



Wellington Botanical Society Jubilee Award 2003

We congratulate David J Galloway, the winner of last year's Jubilee Award. The award is to meet part of the cost of publication of the 2nd edition of *Flora of New Zealand Lichens*. The award will be paid after we receive confirmation that the full \$25,000 cost of publication has been raised, and the book is assured of publication. The Jubilee Award 2003 of Wellington Botanical Society is to be acknowledged on the title page of the book.

Wellington Botanical Society is proud to be associated with this important addition to the knowledge of our indigenous flora. We thank the people who assessed the several applications for the 2003 Jubilee Award, and the numerous people who have made donations to the Jubilee Award fund

The Committee

BotSoc Bulletins

Expand your collection of our "flagship" publication and boost BotSoc's bank balance! The following back issues are available:

1950s: no.23, 9/50; no.30, 12/58.

1960s: no.32, 12/61; no.33, 2/66; no.34, 11/67; no.36, 12/69.

1970s: no.37, 11/71; no.38, 9/74; no.39, 10/76; no.40, 8/78.

1980s: no.41, 9/81; no.42, 9/85; no.43,4/87; no.44, 11/88.

1990s: no.46, 12/94.

Index to Bulletins Nos. 1-35.

Cost \$3 each, including postage and packing, per single copy; \$15 including postage and packing for any five issues.

Copies of our latest Bulletin, No.48 September 2002, are \$6 each including postage and packing.

Please make your cheque payable to Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10 412, Wellington 6036.

Articles for web site

We welcome articles for consideration for inclusion on our web site: www.wellingtonbotsoc.wellington.net.nz

Please send your article to pennyc@clear.net.nz,

OR post it to Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10 412, Wellington, attention: Penny Currier and Julia White;

OR fax it to Barbara Mitcalfe 04 475 7149.

Manawa Karioi Society Revegetation Programme Work Bees

10.00 am every Wednesday
and 2nd Sunday each month.

Lunch provided.

*Potted locally-sourced
native seedlings welcome.*

Thank you.

Contact:

Morgan Cox ph 383 5168 or
Sally Bowman ph 934 7041

Wellington Botanical Society

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Contributions for Newsletter (news, views, information) to:

Chris Horne, 28 Kaihuia St, Northland, WN 5. Ph/fax 475 7025

Annual Subscription: ordinary \$32; joint \$42, country \$26; student \$20.

Send your subscription to Treasurer, WBS, PO Box 10-412, WN.

New subscribers: Please complete form at the back of this newsletter.

Meetings

BotSoc meetings are usually held at 7.30 pm on the third Monday of each month at Victoria University, W'gton - Lecture Theatre 101, ground floor, Murphy Building, west side of Kelburn Parade. Enter building about 20 m down Kelburn Pde from pedestrian overbridge.

Field trips

Day trips to locations in the Wellington region are usually held on the first Saturday of each month.

Extended excursions are usually held at New Year, first weekend in February and Easter.

ATTENDING FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS

Ideas please

We welcome your ideas about:

- places to visit on field trips
- topics and speakers for evening meetings

Please send ideas to our secretary, Barbara Clark, PO Box 10-412, Wellington 6036, ph 233 8202.

Field trips

If you intend to join a trip, PLEASE phone the leader at least TWO DAYS beforehand, so that he/she can tell you of any changes and/or particular requirements. If you cannot ring in advance, you are welcome to join on the day.

Clothing for field trips

Sun hat, balaclava¹ or hat¹, waterproof/windproof parka, long-sleeved cotton shirt, singlet¹, bushshirt¹, 1 or 2 jerseys¹, waterproof/windproof overtrousers, nylon shorts, longjohns¹, longs¹, underclothes, swimming togs, 4pr socks¹, hut shoes, boots, gaiters, mittens¹, handkerchief.

Day trip gear

First aid kit, compass², map², insect repellent, whistle, matches in waterproof container, water purification tablets, water bottle, thermos, pocket knife, camera², binoculars², hand lens², note book², pen and pencil², sunblock, sunglasses, large plastic survival bag to line pack.

Overnight trip gear and food

As well as the day trip gear listed above, bring torch, spare bulb and batteries, candle, mug, plate, knife, fork, spoon, small towel, soap, tooth brush, tent, fly, poles and pegs, groundsheet, sleeping mat, sleeping bag, liner and stuff bag. Bring bread, butter/margarine, biscuits, fresh fruit and scroggin. SCROGGIN = Sultanas, Chocolate or Carob, Raisins, Orange peel, Glucose³, Ginger, Including Nuts.

1 = wool, polypropylene or polarfleece as applicable.

2 Optional

3 Dried apricots are recommended instead of glucose but would spoil the acronym!!

BotSoc equipment

In addition to the gas stoves, billies, kitchen utensils, flies etc., used on long field trips, the following are also available:

- first aid kit. NOTE: anti-histamines NOT included, because of short shelf-life
- ten NZMS 260 Sheet R27, Pt.Q27 maps
- ten Silva Type 3 compasses

If you are leading a BotSoc trip, and would like to take these items, please ring Chris Horne ph 04 475 7025, or Barbara Mitcalfe ph 04 475 7149.

Health and safety

- You are responsible for your own first aid kit. If you have an allergy or medical condition, please carry your own anti-histamines and medications, tell the trip leader of any problems you may have and how to deal with them.
- You are responsible for keeping with the party. If you have any doubts about your ability to do this, you must check the trip conditions with the trip leader, who reserves the right to restrict attendance.

Fitness and experience

Our field trips vary considerably in the level of fitness and tramping experience required. Although our main focus is botanical, our programme sometimes offers trips which, in the pursuit of our botanical aims, are more strenuous than others. Although leaders take care to minimise risks, everyone participates at their own risk. If you have any questions about whether you are fit enough for a particular trip, please contact the leader well beforehand.

Transport reimbursement of drivers

We encourage the pooling of cars for trips.

- **Passengers:** Please pay your share of the running costs to your driver. We suggest 10c/km/passenger.
 - If a trip on the inter-island ferry is involved, please pay your share of the ferry fare.
 - If you change cars mid-trip, leave a *written* note for your driver.
- **Drivers:** Please ensure that you know where you are going, and who is in your car;
 - Zero the odometer at the start, and agree on a return time;
 - Account for all your passengers before you come back;
 - Collect contributions towards transport costs.

Meetings

Public transport to meetings

You may find the following bus services useful. They stop on Kelburn Parade, about 50 m from Lecture Theatre M101 in the Murphy Building, Victoria University:

TO MEETINGS

No. 23 Mairangi–6.30 pm from Houghton Bay, 6.40 Zoo, 6.50 Courtenay Place, 6.57 Pastoral House, 7.02 University.

No. 23 Mairangi–6.55 pm from Southgate, 7.05 Hospital, 7.15 Courtenay Place, 7.22 Pastoral House, 7.27 University.

No. 22 Southgate–6.55 pm from Mairangi, 7.10 University.

No. 23 Houghton Bay–7.25 pm from Mairangi, 7.40 University.

No. 17 Railway Station – 6.35 pm from Karori Park, 6.52 University.

Cable Car at 00, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 min past each hour from Lambton Quay terminus. Alight at Salamanca Station.

FROM MEETINGS

No. 23 Southgate – 9.10 from University.

No. 23 Southgate – 10.10 from University.

Cable Car at approx. 01, 11, 21, 31, 41, 51 minutes past each hour from Salamanca Station.

Last service 10.01 p.m.

For further information ring Ridewell Enquiry Service 801-7000.

FIELD TRIPS AND EVENING MEETINGS: MAY 2004 – JANUARY 2005

The following programme IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. If you wish to go on a field trip, PLEASE help with planning by giving the leader 2 days' notice before a day trip, MORE notice before week-end trips, and SEVERAL WEEKS' notice before the New Year's trip.

Saturday 1 May: Field trip NOTE CHANGE OF TRIP Pukerua Escarpment Sites

Boots advisable. Share transport or catch the 8.30am Paraparaumu train, alighting at Pukerua Bay. Use the overhead pedestrian bridge to cross SH1. Take Teihana Road and turn right, into Rawhiti Rd. Meet at its north end at 9.30 am. We take the "Goat Track" down to the beach, then walk west along the Pukerua Bay foreshore and around Wairaka Point. We climb a spur to view a Maori archaeological site, then sidle to botanise three of PCC's Significant Ecological Sites: Wairaka South, Wairaka Central and Wairaka North, on the farm of John and Christine Carrad. We return via Raroa Reserve or alternative. Trains to Wellington stop at Pukerua Bay Station at 18 and 48 minutes past the hour. Please ring co-leaders Barbara Mitcalfe 475 7149 or John Daniels, archaeologist, 938 7971.

Monday 17 May: Evening meeting Members' evening

Please come and help make this an interesting evening. Share slides or photographs of recent trips. Bring prized plants to show. Brief botanical readings are welcome.

Saturday 12 June: Field trip Mana Island

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL to guarantee space. Help with planting trees as part of a reforestation project. See over 20 years of plantings, the concrete gannet colony, and extensive views. Tools will be provided. Take appropriate clothing for wintry, windy weather. Boots essential. Catch 8.02 Paraparaumu train from Wellington Station. Meet 8.45am at Fisherman's Wharf, Paremata, near Paremata Station. Parking available at station. Depart Mana 4.30pm. Fare \$15. Map R26 Paraparaumu. Leader Sue Chesterfield 233 8314. Cancellation notice broadcast on 2ZB.

Monday 21 June: Evening meeting Menacing, munching moths

Speaker: Geoff Keey, Biosecurity Awareness Officer, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society. New Zealand's forests face major threats from invasive moths. He will describe recent moth invasions, and what is being done about them.

Saturday 3 July: Field trip Kaiwharawhara Valley, Otari

Join Prof. Phil Garnock-Jones, School of Biological Sciences, and post-graduate students from Victoria University on a planting and monitoring trip with Johnathon Kennett and Bronwyn Wall who have managed the revegetation project in the valley since its inception. Duration 9am–12pm. After lunch botanise Otari's collections. Meet at Te Marae o Tane (Otari Information Centre) at 8.45am. Catch no. 14 Wilton bus, alighting at Warwick St. Co-leaders: Jonathon Kennett and Bronwyn Wall. Ph. 472 5891

Monday 19 July: Evening meeting Environmental weeds, Wellington region

Speaker: Mike Urlich, Biosecurity Officer (Pest plants), Greater Wellington, talks on current and potential environmental weeds of Wellington region. Bring sample weeds and your questions. Discuss the different approaches to weed management: species-led versus site-led. Find out about "good" garden plants that have gone "bad" and how you can help.

Saturday 7 August: Field trip Waikanae wetlands on private land

Botanise a diverse selection of protected areas including threatened species, podocarp forest and flax swamps. Wet feet possible—suitable footwear recommended. Meet at Paraparaumu Station 9am then drive to Ngarara Road. Arrange car pool in advance. Train to Paraparaumu departs Wellington 8am, arriving Paraparaumu 8.55. 4WD vehicles a bonus. Leader: Tim Park, 472 6626 w, 384 1111 h, deputy leader: Barbara Mitcalfe 475 7149.

Monday 23 August 1. AGM

2. A. P. Druce Memorial Lecture: Wit, wisdom and witness in the Druce experience. Dr Geoff Rogers

Description and biographical notes: A light-hearted look at Tony's landscape-reading ability and his witty and wise mentoring of our current crop of botanists. Witness the Geoff Rogers' experience maintaining the Druce inheritance in central North Island and South Island high country.

**Help raise funds for BotSoc's Jubilee Award Fund –
bring named seedlings/cuttings for sale at each evening meeting**

Saturday 4 September: Field trip**Te Marua workbee**

BotSoc has been committed since 1989 to do weed control and revegetation work in this regionally significant matai/maire/totara remnant in Kaitoke Regional Park. With the aid of a grant from Greater Wellington Regional Council we have been able to hire a contractor to speed the task of *Tradescantia* control, but our biennial workbees must continue so that we keep ahead of reinvasion of weeds, particularly around the plantings. Please help with this important work and also with planting. Bring gloves, kneeler, weed bag, and your favourite weeding tools, e.g. trowel, hand fork, loppers, pruning saw, pinch bar. Meet at Upper Hutt Station carpark at 9am, or 9.20 at Te Marua Bush: 250m north of Te Marua Store on SH2, then, at the sign "Te Marua Entrance, Kaitoke Regional Park", take left fork for c. 50m and park alongside the Bush. Catch 8.05 Upper Hutt train from Wellington, alighting at Upper Hutt. Maps R26 Paraparaumu and Upper Hutt street map. Co-leaders: Glennis Shepperd 526 7450 and Sue Millar 526 7440.

Monday 20 September: Evening meeting: Origin and biogeography of New Zealand *Craspedia*

Speaker Kerry Ford, Landcare, Canterbury, will discuss her recent research on *Craspedia* (Gnaphalieae: Asteraceae) a daisy genus of 23 species restricted to NZ and Australia. In NZ it is an outlier in the subtribe Angianthine, with the remaining c. 60 genera endemic to Australia. Researching the frequency of colonisation of NZ by this genus provides a basis for further research of morphological, ecological and geographical patterns at a finer scale in NZ, and also has relevance to the debate on the origins of the NZ flora and the inter-relationships of the NZ and Australian floras.

Saturday 2 October: Field trip**Waterfall Road Bush**

Walk through an 80-ha patch of private bush with three species of maire, large northern rata, rimu, totara, *Mida salicifolia* and an interesting range of ferns and orchids. Terrain rugged in parts. Leader: Olaf John ph. 478 7065, deputy leader: Chris Horne ph. 475 7025. Meet at Paekakariki Station at 9am. Catch 8am Paraparaumu train from Wellington. Pool cars to Waterfall Road.

Sunday 10 October: Field trip**Workbee at Manawa Karioi, Tapu Te Ranga Marae**

This event has been scheduled to coincide with a regular Manawa Karioi workbee. (See panel on front of newsletter). BotSoc has had a long-term involvement with Tapu Te Ranga and we have been invited by kaumatua Bruce Stewart to advise on the marae's impressive collection of threatened plant species. Bring a trowel and/or weeding gear, to help with potting up, etc. Later, see the results of 15 years' restoration work on the surrounding hillsides. Boots advisable. Lunch provided. Meet in the marae carpark. Take the No. 1 Island Bay bus 9.04am from the station, to the intersection of Tamar St and Island Bay Parade. Walk up Tamar St to Rhine St. The pedestrian entrance to the marae is at No 44. If driving, go up Rhine St and turn right into the vehicular entrance. If coming, ring co-leaders: Barbara Mitcalfe ph 475 7149 or Chris Horne 475 7025.

Monday 18 October: Evening meeting**Penwiper to pingao**

Speaker: Val Smith, amateur photographer, will share some of her favourite slides of people, plants and places from more than a decade of New Zealand-wide forays with botanical, native orchid and tramping groups. However the main focus of the programme will be BotSoc New Year field trips between 1992 and 2004. Members are welcome to add their comments and reminiscences.

Saturday 6 November: Field trip**Gibbs Covenant and Butterfly Creek**

Tour George and Keena Gibbs' covenant and then botanise Butterfly Creek. See the newly described Eastbourne Hills *Libertia edgariae* (*Libertia* aff. *grandiflora* Druce), *Drymoanthus flavus* and mistletoe. We will record sightings of these and other special plants, and invasive weed species. Meet at junction of Puriri St and Muritai Road, Eastbourne, at 9am. Leaders: George and Keena Gibbs (tbc). Contact: Chris Horne ph. 475 7025

Monday 15 November: Evening meeting**New plant conservation strategies**

Speaker: John Sawyer, Wellington Conservancy, DOC, outlines new developments in plant conservation.

Saturday 3/Sunday 4 December**Manawatu Estuary**

Explore Manawatu Estuary and local sites. Details to be announced in next newsletter.

Tuesday 28 December 2004 – Thursday 6 January 2005: New Year's field trip Western Canterbury

Base camp: Staveley Campsite, Sawmill Rd, signposted on Highway 72, 1 km north of Staveley, 42 km west of Ashburton. 4 ha of grounds, 8 ha of native bush.

Facilities: 8 12-bunk dormitories @ c. \$10 per person/night. Campsites @ \$5 per person/night, to be confirmed.

Possible field trips: Mt Somers Conservation Area; Staveley Hill; Caves Stream; Mt Hutt Conservation Area; Coalgate Walkway; Rakaia Gorge Walkway; Lake Emma and Mt Harper; Mt Thomas; Glentui and Ashley Gorge... We thank Bryony McMillan for providing all this information. Booking form will be in next Newsletter

Interislander ferry bookings open about 1 June – check by ringing 0800 802 802 late in May.

Suggested R & R trip 6 January onward: Hinewai Reserve, RD 3, Akaroa 8161. Make your own booking direct with Hugh Wilson, manager, ph 03 304 8501. The lodge holds 12; camping not permitted.

EVENTS

1. **Tree planting – Kaiwharawhara Valley.** *Saturdays 1 May – 31 July*, Meet 9am Te Marae o Tane/ Otari Information Centre, 160 Wilton Rd. Ring Bronwen or Jonathan 472 5891 evenings.
2. **WCC Berhampore Nursery Open Day.** *22 May, 9am – 2pm*. Plant sales, displays, including BotSoc's. Off end of Emerson St, Berhampore.
3. **Matiu/Somes Island tree planting.** *Sundays: 30 May, 27 June, 25 July, 22 August, 19 September*. Free transport by East-West ferry from Queens Wharf at 8.30am, or Days Bay at 9.15am. Bring lunch. Contact Alex Kettles 569 6208 or Stan Butcher 567 7271.
4. **Exhibition: “Raoul Rough” and “Low Flat 08 – a Grid Search”** *Thursday 17 July – Wednesday 14 August*. Photospace, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place, Wellington. Photographs by Julia Brooke-White, a Wgtn BotSoccer, and sculptures of weeding by Deborah Anne Hall. Both artists were weeding together on Raoul last year. For more details look at www.photospace.co.nz
5. **Tongariro Collectables Auction.** *20 October*. Fundraising event. Contact Sarah Gibb, Auction Co-ordinator, Tongariro Natural History Society, PO Box 238, Turangi to donate items relevant to the central North Island. E-mail info@tongariro.org.nz Ph 07 386 9237.

PUBLICATIONS

- 1a. **Turning the tide – report on year 3, NZ Biodiversity Strategy.** See www.biodiversity.govt.nz
- 1b. **Science publications 2003.** 23 p.
- 1c. **Climbing spindle berry (*Celastrus orbiculatus* Thumb).** PA Williams; SM Tmmins 2003. *Science for Conservation* 234. 28 p.
- 1d. **Whangamarino Wetland vegetation map methodology.** P Reeves; R Haskew 2003. *DOC Science Internal Series* 152. 15 p.
- 1e. **Book review: *Botany of the Waikato*.** PJ de Lange 2003. *NZ Journal of Botany* 41: 737 – 739.
- 1f. ***Pittosporum serpentinum* (de Lange) de Lange (Pittosporaceae), a new combination for an ultramafic endemic of the Surville Cliffs, North Cape, NZ.** PJ de Lange 2003. *NZ Journal of Botany* 41: 725 – 726.
- 1g. **Species of *Convolvulus* (Convolvulaceae) endemic to NZ.** PB Heenan; BPJ Molloy; PJ de Lange 2003. *NZ Journal of Botany* 41: 447– 457.
- 1h. **Assessing the social effects of conservation on neighbouring communities.** C Cosslett; D Buchan; J Smith 2004. *DOC Technical Series* 29. 68 p.
- 1i. **Clearcutting and burning trials to maintain frost-flat communities, Rangitaiki, Central North Island.** MC Smale; NB Fitzgerald 2004. *DOC Science Internal series* 157. 12 p.
- 1j. **Conservation of *Olearia gardneri*.** C Ogle 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series* 156. 48 p.
- 1k. **Recovery plan for threatened grassy plants of dry fertile sites.** 2003-13. C Jones. *Threatened species recovery plan* 52. 28 p.
- 1l. **A review of research on *Undaria pinnatifida* in NZ and its potential impacts on the eastern coast of the South Island.** MD Stuart 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series* 166. 40 p.
- 1m. **Aquatic vegetation of Chatham Island (Rekohu).** PD Champion; JS Clayton 2004. *DOC Science Internal series* 164. 20 p.
- 1n. **ConScience – conservation science newsletter.** No.49 4/04. 16 p.
- 1o. **Beautiful giants of the forest floor – *Powelliphanta* land snails.**
DOC Science Publishing, PO Box 10 420, WN. Fax 04 496 1929. E-mail science.publications@doc.govt.nz
2. **The ecology and conservation of *Kunzea sinclairii* (Myrtaceae), a naturally rare plant of rhyolitic rock outcrops.** PJ de Lange; DA Norton 2004. *Biological Conservation* 117 (2004): 49 – 59.
3. **Te Papa Annual Report 2002/2003.** Research publications section lists papers on *Hebe*, and *Polystichum*, published in *NZ Journal of Botany*.
Te Papa, PO Box 467, WN., ph 04 381 7000, fax 04 381 7070, e-mail mail@tepapa.govt.nz
4. **Open Space.** No.60 4/2004: South Westland's special totara-matai forests; photopoints for monitoring covenants on farms; wilding conifers – prediction and prevention; pohutukawa and rata – the iron-hearted trees; invasive species in NZ; alien rust fungi; etc. Three issues p.a. Subscription: individual \$30; family \$45; life \$550; corporate – non-profit \$50.
QEII National Trust, PO Box 3341, WN.
5. **NZ Plant Conservation Network.** 2/2004: new threatened plant classification; *Atriplex hollowayi* etc. 3/2004: *Pittosporum patulum*, arrest of Czech botanists; flora of Australia online; etc. Send news items of events to events@nzpcn.org.nz
- 6a. **Kuaha ki Waitutu – the Gateway to Waitutu.** 4 p.
- 6b. **Birchwood, Ahuriri Valley – an exceptional alpine landscape.** 6 p.
Nature Heritage Fund, PO Box 10 420, WN.
7. **Pukaha Mount Bruce News.**
National Wildlife Centre Trust, c/- PO Box 191, Masterton.
8. **Community Newsletter** 12/03. Queen Elizabeth Park wetland development; reports of activities of “Friends groups” of Belmont Regional Park, Maara Roa and Queen Elizabeth Park; Management plan reviews; East Harbour Regional park ranger service launch; etc.
Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, WN. Ph 04 384 5708, fax 04 385 6960, www.gw.govt.nz
- 9a. **Branch Out** Vol 11: Summer 2003/04: threat posed by agapanthus; planting for drought; volunteer groups working in Wellington's parks and reserves; etc. Vol 12: Autumn 2004: David Sole, Wellington Botanic Gardens manager; weed and animal pest control; Makara Foreshore Reserve; Berhampore Nursery open day; building reservoirs in reserves; etc.
- 9b. **Makara Foreshore Reserve, Owhariu Bay, Wellington.** 2 p.
Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, WN.

10. **True Colours.** 3/2004: Trustee Ruud Kleinpaste; planting pohutukawa between Te Araroa and East Cape; planting rata on South Island West Coast; how to grow northern rata; etc.
Project Crimson, PO Box 301 027, Albany. Ph 09 414 0466, e-mail: info@projectcrimson.org.nz
11. **Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust.** 2/2004: report on progress of revegetation project; report from staff; etc.
Subscription: double/family \$15; individual \$10; student/unwaged \$5.
Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust, 160 Wilton Rd, Wilton, WN 6005.
12. **The Community Guide to the Resource Management Act 1991.** Raewyn Peart.
Environmental Defence Society Inc, PO Box 95 152, Swanson AK. Ph 09 835 4350. E-mail www.eds.org.nz
13. **Matiu Matters.** 3/2004: new ranger, David Moss; weeding karo; etc.
Matiu Somes Island Charitable Trust, c/- Wellington Tenth's, PO Box 536, Wellington. Subscription: Adult \$20; family \$30.
14. **Pikao (or Pingao).** Leaflet.
Reserves Officer, Dunedin City Council, e-mail ppope@dcc.govt.nz
15. **NZ Botanical Society Newsletter.** 3/2004: regional BotSocs news; launch of NZ Plant Conservation Network; *Polystichum oculatum* in the Rangitikei; etc. Back issues: \$2.50 each no.1 8/85 to no. 46 12/96; \$3.00 each no.47 3/97 to no. 50 12/97; \$3.75 each from no.51 3/98 onwards. Subscription: ordinary and institutional \$25; full-time student \$9.
NZ Botanical Society, c/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, CH 8001.
16. **Quartz Hill Reserve, Makara, from the peneplain to the sea.** Leaflet.
Quartz Hill Reserve Charitable Trust, PO Box 5276, WN. Ph 04 479 5700, fax 04 479 5900, e-mail gracecp@extra.co.nz Annual contributions of \$20 go towards acquiring and protecting Quartz Hill/Makara farm.
17. **Bush vitality – a visual assessment kit.** Helmut Janssen 2004. Available from Horizons Regional Council, or Greater Wellington Regional Council, or helmut.janssen@horizons.govt.nz
- 18a. **Proceedings of the Coastal Dune Vegetation Network 2004 conference, Wellington “Communities caring for their coasts”.** Compiled by Greg Steward, Nigel Clarke, Jo Fagan and Keeley Hoyle.
- 18b. **Sand dune and beach inventory** • Volume 1 – North Island. Trevor Partridge; • Volume 2 – South Island and Stewart Island. Peter Johnson. They include botanical descriptions and ratings for more than 600 beaches in NZ.
Published by DSIR Land Resources, Christchurch, 1992. \$20 each.
Coastal Dune Veg. Network, PB 3020, Rotorua. Ph 07 343 5899, e-mail: greg.steward@forestresearch.co.nz <http://www.forestresearch.co.nz>
- 19a. **Bay of Plenty Coast Care** 19b. **Formation and Functions of Beaches and Sand Dunes**
19c. **Foredune Vegetation** 19d. **Dune usage**
19e. **Coastal Plants – Pingao** 19f. **Coastal Plants – Spinifex**
19g. **Vehicle Damage in Sand Dunes** 19h. **Sand Ladders – Getting you to the Beach**
19i. **Backyard Buffers** 19j. **Coast Care Code**
Coast Care Co-ordinator, Environment Bay of Plenty, ph 0800 ENV BOP (368 267), website: www.envbop.govt.nz
20. **Coastal foredunes in Wellington.** 3/03. 4 p.
Wellington Conservancy, Department of Conservation, PO Box 5086, WN.
- 21a. **Pingao on coastal sand dunes – guidelines for seed collection, propagation and establishment.** DO Bergin and JW Herbert, Forest Research 1999. p 20. \$16.65.
- 21b. **Spinifex on coastal sand dunes - guidelines for seed collection, propagation and establishment.**
D Bergin, Forest Research 1999. p 25. \$16.65.
- 21c. **Sand tussock on coastal sand dunes - guidelines for seed collection, propagation and establishment.** D Bergin, Forest Research 2000. p 20. \$16.65.
- 21d. **Coastal sand dunes – form and function.** PA Hesp, Massey University 2000. p. 28. \$16.65.
Publications, Forest Research, Pbag 3020, Rotorua. E-mail: publications@forestresearch.co.nz

SUBMISSIONS CALLED FOR

1. **Porirua long-term council community plan 2004 – 2014.** Document from ph 237 5089. Submissions to PCC, PO Box 50 218, Porirua, or submissions@pcc.govt.nz, or fax 04 237 1445 by 3 May.
2. **Towards a sustainable region – Greater Wellington Regional Council's statement incorporating the 2004/05 proposed annual plan.** Document from ph 384 5708. Submissions to Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11 646, WN, or annualplan@gw.govt.nz, or fax 04 384 5023 by 17 May.
3. **Hutt City Council draft amended long-term council community plan 2004/14 and draft annual plan 2004/05.** Document from ph 570 6666. Submissions to HCC, PBag 31 912, Lower Hutt by 18 May.
4. **Wellington City Council draft annual plan.** Document from ph 499 4444. Submissions to WCC, Box 2199, WN, or www.wcc.govt.nz, or fax 801 3124, by 21 May.
5. **Kaitoke Regional Park – management plan review.** Inspect the plan at KRP ranger station, GWRC offices, 142 Wakefield St, WN, and GWRC Upper Hutt depot, 1056 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt. Check website www.gw.govt.nz, or ring Treacia Smith or Victoria Owen 04 381 7753 for more information. Submissions to KRP Submissions, Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, Wellington, or e-mail to parks@gw.govt.nz by 30 June. A draft management plan will then be prepared for further public comment.

GRANTS

Biodiversity Advice Fund and **Biodiversity Condition Fund**. These are government initiatives to enhance management of indigenous biodiversity outside public conservation lands, e.g., private land or Maori land.

- Biodiversity Advice Fund supports the provision of information and advice to land managers to assist them in managing indigenous biodiversity. It will fund that inspire landholders or groups to improve the condition of indigenous biodiversity.
- Biodiversity Condition Fund aims to improve and maintain the condition of areas of indigenous vegetation, species and habitats, including wetlands and water bodies. The fund seeks to broaden community effort in the management of indigenous biodiversity, and to complement contributions for its enhancement. It will fund projects that enhance biodiversity outside public conservation lands, and particularly areas under legal protection.

Biodiversity Funds, Department of Conservation, PO Box 10 420, Wellington. Ph 04 471 3296, fax 04 471 3130, e-mail: biofunds@doc.govt.nz, website: www.biodiversity.govt.nz/land/NZBS/pvtland/condition.html

Applications for grants will be called for mid-year, and two months allowed for people to apply.

Awards

1. Green Ribbon Awards 2004

These awards are open to individuals and organisations that are making a difference to the New Zealand environment. Nomination forms from Ministry for the Environment, ph 04 917 7492, fax 04 917 7529, e-mail: green.ribbon@mfe.govt.nz. Nominations to Green Ribbon Awards, Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10 362, Wellington, or e-mail: green.ribbon@mfe.govt.nz by 7 May.

2. Allan Mere Award 2004

Nominations meeting the following conditions are invited :

- a. The Award shall be made annually to a person or persons who have made outstanding contributions to botany in NZ, either in a professional or amateur capacity.
- b. The Award shall be administered by the NZ Botanical Society.
- c. Nominations for the Award may be made by regional botanical societies, or by individuals, to the Secretary, NZ Botanical Society. Nominations shall close on 30 June each year. Nominations shall be signed by a nominator and seconder, and accompanied by two copies of supporting information that must not exceed one A4 page.
- d. Selection of the successful nominee/nominees shall be made by the Committee of the NZ Botanical Society, normally within three months of the closing date for nominations.
- e. If, in the opinion of the Committee, no suitable nomination is received in any particular year, the Committee may refrain from making an award.
- f. The Mere shall be formally presented to the recipient on an appropriate occasion by the President of the NZ Botanical Society or his/her nominee, but otherwise shall remain in the custody of, and to be displayed by, the Herbarium Keeper of CHR at Landcare Research, Lincoln, together with the book recording awards.
- g. The recipient shall receive an appropriately inscribed certificate.

Nominations should be sent by 30 June 2004 to: Doug Rogan, Secretary, NZ Botanical Society, c/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, Christchurch 8001.

Wellington Botanical Society Jubilee Award

Wellington Botanical Society invites applications for an Award of up to \$2000 to encourage and assist applicants to further knowledge of the New Zealand indigenous flora, and to commemorate the 50th Jubilee of the Society.

Purpose of the Award

The Award is open to anyone working in New Zealand and will be granted for: field work; artistic endeavour; publication; research; propagation or cultivation of NZ native plants for educational purposes and/or other studies which promote the better understanding of the NZ indigenous flora and vegetation. The interpretation of these conditions will be flexible, except that the main criterion will be the furtherance of knowledge or promotion of the intrinsic value of the indigenous NZ flora and vegetation.

The Award may be used to defray costs such as travel, accommodation, materials or publication.

Applications for the Award

Applications should be made in typescript to: Secretary, Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10-412, Wellington, by 31 October 2004. There is no prescribed application form, but the following must be provided:

- the applicant's name, postal address, telephone number, any relevant position held;
- a summary statement of the applicant's accomplishments in the field of botany (no more than one page);
- an outline and timetable for the proposed project for which the Award is sought;
- a proposed budget for the project.

Selection

The award will be made to one or more applicants selected by a subcommittee nominated by the general committee of Wellington Botanical Society. Award(s) will be made, and applicants informed of the results in writing, by 24 December 2004. Successful applicants will be required to provide, at an agreed time, a short report on what they have achieved and an account of their expenditure of Award funds.

The names of Award recipients, the value of the Award(s), and a synopsis of the project(s) will be published in the Annual Report of Wellington Botanical Society.

*Barbara Clark,
Secretary*

Publications from other BotSocs and other organisations

We receive the following documents:

NEW ZEALAND

- Auckland Botanical Society – News-sheet and Journal
- Botanical Society of Otago - Newsletter
- Canterbury Botanical Society - Newsletter and Journal
- Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZ – Ecolink Newsletter
- Hinewai Reserve, Banks Peninsula – Pipipi Newsletter
- Karori Wildlife Sanctuary – Kereru Newsletter
- Manawatu Botanical Society – Newsletter
- Nelson Botanical Society – Newsletter
- New Zealand Botanical Society – Newsletter
- Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust - Newsletter
- Rotorua Botanical Society - Newsletter
- Wanganui Museum Botanical Group - Newsletter

OVERSEAS – collections of research papers

- National Herbarium of Victoria, Australia – Muelleria
- Torrey Botanical Society, Ohio University, USA – Journal
- Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum, Berlin-Dahlem – Willdenowia

These are available for perusal at our monthly evening meetings. If you wish to borrow a publication, please send us a stamped, addressed, A4 envelope.

We thank the above organisations for sending us their publications in return for our Newsletter and Bulletin.

Intention to introduce local Bill into the House of Representatives

Greater Wellington Regional Council intends to promote the introduction of the Wellington Regional Council (Water Board *Functions*) Bill into the House of Representatives.

The object of the Bill is to empower the Council to use lands vested in it or under its control under the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 for the production of renewable energy. The Bill would enable the Council, or a party approved by the Council, to establish and operate electrical installations and works on those lands so long as it is satisfied these would not impede the performance by the Council of its functions, duties and powers under Part II of the Act.

Copies of the Bill can be inspected, free of charge, at the offices of the District Courts in Lower Hutt (Laings Rd), Porirua (4 Hagley St), and Wellington (43–49 Balance St), and at the GWRC office (142-146 Wakefield St).

Editorial note: This Bill could empower the council to dam rivers, build wind power stations, or establish arrays of solar panels. It may have implications for the landscapes and ecosystems in Belmont, East Harbour and Kaitoke Regional Parks and the Te Marua Lakes area, Akatarawa Forest, Battle Hill Farm Forest Park, Orongorongo Valley, Pakuratahi Forest including Mt Climie, Puffer Track entrance to Tararua Forest Park, Puketiro Forest, Rimutaka Hill and summit, Valley View Forest and Cannon Point Walkway, and Wainuiomata Valley, etc.

QE II Open Space Covenants

The Trust has recently registered the following Open Space Covenants on private land in the Wellington region:

- Bideford, east of Masterton: 3.5 ha of primary podocarp forest.
- Forest Lakes: restoration project at an 8 ha wetland which attracts up to 400 birds at a time.
- O Te Pua Swamp, adjoining the Forest Lakes site: 3.8 ha of primary harakeke flaxland which is part of O Te Pua.
- Otaki Gorge Road: 1.1 ha totara-matai forest.

Most of these areas have been protected with some funding assistance from Greater Wellington Regional Council and Kapiti Coast District Council, which is greatly appreciated by the Trust and the landowners.

I am pleased to announce that the Trust was successful in obtaining a significant grant to assist with weed and pest animal control on some existing covenants from the Biodiversity Condition Fund through the Wellington Regional Land Protection Forum.

As at 22 April 2004, there were 146 Open Space Covenants registered in the Wellington region, protecting more than 4565 ha of private land. If you know of anyone considering protecting areas of ecological value on their land, please contact me, because the trust may be able to assist.

Timothy (Tim) Park
Trust Ecologist, Wellington Regional Representative
QE II National Trust, 138 The Terrace, PO Box 3341, Wellington
www.nationaltrust.org.nz; tpark@qe2.org.nz
04 472 6626 (w); 0508 732 878 (freephone) ;
04 472 5578 (fax); 027 218 2552 (cellular)

Karori Tunnel Planting

It would be good to be able to report that the native plants put in last autumn were doing fine, but alas! The mistake of 2002 was repeated in 2003—the 400 plants were subsequently sprayed with herbicide and most have died. Council have undertaken to remedy this by using a weedeater instead of spray, and by planting much bigger plants to replace the lost ones. Cabbage trees and kowhai to over 1m height have been promised to prepare the site.

Barbara Mitcalfe

Craig Potton Native Plant Calendar

Those of us who bought this calendar will have noticed that this year there is a double error on the October page. One of Otago's worst weeds is featured as a native plant and wrongly captioned as "Platycerium sp." which is an exotic fern. The plant is Sedum acre, stonecrop, a small succulent which infests hectares of open spaces. It is pictured snuggled in a bed of Raoulia, and Members who have botanised "down Central" will recall it well. BotSoc wrote to Craig Potton Publishing, explaining that while we have enjoyed the calendar over the years because it is one of the few available which feature native plants, we were concerned about the errors. In response to our letter we received a very apologetic phone call and a promise to ensure better botanical oversight in future.

Barbara Mitcalfe

Otari-Wilton's Bush news

Flowering of *Hoheria* indicates the onset of autumn, and we now appear to be having more settled weather than last summer.

Otari-Wilton's Bush has been accepted as a 'Garden of National Significance' and a foundation member of The New Zealand Gardens Trust. The trust's website www.gardens.org.nz promotes its member gardens. Otari was represented by David Sole, Manager of the Botanic Gardens, at the launch at Government House, Auckland, on 25 March.

The February storms occurred while I was on leave. I was impressed at how the staff took it in their stride, and did what had to be done. A large hinau fell on other trees in the Wild Garden, and was held partly by *Tecomanthe speciosa*, the vine from Three Kings Island. The area was closed for safety reasons. It was nearly a month before an arborist was able to fell the tree. We have retained two large pieces of trunk for features in the garden, and many branches to use as garden edging. A large ngaio near the bowling club also fell over and blocked the path. Many smaller trees were dealt with by Otari staff who spent most of a week cleaning up after the storm.

Several third year Victoria University ecology students are doing experiments in the reserve, so some plants have coloured ribbon attached. We are keen to support these projects provided there is no detrimental impact on the reserve. The students are required to give us a copy of the results which is useful information to have. One project of interest is to measure the impact of karaka in the forest reserve, and make recommendations on how to manage this native adventive.

Part of the Circular Track has been upgraded, with new cross drains to limit gouging of the track during heavy rain. The track has been levelled and metalled.

Interpretation signs for the Wilton Walkway will include information about the original piece of bush at the "look-in" viewing platform, interpretation of the area of the Fernery the walkway passes through, and the clearing which houses the *Drachophyllum* collection. Eleanor Burton's artwork will feature on the signs.

Eleanor is on parental leave for twelve months, but over the next six weeks will add all accessions from the last eighteen months to the new database

Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust ran four seminars in February: *Epiphytes in Wellington forests*, *Lizards in New Zealand*, *How to be sluggish*, and *Threatened coastal plants of Wellington*. All were well attended.

Seed of *Olearia gardneri*, the threatened species from Wairarapa, has germinated, and will be returned to the Department of Conservation to grow on.

Otari is also germinating seed of alpine species from the Tararuas in a joint project with Greater Wellington. We will share the resulting plants. Our allocation will be planted in our alpine garden, Greater Wellington's will be planted around the new Kaitoke field centre in Upper Hutt.

Planting on the Kaiwharawhara Restoration Project will occur every Saturday from **1 May to 31 July, 9 – 11am**. If you wish to help and want more details, please phone Mary on 389 9254.

Robyn Smith
Curator Manager
Otari-Wilton's Bush

Otari-Wilton's Bush a significant garden

Otari-Wilton's Bush has been classified as a garden of national significance by the newly formed NZ Gardens Trust. Launched early in April by the Governor-General, Dame Silvia Cartwright, the trust has developed a database and a website of gardens endorsed by the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture. Otari-Wilton's Bush is one of twenty-eight founding gardens nationwide, and the only one in the Wellington area to qualify. Visit www.gardens.org.nz

Source: Wellington Contact, 8 April 2004

We congratulate Wellington City Council, and the devoted staff at Otari, on this richly deserved recognition of New Zealand's only botanic garden dedicated solely to native plants.

OBITUARY

Flora Christeller 1923–2004

Flora McDonald grew up in rural Hawkes Bay, in wide landscapes, surrounded by trees and animals. From these experiences came her love for nature, hills, plants and flowers, stimulated by her father's caring attitude to their environment. Flora was also influenced by her father's compassionate and sharing values towards people, values that she continued to show throughout her life. Flora's interest in plants was further stimulated by her friendship, while studying for Diploma of Fine Arts at Canterbury University, with Helen and Tony Druce. This friendship proved to be an enduring one. After her marriage to Gerald Christeller, they moved to Pinehaven in 1950 where the Druces were living and the two couples raised their families together.

Flora's involvement with Wellington Botanical Society will have dated from around this time. She and her family were regular members of the many botanical excursions, initially in the lower North Island and later throughout northwest Nelson. An early example of Flora combining her love of art and the New Zealand flora can be seen by society members on the covers of Bulletins Nos. 28-30 published in the late 1950s. These comprise hand-printed multi-coloured linocuts of *Carmichelia*, *Gahnia* and *Coprosma* species.

Her twin loves of art and nature developed into her life's work as a potter. Clay proved to be the perfect medium to express these feelings, reinforced by her exposure to the Japanese pottery tradition. Although she loved to experiment and develop new ideas, her work could be typified by large bowls and jars, decorated by incision and overlays, and painted with botanical motifs of flowers such as *Celmisia*, kowhai and rata. Typical too were more whimsical items such as her native bird whistles and little blue penguin statues.

Flora's last tramp was to Fenella Hut in January 2003. She died a year later, after a too brief tussle with multiple myeloma.

John Christeller

Matiu Matters

In 2002 we measured northern rata, *Metrosideros robusta*, grown from seed in 2000, to establish a baseline for measuring growth rates under various conditions. (See Newsletter Dec. 2002, p. 16). On 13 April, sixteen months later, we re-measured them. Results briefly: **Under full shade**—little height gain. **In open spaces between 1–2 metre high shrubs**—moderate gain though some were overgrown by the surrounding trees. **On open ground initially without shelter but gradually protected by adjacent plantings**—best growth; these trees had increased their height by 80% in the sixteen months. The height gains were respectively, 58cm, 58cm, and 50cm.

Four thousand plants will be planted in May, the twenty-fourth annual planting. Some areas, where losses have occurred, will be infilled, some new, open areas will be planted with pioneer plants. Most of the plants will be planted as successional within the established, young forest. Here it is necessary to trim back or remove the vigorous ngaio, *Myoporum laetum*, to provide light wells into which they can grow. BotSocers are warmly welcome to join in the work. See EVENTS section.

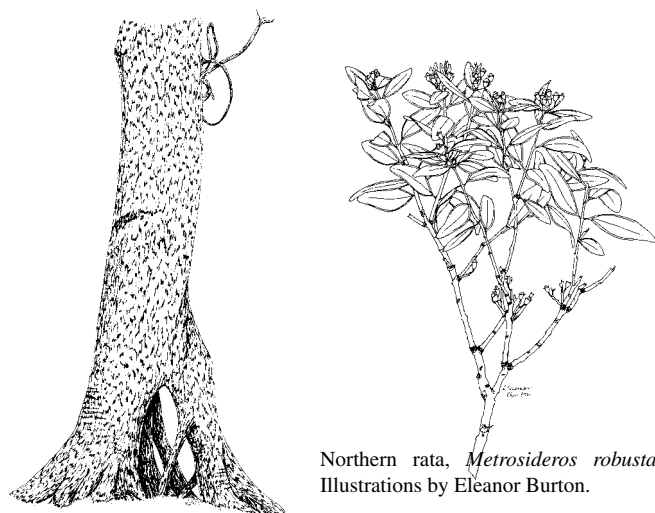
The new Field Centre Manager, David Moss, has been welcomed with his wife and two young children. He shares our enthusiasm for New Zealand's botanical treasures.

A pair of kakariki/red-crowned parakeet, introduced in 2003, have raised three young. DOC plans to release more pairs from Kapiti Island in May.

Do visit the island some time soon, or, better, spend a night in Forest & Bird house. (Contact Nancy Bell, 567-1686).

Stan Butcher

Please ring Stan on 567-7271 if you would like to receive a copy of the two complete sets of data.



Northern rata, *Metrosideros robusta*.
Illustrations by Eleanor Burton.

Eleanor Burton – artist

I am lucky – I have always been able to draw, and have always preferred drawing plants because they sit still and don't complain.

I remember when I was still at College, Mum took me to meet Nancy Adams at the Natural History Unit at the Dominion Museum. Nancy looked at my drawings and told me to study botany so that I would know what I was looking at. So I did, and I am still drawing plants.

Eleanor Burton

Riparian Trial Plantings

To assess the ability of native plants to replace introduced species on riparian sites, the native plantings at three sites on banks of the Hutt River were monitored by members of Wellington BotSoc and Greater Wellington Regional Council on 17 October 2003.

	No. counted	% survival
Site 1: Maoribank Species (n = 50 for each sp.)		
Flax, <i>Phormium tenax</i>	40	80
Mountain flax, <i>P. cookianum</i>	43	86
Toetoe, <i>Cortaderia toetoe</i>	50	100
Totara, <i>Podocarpus totara</i>	47	94
Ribbonwood, <i>Plagianthus regius</i>	46	92
Site 2: Taita Gorge ("old nursery") Species (n = 50 for each sp.)		
Wheki, <i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	11	22
Kohuhu, <i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	36	72
Lemonwood, <i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	48	96
Totara, <i>Podocarpus totara</i>	49	98
Ribbonwood, <i>Plagianthus regius</i>	30	60
Site 3: "Avalon Debris Fences"		
Site 3A: All plants completely lost Species (n = 25 for each sp.)		
Wheki, <i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	–	0
Kohuhu, <i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	–	0
Lemonwood, <i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	–	0
Totara, <i>Podocarpus totara</i>	–	0
Ribbonwood, <i>Plagianthus regius</i>	–	0
Site 3B: Species (n = 25 for each sp.)		
Wheki, <i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	–	0
Kohuhu, <i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	20	80
Lemonwood, <i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	23	92
Totara, <i>Podocarpus totara</i>	20	80
Ribbonwood, <i>Plagianthus regius</i>	25	100

BotSoc will monitor the plantings later this year. If you're interested in helping please ring Barbara Mitcalfe, 475-7149.

Ian Atkinson

Conservation Information Centre

Government Buildings, Lambton Quay

Track and hut information • hut tickets • hunting permits •

Kapiti Island Nature Reserve visitor permits • conservation publications

Mon–Fri 9 am–4.30 pm • Sat 10 am–3 pm • Sun closed

General enquiries tel: 04 472 7356



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Pest Watch: Moth plant, *Araujia sericifera*

Moth plant, *Araujia sericifera*, is a native of Argentina and Brazil and was introduced to New Zealand as an ornamental species during the 1880s. It was believed that moth plant had the ability to trap codling moths—hence the name.

Moth plant is a slender vine that can climb to six metres high by wrapping itself around supporting trees or structures. The leaves are dark green on the upper side and greyish-green on the underside. The flowers are cream to pink, bell-shaped and sweetly scented. Moths, butterflies and bees are attracted to, and trapped in, these flowers which are visible between December-May. The plant produces large pear-shaped fist-sized pods that contain a mass of fluffy seeds. As these pods dry out during autumn to winter, they split, and the seeds are released and dispersed by the wind, people and animals. These seeds can germinate freely at least five years from the time of being shed. The pods, stems and leaves of the moth plant produce a sticky white sap, which can irritate people's skin on contact. When bruised or broken the sap begins oozing immediately.

Moth plant is a fast growing vine that smothers and kills native vegetation. It can be found growing in hedges, trees, on stony banks, cliffs, and in open habitats such as coastal areas and on offshore islands. In the Wellington region it is more commonly found in gardens.

Although not common in the Wellington region, if you were to travel to the northern areas of the country, infestations of this species would become more visible. As there are a low number of infestations in the Wellington region, we believe total eradication of this species is achievable.

Moth plant is classified as an eradication species under the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002–2022. We will undertake the control of all infestations at no cost to you. If you think you may have this plant on your property or are aware of plants elsewhere, please contact us on 06 378 2484, through our website www.gw.govt.nz, or by e-mail at pest.plants@gw.govt.nz.

Dave Bayly



Moth plant, *Araujia sericifera*.

Over the hill

It was a pleasure to get back to a BotSoc meeting the other Monday—some familiar faces, and some new. Arnold's plants also brought that familiar ring of "I've seen you somewhere before"—but then maybe he was being kind and only brought in the easy ones!

Those kokako that I mentioned last time proved exceptional parents and fledged two young in spite of the most outrageous weather swings I have ever experienced—days where the temperature was well over 30 degrees were followed by horrendously cold southerlies and when they stopped, the dreaded norwester kicked right in. Through it all the parents sat, incubated, fed and even had the dubious distinction of having a DOC scientist molest the nest and band the two youngsters. They get my vote as parents of the year.

On the plant front again the weather dominated—Lake Wairarapa was as full as it could possibly get and the *Amphibromus* site has spent another year underwater. Last

time it was inundated for so long the grass came back at full power, thousands of them, but the water rose before they flowered, let alone set any seeds. It is my fervent hope that they will return with similar vigour when the water level drops next summer, and that we have a long and dry season so that the seed bank can have some replenishment. The upside is that many of the weeds on this site have also suffered.

After looking at many lake and river margins since the recent flooding, I'm again reminded of just how tough and resilient native plants are—anything that nature can throw at them they will take in their stride—it's just the bits that us humans add to the mix that cause problems. As I prepared the talk which I gave to BotSoc on 19 April, I realised that even the simplest actions can help, and that even a little help can have long-term benefits.

Tony Silbery

OBITUARY

Erica Adelaide Goble 1915–2004

On Monday 22 March Wellington Botanical Society lost one of its long-standing members when Erica Goble died just a month before her 89th birthday. Her brief illness of less than three weeks followed a very full and active life.

The only child of Arthur and Ethel Goble of Wellington, Erica grew up in Kelburn, attending Kelburn School and later Wellington Girls' College and Marsden Collegiate School. She graduated with a BSc from Victoria University and trained as a teacher at Wellington Teachers' College.

During the war years Erica taught at Wairarapa College in Masterton, and Sue Wild, the daughter of her teaching friend Janet Wild, and Janet's husband Richard, tells how her mother and Erica travelled about the Wairarapa by bicycle and even cycled out to the east coast. Erica's main teaching positions after this were at Wellington East Girls' College, and later at the Correspondence School, Wellington.

Erica loved the wilderness and its plant life and enjoyed walking trips with friends. At home, she transformed an unpromising sloping back yard into an attractive and interesting garden. She was an active member of "Bot Soc" for many years, attending many of the talks and trips on offer. Olaf John recalled at her funeral her particular enjoyment of the Christmas field trips and her flair for photography.

Friends recalled at her funeral how wide and varied Erica's other interests were, whether she pursued them through books and performances, or as a participant. Erica was a member of various societies at different times in her life, including the Victoria League, the Navy League, the Wellington Wine and Food Society, the Federation of University Women, the Shakespeare Society, and the Academy of Fine Arts. She was a frequent attender of films, drama, ballet, opera, concerts, and art exhibitions, and she was a keen bridge player and tennis player. When she moved to a house at Parkwood in Waikanae recently, she joined in Parkwood and Kapiti activities as well, including the local Probus group.

At Erica's funeral her friends related some of the ways in which she had been a caring and supportive friend to them over many years. In my own case Erica offered to share her home with me when my parents went on study leave during my third year at Victoria University. We had barely met before this so I was very touched by her kind offer. I was soon to appreciate Erica's zest for life, her sense of humour, her wine-making skills, her ordering of avocados from Hawkes Bay when they were still a real novelty in Wellington, and her tolerance of my burgeoning plant herbarium. The latter cluttered up her dining room for several weeks while I sorted, mounted, and named plants for my collection, in order to submit a herbarium as a terms requirement for third year botany.

Although Erica spent most of her life based in Wellington in the family home at 14 North Terrace, she loved travel and her numerous trips abroad took her to England and Europe, Russia, Turkey, the Middle East, China, North and South America, Western Samoa and Alaska. She also visited her UK-based relative John Jackson at his various postings abroad, in Papua New Guinea, Switzerland, and Sri Lanka. Indeed Erica had planned further travel at the time of her death. Her enthusiasm for travel could be infectious. I was so inspired by her account of her travels in Turkey, especially her visit to Cappadocia with its underground cities, that it was not long before a friend and I followed in her footsteps - and returned equally enthusiastic.

Farewell good friend. We have enjoyed your friendship and your appreciation of the natural and cultural world.

Margaret Gordon

TRIP REPORT

31 December 2003 – 11 January 2004 West Coast and Murchison

What a wonderfully varied trip we had, botanising in wetlands, beech forests, coastal forest, and on open tops! A New Year's trip in the great BotSoc tradition.

We had two base camps: six days at Riccarton High School's Kokiri Lodge, near Stillwater, then six days at Nelson College's Mataki Lodge near Nelson Lakes National Park. Both are excellent facilities.

We thank:

- Barbara Clark for booking the former, and Chris Horne for booking

the latter;

- Graeme Jane and Gael Donaghy for providing supplies of plant lists for six trips;
- Phil Knightsbridge and Kelly Stevens, DOC West Coast Tai Poutini, for advice, and DOC Greymouth for the key to the Sewell Peak road gate;
- Shannel Courtney, Jazz Scott and Simon Moore, DOC Nelson/Marlborough for advice;
- Gordon Leary and Sheelagh Leary for planning excellent meals;

- Rodney Lewington for managing the accounts;
- Chris Horne for co-ordinating the day trip programme;
- Noel Hardie and Rachel McGillivray, and Peter and Diane Oxnam for permission to botanise their wetlands;
- Hughie for providing good weather, and only one impressive storm;
- Everyone in the party for making the trip a success, botanically and socially.

The Committee

1 Jan: Sewell Peak to Mt Davy, Paparoa Range, map K31

A fine day and a sealed road to the top of Sewell Peak, 831 m, set the scene for our first day botanising. Our usual goal of investigating the plant life was made more interesting when we realised that a suite of usual alpiners was absent owing to the infertile soils derived from the sedimentary rock.

There was a wide range of shrubs in the beech forest and alpine scrub. *Pimelea longifolia* was in flower. *Pseudopanax linearis* and *Olearia lacunosa* provided good examples of convergent evolution in different families. Pink pine/*Halocarpus biformis*, yellow silver pine/*Lepidothamnus intermedius* and bog pine/*Halocarpus bidwillii* were difficult to identify, and the specimens collected helped us to learn about these similar looking plants.

In wet areas the little mossy cushions were the sedges *Centrolepis ciliata* and *Gaimardia setacea*, both in flower. The tiny *Euphrasia disperma*, with its long corolla, was also in flower. A small rosette plant with strap leaves proved to be *Liparophyllum gunni* when we found a flower – a plant that many of us had never even heard of. The large shiny-leaved *Ourisia Macrophylla* had a few flowers.

After lunch we searched the rocky pavement and found the tiny carrot, *Actinotus navaezelandiae*, in flower.

Many of the ubiquitous alpine plant groups were missing, such as buttercups (*Ranunculus* species) and Spaniards (*Aciphylla* species), and usual alpiners such as *Caladenia lyallii* and *Leucopogon fraseri*. The only *Hebe* we saw was straggly *H. pauciramosa* in the wet areas, and the occasional plant of a few other species.

Gael Donaghy and Graeme Jane

2 Jan: Mt Te Kinga, map K32

It was a cloudless day as we left the cars at the side of Lake Brunner at the start of the new DOC track. The climb is from 80 m to 1204 m – so some of the party botanised the Rakaitane Walk in magnificent podocarp forest, and Velenski Walk, near the lake, while the others climbed the new track.

Botanising up the track above the lake, the regenerating bush with kamahi and wheki became more mature, with some emergent podocarps. Then we climbed on a well

cut, if sometimes muddy track, through quintinnia, kamahi, rimu, kahikatea and matai. As we climbed, southern rata appeared in the canopy, then NZ cedar/*Libocedrus bidwillii*, many with skirts of *Hymenophyllum malingii*. Just above the bushline this gave way to a dwarf forest of bog pine/*Halocarpus bidwillii* and *Dracophyllum uniflorum*. Te Kinga is noted as the southern limit of carpet grass/*Chionochloa australis*.

Throughout this range of forest types, the notable omissions were palatable shrubs such as *Pseudopanax* species, and pate, and the abundance of mountain horopito. Obviously goats, possums, and possibly deer, have taken their toll. The other notable absentee is beech/*Nothofagus*. The slightly drier climate than the surrounding ranges, geology, and possibly the barrier of the nearby water and marshland were suggested as reasons for this absence.

Trichomanes strictum attracted our attention. Generally regarded as rare, we were to see this filmy fern here and at almost every other location we visited during the field trip.

Rodney Lewington

3 Jan: Point Elizabeth Walkway, map J31

After the first two strenuous days, we appreciated this gentle track between Cobden and Rapahoe which follows pack routes and water races dating back to the 1860s. We quickly spread out. Some patiently recorded the many weed species near the start of the track, while others enjoyed the stunted coastal forest and coastal scenery.

Botanical delights included vegetable caterpillars (*Cordyceps*), extensive groundcover of *Corybas* orchids, and some plants of *Gahnia xanthocarpa* almost 5 m tall. A useful learning opportunity came in a moist side gully when someone was able to explain that the long, hair-like stipules meant that the small tree was hutu/*Ascarina lucida*, not pukatea. Flowering *Hebe elliptica* among tall flax not far from the point made an attractive setting for lunch.

The track then veered inland, and the forest became taller with many nikau and tall podocarps – miro, kahikatea, totara and rimu. A spectacular northern rata added a splash of colour. Once again we found *Trichomanes strictum*, suggesting that this plant is still widespread in this part of the country.

BotSoc managed to spend over six hours along this track, much longer than the three and a half hours suggested in the leaflet.

Bev Abbott

4 Jan: (1) Croesus Track, Paparoa Range, map K31

In beautiful weather, we climbed a well-graded, benched track through mixed beech and broadleaf forest. Early on, we saw a tiny *Epacris alpina*, displaying brilliant orange flowers, perhaps the result of growing in highly mineralised soil. Trackside, there were abundant *Trichomanes strictum*, *Leptopteris superba* × *L. hymenophylloides* and *Blechnum nigrum* which is not common in Wellington except in dimly lit, wet sites. New to many of us, was *Hymenophyllum rufescens*, a hairy, long-legged, higher altitude fern which apparently intergrades with *Hymenophyllum flabellatum*. Several people were intrigued by the varied shade forms of the aptly named shrub *Raukaua anomalus*. Later we came to an old hut with an earth floor and sacking bunks. Outside were thickets of coppery *Coprosma rugosa*. An old mining site with a huge stamper and various abandoned gears provided an adventure playground for our small group, and soon the welkin rang with a cacophony of giant percussion instruments. The resident kakas were not impressed.

Barbara Mitcalfe.

4 Jan: (2) Otira Track

This party of five was keen to see alpine plants, and though most of us were not experts, Ted excepted, we felt that taking four hours to botanise a two hour track proved our interest. We consulted books, and argued in the proper BotSoc manner. Mount Cook lilies were in full bloom, and big celmisias with wide, grey leaves, *Gingidia montana*, anisotomes, yellow and white snow marguerites were conspicuous, as were pigmy pine, snow totara, bog pine and some mountain toatoa. We were delighted by *Clematis marata* with its cream flowers and sweet scent, and rejoiced in *Forstera sedifolia*, wahlenbergias, *Celmisia incana*, *Geranium microphyllum*, *Geum parviflorum*, odd-leaved orchid/*Aporostylis bifolia*, *Caladenia lyallii*, *Waiarea stenopetala*, and the sundew, *Drosera arcturii*.

Despite a broken ignition key, and

a two-hour wait for the AA in warm sunshine, we had an interesting and constructive day.

Rae Collins

5 Jan: (1) Noel Hardie's and Rachel McGillivray's Bog, Kokiri, map K32

Bright red *Trentepolia* alga covered the wayside rocks at the start of our walk, and a variety of lichens encrusted the old silver pine fence posts and battens – all neatly stacked ready to be transported for landscaping. We followed a drainage ditch between rows of *Pinus radiata*, past two particularly large clumps of *Gahnia rigida*, *Neomyrtus pedunculata* in flower and the weed *Rubus laciniatus*/cut-leaved blackberry.

The vegetation changed dramatically when we reached the natural, undrained swamp forest where we saw the first of the native pines, *Manoao colensoi*/silver pine. These are tall trees with a distinct, linear, juvenile foliage. Two cedars, *Libocedrus bidwillii* and *L. plumosa* occurred further into the forest, and *Phyllocladus alpinus*/mountain toatoa seedlings were common along the track.

A few botanical highlights were: white, bell-shaped *Luzuriaga parviflora* flowers; *Hymenophyllum malingii*, a distinctive grey-brown filmy fern growing on cedars; pokaka seedlings; the fine-leaved, sprawling *Dracophyllum palustre*; *Leptopteris superba*/Prince of Wales' fern; *Libocedrus bidwillii*/NZ cedar; and Owen spotting stoat prints in the mud.

This was an interesting area to botanise, and it is good to know that the owners value their wetland

Moirra Parker

5 Jan: (2) Goldsborough Track, map J32

Thirteen of us, including our oldest member, walked this ridge-top track that winds illogically across spurs and unnatural banks. It is an old track made by gold miners who built dams and water races for sluicing.

There were some original trees, but even those that have grown since the miners left are a good size. It is a wonderfully wet and densely green place. Rodney said that the only other colour on the whole trip was the liverwort, *Bazania rosea*

Near the beginning of the track we

saw narrow-leaved mahoe/*Meliccytus lanceolatus*, a *Myosotis* which we could not name, and the orchid, *Caladenia lyallii*. Further along we found fork fern/*Tmesipteris* sp, *Gahnia pauciflora*, the giant moss, *Dawsonia superba*, the club mosses, *Lycopodium volubile*, *L. fasciculatum* and *L. scariosum*, and the orchid, *Corybas oblongus*. Ferns we saw included *Trichomanes strictum*, *Leptopteris superba*, *Hymenophyllum dilatatum* and *Blechnum vulcanicum*. Rimu and Hall's totara were impressive.

We enjoyed listening to a flock of about eight bellbirds high in the canopy. We also heard a kakariki, and had the company of a black fantail for part of the trip. Several of us saw four robust goats, and the rest of us smelt them!

Sheelagh Leary

6 Jan: Charleston, map K29

En route from Kokiri Lodge to Matakia Lodge, we travelled the scenic coastal route, admired the wonderful flowering of the big rata trees, stopping at Punakaiki for some essential sustenance and a walk to the blowholes, then visiting the Shetlanders' graves in the Charleston Cemetery.

The narrow entrance to Joyce Bay, and the surf coming through it, made an attractive setting for our inspection of the coastal turf communities, and coastal flaxlands. Shore lobelia/*Lobelia anceps* was in full, beautiful, blue bloom, and shore spleenwort/*Asplenium obtusatum* sheltered in crannies in the rocks.

7 Jan: Jameson Track – Mole Stream, map M30

This trip climbed to the Mole Tops through lovely silver beech forest. We saw a *Gastrodia cunninghamii* over 1 m tall, and occasional clearings with red tussock/*Chionochloa rubra*. Beyond the bushline, the tarns, tussocks and tops were a lovely sight, while down near the hut we saw spaniards with

flowers about 2 m tall. The vegetation along the bush tracks, then down the bouldery river bed, gave us a good idea of this conservation land which borders Nelson Lakes National Park.

Chris Horne

8 Jan: Oxnam's Bog, map M30

This covenanted bog is immediately north of Matakia Lodge. On an overcast morning, with permission of Peter and Diane Oxnam, fifteen of us climbed the impressive nine-strand fence to study this important site.

The 1 ha bog lies on a gentle slope, facing east. It is covered with two species of *Sphagnum* moss, and dotted with bog pine/*Halocarpus bidwillii*, and manuka. Many little bog plants were in flower, including two sundews/*Drosera* spp, odd-leaved orchid/*Aporostylis bifolia*, and *Utricularia delicatula*.

The introduced rush, *Juncus effusus*, seen above the bushline the previous day, has also arrived in Oxnam's Bog. Young silver birches and rosehip have self-sown in the bog and should be removed.

After a short exploration, we all felt concerned about the long-term damage our boots could be doing, so retreated to the lodge. Our overall impression was that the bog was an important and well-fenced covenant

Julia Stace

Participants

Bev Abbott, Ted Abraham, Margaret Aitken, Barbara Clark, Rae Collins, Gael Donaghy, Chris Horne, Graeme Jane, Allison Knight, Gordon Leary, Sheelagh Leary, Rodney Lewington, Roger Makepeace, Cath Mathews, Barbara Mitcalfe, Donella Moss, Moira Parker, Monica Peters, Dan Post, Judy Russell, Darea Sherratt, Sunita Singh, Jeanette Skinner, Val Smith, Owen Spearpoint, Julia Stace, Beryl Tuppen, Nola Walker, Philippa Wilson.



Red tussock and tarn, Jameson Track, Matakitaki Valley. Photo: Barbara Mitcalfe.

TRIP REPORT

Saturday 24 January: Off-track Otari – Wilton’s Bush

On our way down through the grove of planted beeches we stopped to inspect the *Ileostylus micranthus* mistletoe planted there some months before by Otari staff. Shortly after, we had the opportunity trackside to distinguish male from female kahikatea by their tiny cones and minute ovules, respectively. Further along the Circular Track we found *Hymenophyllum diaphanum*, not previously listed. We hummed and ha’d each time we came upon *Polystichum* species, determined to put into practice our recent learning from Leon Perrie. Wharangi seedlings, relatively new arrivals in Otari, were duly appreciated, as was the small-leaved milk tree, *Streblus heterophyllus* in the vicinity of the “Pukatea Hilton”, a holey-trunked, known, roosting site for kingfisher/kotare. Later, Chris showed us one of the many possum bait stations which he maintains on contract to Greater Wellington Regional Council. Throughout, we had remarked on the abundant regeneration, the result of this sustained pest control operation combined with a rainy summer and increased seed dispersal by birds.

Participants: Rae Collins, Penny Currier, Bryan Halliday, Diane Harries, Chris Horne (co-leader), Rodney Lewington, Pat McLean, Cath Mathews, Barbara Mitcalfe (co-leader), Darea Sherratt, Joyce Wilson, and “JS (Jess) Bach”.

Barbara Mitcalfe



Raoulia mat, Onoke Spit. Photo: Chris Horne.

TRIP REPORT

14 February: Onoke Spit

Those of us who travelled on the Friday night were lucky to find a very snug camping pozzie in *Baumea* and *Plagianthus divaricatus*, despite the unseasonable wind raging wildly above. Next morning we and the others set off along the spit, a regionally significant geomorphological feature which impounds the southern end of Lake Onoke. Three kilometres long, this sand and gravel dune supports a now uncommon association of coastal plants: *Austrofestuca littoralis*/hinarepe/sand tussock; *Spinifex sericeus*/koowhangatara/silvery sand grass; *Desmoschoenus spiralis*/piingao/golden sand sedge; *Calystegia soldanella*/panahi/shore bindweed; *Carex pumilal*/sand sedge; *Raoulia australis*/scabweed; *Pimelea* cf. *urvilleana*/pinaatoro/sand daphne, and. We looked for *Eryngium vesiculosum*/sea holly, in some of the moister swards but found none. *Cyperus ustulatus*/upoko tangata/giant umbrella sedge, was common in such sites.

We saw a complex of deeply channelled wheel ruts left by off-road vehicles which are unfortunately permitted to drive along the spit, causing irremedial damage to many *Raoulia* mats and *Pimelea* plants. Their presence must also disturb the bird population and their nesting sites as well. See *Forest & Bird* no. 311, February 2004, pp 36–39.

All the way back we struggled against a gale, heads bent and skin tingling from driven sand. Gavin and Sunita had offered us hospitality at their bach at Corner Creek but it was too dangerous to even try to ford the creek, so Sunday’s botanising was prudently and unanimously abandoned. That night torrential rain flooded many areas and caused considerable damage.

Information sheets compiled by Tony Silbery and Aalbert Rebergen and supplied by Masterton Area Office of DOC, were much appreciated.

Participants: Margaret Aitken, Helen Druce, Arnold, Gavin and Ruth Dench, Bryan Halliday, Diane Harries, Chris Horne, Gordon and Sheelagh Leary, Pat McLean, Barbara Mitcalfe, Sunita Singh (leader), and Julia White.

Barbara Mitcalfe

TRIP REPORT

Saturday 24 April: Workbee, Druce property, Pinehaven.

It has always been a privilege to visit this planted native forest painstakingly won from pine forest over many decades. We had the same feeling of privilege on this workbee organised at short notice by the BotSoc “Community Service” brigade (in the words of an enquiring neighbour). Helen made us very welcome as we set about our chosen tasks. When we arrived, Ian was already wielding a mighty axe to split logs for firewood. Dave and Chris decided they would clear the hill track dug by Tony from solid clay decades ago, and still in beautiful condition except for abundant, enthusiastic, native seedlings attempting to colonise it. Jeanette and Barbara M. made considerable headway with an isolated patch of *Tradescantia fluminensis* in the orchard. Barbara C. and Patricia barrowed mulch from an enormous pile on the berm, while Sheelagh and Gordon attacked patches of gorse, Spanish heath and pine seedlings. We all thought it remarkable that there were so few weeds on the property, testimony to the success of Tony’s “living laboratory”. There will be other opportunities to join the BotSoc “Community Service” brigade because the Pinehaven workbee is likely to be included annually in our programme from now on.

Participants: Ian Atkinson, Barbara Clark, Dave Holey, Chris Horne, Gordon and Sheelagh Leary, Barbara Mitcalfe, Jeanette Skinner, Patricia Tankersley.

Barbara Mitcalfe



Piingao, Onoke Spit. Photo: Chris Horne.

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