ TESLA!!
- ❖ We spend the night with Dave and Shirley



# Visit to Hamilton gardens

09/11/2025 – 11/11/2025

- ❖ “One man trash is another man treasure”
- ❖ Hamilton gardens and it's display gardens
- ❖ All part of revegetation
- ❖ Made of 18 theme/display gardens
- ❖ Took us 4 hours to finish a walk!!



# Waitomo Glow worm caves

09/11/2025 – 11/11/2025

- ❖ Visit to **Waitomo caves**
- ❖ Located in the North Island
- ❖ Formation of limestone
- ❖ Glow worms
- ❖ Drove around in Waitomo
- ❖ **Daltons** growing media(family owned)
- ❖ Met with Scott and Danny
- ❖ Started by John Dalton
- ❖ 75 years running
- ❖ They develop and test their media
- ❖ Automated begging machines



# The Hobbiton movie set

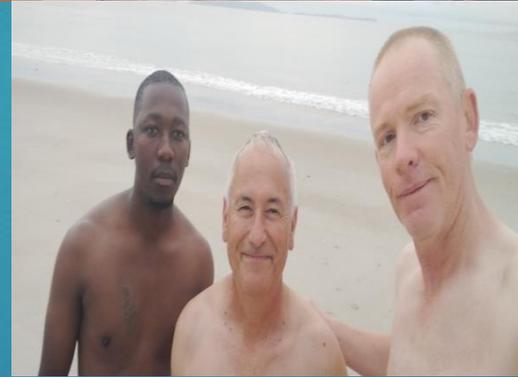
09/11/2025 – 11/11/2025

- ❖ Star of the show!
- ❖ The movie set was left as it is
- ❖ Met a Hobbit at Becks Nurseries
- ❖ Jason was too tall for the Hobbit houses hahaha!
- ❖ Plants around on set
- ❖ South African plants in New Zealand
- ❖ 4,5 sheep per person in New Zealand!



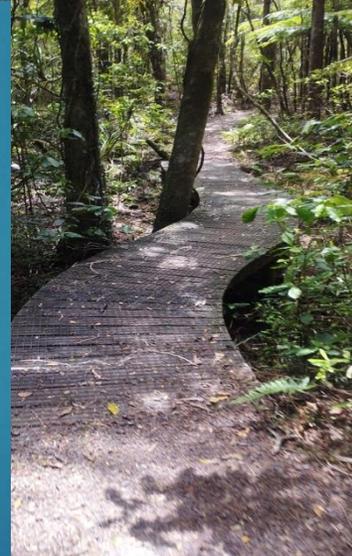
# Technology and sophistication in NZ

- ❖ Lunch with Scott and Daltons staff
- ❖ Running up Mount Manganui
- ❖ Visiting a Kiwi farm
- ❖ Scarcity of employees in New Zealand
- ❖ Keeping fit with Jason and Antony (Pacific ocean)
- ❖ Visiting incredible edibles (Andrew Boylan)



# IPPS Conference: Kerikeri North Island

- ❖ Unity and sharing knowledge with IPPS members
- ❖ Stone store (Oldest surviving stone building)
- ❖ Puketi Nature trail trees
- ❖ Jason Left for South Africa
- ❖ Traveled to the South Island with Heyden
- ❖ Pukakura Park (Fern greenhouse for public)



# Traveling to South Island

- ❖ Visting to mount Taranaki (Heydan)
- ❖ Massey University
- ❖ Tasmanian sea (Bourke 's lookout WWII)
- ❖ Visit to Te Horo Ornamentals (Protea production)
- ❖ South African plants every where
- ❖ How lucky South Africa is to have diversity in South Africa



# Flying from Wellington to Nelson

- ❖ Flew from Wellington to Nelson
- ❖ Meet with Jackie and Ian
- ❖ Visited The Tree Farm by Bruce Dippie
- ❖ A small scale farmer of trees (Open ground)
- ❖ Works alone and sells to landscaper
- ❖ Not a business to him but a money machine for him
- ❖ Waimea Nursery (commercial and retail fruit trees)



# Flew from Nelson to Christchurch

- ❖ Met Jess Elliot from Elliot Wholesale Nursery
- ❖ Visit to Proseed (Special in seed collection)
- ❖ They have a lot of Pinus radiator seeds for revegetation
- ❖ Does seed extraction and storage for farmers
- ❖ Visited Elliot tissue culture (Worked in the lab)
- ❖ Spend the night at Jeff's house
- ❖ Drove his Alfa Romeo!!!



# Last was with Jeff

- ❖ Drove down South with Jeff Elliott's daughter to meet Mark and Bronwyn Braithwaite
- ❖ They own Plant Diagnostics (Tissue culture lab)
- ❖ They focus on plant research (plant disease)
- ❖ Also does tissue culture on potatoes for farmers.
- ❖ Accommodated by Jeff and his wife.
- ❖ Next day
- ❖ Agricultural show (Steam engines, vintage cars and Agriculture equipment)
- ❖ Went to Kura Tawhiti conservation area
- ❖ Full of lime stone
- ❖ A hike in Shelter carving



