

Wellington Botanical Society

Te Rōpū Manāki i Ngā Tamariki a Tāne,
o Te Whanganui a Tara



NEWSLETTER October 2004

Last issue: April 2004

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Subscriptions for 2004–2005

Subscriptions for the year ending 30 June 2005 are now due. If your subscription is due, a yellow subscription invoice is attached, and any arrears noted on it. If our records show that you have already paid, there will be no invoice with your Newsletter.

Subscriptions for the 2004 – 2005 year are:

Ordinary \$32; Joint \$42; Country \$26; Student \$20.

All subscriptions are reducible by \$5 if paid by 30 November 2004.

HH Allan Mere Award 2004: Dr Ian Atkinson

We congratulate Dr Ian Atkinson, a nationally and internationally renowned ecologist, who was presented with the New Zealand Botanical Society's HH Allan Mere Award by NZ BotSoc's Colin Webb at our evening meeting on 20 September. Wellington BotSoc is proud to have had the privilege of nominating Ian for the award, in co-operation with Botanical Society of Otago.

Loder Cup 2004: Colin Ogle

We congratulate Colin Ogle, an expert field botanist, who in August was honoured with the Loder Cup, New Zealand's premier plant conservation award. It is a fitting tribute to Colin's research, observations and recording of native plants for so many years, and to his ability to pass on his enthusiasm and knowledge to others.

New members

We welcome the following: Ros Batcheler, Barbara Bond, Wal Bowra, Sally Pearce, Merrin Pearce, Bernie Salmon, Harold Stretton.

Joyce Stretton, President

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:

Richard Herbert,
8 Duval Grove,
Redwood,
Wellington
ph 232 6828
fax 381 4518
e-mail herbert.r@xtra.co.nz

Manawa Karioi Society Revegetation Programme Work Bees

Second Sunday each month,
starting at 10 a.m.

Lunch provided.

*Potted locally-sourced
native seedlings welcome.*

Thank you.

Contact:

Morgan Cox ph 383 9987 or
Sally Bowman ph 934 7041

Wellington Botanical Society

President:	Joyce Stretton	934 2437	
Vice-Presidents:	Chris Horne	475 7025	475 7253 (fax)
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	28 Kaihuia St, Northland, WN 5		

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, the first weekend in February, and at Easter.

DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE – 15 November 2004

ATTENDING FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS

Ideas please

We welcome your ideas about:

- places to visit on field trips
- topics and speakers for evening meetings
- information or photographs for BocSoc web site

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: NOVEMBER 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 weekend trips, and SEVERAL WEEKS' notice before the New Year's trip.

Saturday 6 November: Field trip

Gibbs Covenant and Butterfly Creek

Botanise 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 *Peraxilla tetrapetala*/pirirangi. We will record sightings of these and other special plants and invasive weed species. Meet: junction of Puriri Street and Muritai Road, Eastbourne at 9.00 am. Leaders: George and Keena Gibbs. Contact: Chris Horne ph. 475 7025.

Monday 15 November: Evening meeting

Global plant conservation in New Zealand – a way forward into the 21st century

Speaker: **John Sawyer**, Biodiversity Technical Support Officer, Wellington Conservancy, DOC.

Saturday 4/Sunday 5 December: Field trip

Horowhenua reserves

Overnight in the Horowhenua. **Saturday**: botanise "Stuart Creek", Ohau Valley, virgin lowland podocarp forest, Tararua Forest Park near Levin—wet habitat with a wide range of filmy ferns and herbaceous plants. Meet Levin railway station 9am. **Sunday**: botanise Paranui Bush in Himatangi Scientific Reserve near Foxton—a lowland dune forest containing totara, tawa, nikau, pukatea, *Carmichaelia australis* and more. Other areas to explore if time permits. Meet: Foxton windmill, 9 a.m. Levin contact: Leita Crystal 06 363 8245. Wellington contact Sunita Singh 04 387 9955. Accommodation: first choice Waitarere Beach Holiday Camp: tent \$10, cabin \$18. Ph: 06 368 8732. If full, try Hyderabad Holiday Park next door: tent \$12, cabin \$14–17. Ph 06 368 4941. Early bookings recommended.

1. Directions to reach "Stuart Creek", Ohau Valley, Tararua Forest Park

At lights in Levin, go to Queen Street, turn right, go towards hills till you come to cross road. Turn right onto Gladstone Road, proceed to Poads Road sign, cross swing bridge (cars ok), continue along gravel road to car park at end. Follow track through gate, go through paddock following discs up the valley to bush. Track goes over styles into bush and you are onto the Ohau Track. Go along track to first bridge over stream. Leave track and follow stream ("Stuart Creek") upstream – keep going – take right fork at each fork – will lead to small stream up in headwaters – will be suddenly on to ridge and the Waiopahu Track. return via track.

2. Directions to reach Paranui Bush in Himatangi Scenic Reserve

Six km north of Foxton turn right onto Paranui Road, drive 5 km to end of road—a crossroads. On one corner is Himatangi Scenic Reserve/Paranui bush. On the adjacent corner is another reserve, which can also be botanised.

Saturday 11 December: Field trip

Hutt City rata walk

Walk through Hutt city suburbs to see about 40 northern and southern rata – 11 km or shorter to suit. Meet: 9 a.m. Hutt City Information Office, The Pavilion, Laings Road. Leader: Dave Holey, ph 566 3124. Stagecoach Flyer bus: Courtenay Place 8.05 a.m. Queensgate 8.30 am. See article on page 12 of this Newsletter.

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

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

Beds: Eight 12-bunk dormitories @ c.\$10/person/night. Campsites: c. \$5/person/night.

Field trips: Possibilities include Mt Somers Conservation Area, Sharplin Falls, Staveley Hill, Caves Stream, Mt Hutt Conservation Area, Coalgate Walkway, Rakaia Gorge Walkway, Lake Emma & Mt Harper; Lake Coleridge, Alford Forest, Ashburton Lakes wetlands (Lakes Heron, Clearwater, Emily, Maori etc), Peel Forest/Little Peel 1131 m, Clent Hills, Washpen Falls/Windwhistle (entry fee), Winterslow Station (permission needed).

Maps: NZMS 262 1: 250 000 Sheet 13 Christchurch – for planning travel from SH 1.

NZMS 260 1: 50 000 Sheets: J35 Arrowsmith; J36 Mount Harper; J37 Mount Peel, K35 Coleridge, K36 Methven; L35 Waimakariri.

Background reading: *The Natural History of Canterbury*. Editor GA Knox 1969. Reed.

Wild Plants of Mount Cook National Park – Field Guide. Hugh Wilson 1978. (Handy beyond MtCNP!).

Tussock Grasslands - Landscape Values and Vulnerability. M Ashdown, D Lucas 1987. NZ Environmental Council *Mt Somers Conservation Area; South Face Route (Mt Somers); Mt Hutt Conservation Area*; etc., leaflets from Canterbury Conservancy, Department of Conservation. *Christchurch and Canterbury Walks*. M Pickering 2003.

Bring: bread, butter/marg, biscuits, fresh fruit, and scroggin, and note recommendations on page 2.

Ferry: book promptly!

Registration: Please simplify the task of the food organisers, Gordon and Sheelagh Leary, ph 527 7380, by completing the attached registration form, and sending it to them, with your deposit, ASAP.

Suggest R&R trip 6–10 January: Hinewai Reserve, Long Bay Road, RD3, Akaroa 8161. Make your own bookings direct with Hugh Wilson, Manager, ph 03 304 8501. The lodge holds 12; camping is not permitted.

EVENTS

1. **Percy Scenic Reserve Open Day.** *Sunday 31 October.* Ten minutes walk from Petone Station, via pedestrian overbridge. Carpark next to State Highway 2, c.200 m north of Korokoro lights. Guided tours of the Druce Alpine Collection, threatened plants collection and the rockery start at 10am, 11am, 12 noon, 1pm - meet at the aviary. Contact Jill Broome, Plant Collections Supervisor, 570 6505. Sponsored by Hutt City Council and Excell Corporation.

PUBLICATIONS

- 1a. **Science publications 1987-2003 – Titles in print.** 2004. 68 p.
- 1b. **Conservation Action – Te Ngangahau ki te KuraTaiao – July 2003 – June 2004.** 64 p.
- 1c. **Feasibility of biological control of grey willow *Salix cinerea*.** HM Harman 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series 183.* 29 p.
- 1d. **Experimental seeding trials for the root parasite *Dactylanthus taylorii*.** AS Holzapfel, J Dodgson. *DOC Science Internal Series 173.* 14 p.
- 1e. **Effectively managing weeds: DOC's weed management system.** KW Briden, SM Timmins 2004. *DOC Science Poster 70.*
- 1f. **Controlling bone-seed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) seedlings with clopyralid.** KW Briden, I Popay 2004. *DOC Science Poster 68.*
- 1g. **Aquatic vegetation of Chatham Island (Rekohu).** PD Champion, JS Clayton 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series 164.* 20 p.
- 1h. **A review of research on *Undaria pinnatifida* in NZ and its potential impacts on the eastern coast of the South Island.** MD Stewart 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series 166.* 40 p.
- 1i. **Effects of removing grazing from native grasslands in the eastern South Island, NZ: a literature review.** R Ewans 2004. *DOC Science Internal Series 168.* 25 p.
- 1j. **Threatened plants of Northland.** L Forester, AJ Townsend 2004. 80 p. \$12.50.
- 1k. **Threatened plants of Waikato.** A Brandon, PJ de Lange, A Townsend 2004. 92 p. \$12.50.
- 1l. **The use of 1080 for pest control – A discussion document.** W Green 2004. 60 p.
- 1m. **1080 in Action.** Edited by H Christophers 2004. 40 p.
- 1n. **Weedbusters! Newsletter 1, 4/04:** reports from around NZ; management committee; web site www.weedbusters.org.nz being developed; contact details; etc. **Newsletter 2, 7/04:** reports from around NZ; disposing of weeds wisely, not dumping; tradescantia; Jerusalem cherry; etc. **Newsletter No.3, 10/04:** Chilean flame creeper, holly, cotoneaster, Mexican daisy, Taiwan cherry; reports from around NZ; etc.
- 1o. **Weedbusting – A guide to recognising and controlling invasive weeds.** 2004. A5 17 p.
- 1p. **Weedbusters Community Based Social Marketing Trial.** 2004. A4 4 p.
DOC Science Publishing, PO Box 10 420, WN. Fax 04 496 1929. E-mail science.publications@doc.govt.nz
- 2a. **Plant Conservation Strategy – Wellington Conservancy (excluding Chatham Islands) .**
- 2b. **FOOTnotes.** Issue 21/May 2004: Raising awareness of aquatic pests; wetland added to Queen Elizabeth Park recreation reserve; boosting *Coprosma wallii* population in Wairarapa; new population of a rare species of Cook's scurvy grass, *Lepidium* aff. *oleraceum* (a) found on Chatham Island: NZ acclaimed "world leader" in pest control; Tararua Forest Park response to possum control; weedbusters in Kapiti; etc.
- 2c. **Birds of the Chatham Islands.** H Aikman, C Miskelly 2004. 116 p. \$15.
- 2d. **Plant me instead on the Chatham Islands. 2004. 4 p.**
- 2e. **Help stop the spread of aquatic weeds.** 2002. 2 p.
Wellington Conservancy, Department of Conservation, PO Box 5086, WN. Ph 472 5821, Fax 499 0077.
3. **Is that a pest in my pond? – A guide to problem-free ponds.** 2001. 2 p.
Northern Region Office, Department of Conservation, Hamilton.
4. **Wellington Conservation Board – Te Runanga Papa Atawhai O Te Upoko O Te Ika A Maui – Annual Report to the NZ Conservation Authority – 1/7/03 to 30/6/04.** 12 p.
Wellington Conservation Board, PO Box 5086, WN.
5. **NZ's Native Green Mistletoes.** 2 p.
Department of Plant and Microbial Sciences, University of Canterbury, PBag 4800, CH.
6. ***Arthropodium bifurcatum* (Asparagaceae), a new species from northern NZ.** PB Heenan, AD Mitchell, PJ de Lange 2004. *NZ Journal of Botany 42:* 233-246.
7. ***Utricularia geminiscapa* (Lentibulariaceae), a naturalised bladderwort in the South Island, NZ.** PB Heenan, PJ de Lange, P Knightsbridge 2004. *NZ Journal of Botany 42:* 247-251.
8. **Threatened and uncommon plants of NZ.** PJ de Lange, DA Norton, PB Heenan, SP Courtney, BJP Molloy, BD Rance, PN Johnson, R Hitchmough 2004. *NZ Journal of Botany 42:* 45-76.
9. ***Achyranthes aspera* (Amaranthaceae), a new indigenous addition to the flora of the Kermadec Islands group.** PJ de Lange, RP Schofield, T Green 2004. *NZ Journal of Botany 42:* 167-173.
10. **Bryophytes and algae of Waikoropupu Springs.** A Fife, P Novis, D Glennly 2004. *Landcare Research Contract Report.* 18 p.
11. **Predicting potential natural vegetation in NZ.** JR Leathwick 2004. Poster.
Manaaki Whenua/Landcare, Box 40, Lincoln.
- 12a. **A beginner's guide to wetland restoration.** 2003. 20 p.

- 12b. **Restoration Planting: A guide to planning restoration planting projects in the Wellington region.** 2004. 36 p.
- 12c. **Mind the stream – A guide to looking after urban and rural streams in the Wellington region.** 2004. 32 p.
- 12d. **Kaitoke Regional Park.** 2004. A3 pamphlet.
- 12e. **Queen Elizabeth Park.** 2004. A3 pamphlet.
- 12f. **Queen Elizabeth Park Management Plan – Newsletter No.1 10/04:** description; management plan review process; issues; etc.
- 12g. **The Waiwhetu Stream – A guide to looking after your stream.** 2004. Pamphlet.
- 12h. **Wairarapa Coastal Strategy.** 2004. 67 p.
- 12i. **Caring for our Coast – A guide for coastal visitors, residents and developers.** 2004. 53 p.
- 12j. **Pest Plants of the Greater Wellington Region.** 2002. 8 p.
- 12k. **Invasive Creepers and Climbers.** 2003. 6 p.
- 12l. **Banana Passionfruit; Boneseed, Cathedral Bells; Darwin’s Barberry.; Evergreen Buckthorn; Hornwort, Old Man’s Beard, Smilax; Snakefeather, Wild Ginger.** A series of leaflets.
- 12m. **Green Shoots – Community Newsletter.** May 2004: Upper Korokoro catchment fenced; new timetable for park management plans; weed monitoring in East Harbour Regional Park; goat control at Mt Wainui, etc.
- 12n. **Regional Pest Management Strategy – Operational Plan 2004 – 2005.** Inspect copies at GWRC offices in Wellington, Upper Hutt, Masterton, or see web site www.gw.govt.nz
- Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, WN. Ph 384 5708, www.gw.govt.nz*
- 13a. **Branch Out.** Vol 13: Winter 2004: Robyn Smith, Curator at Otari-Wilton’s Bush; impact of hedgehogs on indigenous ecosystems; Outer Green Belt, Pest, Open Space Access Management Plans approved; restoring valley of Owhiro Stream; winter planting; WCC’s road reserve planting schemes; WCC environmental grants; Northern Reserves Management Plan; etc.
- Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, WN. Ph 499 4444.*
14. Manaaki Whenua Press. Catalogue of NZ natural history and science titles at www.mwpress.co.nz
15. **NZ Plant Conservation Network E-Newsletter.** No.6 5/04: new web site features; etc. No.8 7/2004: Data Deficient species listed on web site; *Crassula hunua* now Nationally Critical; new *Baumea complanata* population found; No.9 8/04: *Sicyos australis* (mawhai) is Nationally Critical; native grass seed conservation and the Margo Forde gene bank; native plants most at threat from weeds; etc. No.11 10/04 “**Trilepidia**”: web site development; new name of newsletter; Christchurch Botanic Garden Master Plan; *Carex* specimens sought; *Flora of NZ* goes on-line; Rotorua BotSoc members saving threatened species of mistletoes; University of Canterbury course “Practical Taxonomy for Field Biologists”, 2/05; etc
- NZ Plant Conservation Network, PO Box 16 102, WN. News items and events to: events@nzpcn.org.nz*
16. **NZ Botanical Society Newsletter.** June 2004: tributes to the work of Geoff Bayliss; grasses needed to complete counts for the NZ Poaceae; research report on fruit and seed of *Pennantia baylisiana*; new names, combinations, reinstatements. September 2004: the McEwan Coprosma Collection at Massey University, Palmerston North; data on the origins of NZ fungi; Auckland Museum Herbarium report; etc. NZ BotSoc, c/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, CH 8001. Back issues of the Newsletter: No.1 (8/85) – No. 46 (12/96) @ \$2.50 each; No. 47 (3/97) – No. 50 (12/97) @ \$3.00 each; No. 51 (3/98) onwards @ \$3.75 each.
- NZ BotSoc, c/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, CH 8001.*
17. **True Colours.** 6/04: list of recipients of 2004 funding round; collecting pohutukawa and rata seed. 9/04: possum crisis; possum control methods; support for Friends of Waikanae River; annual conference of NZ Plant Conservation Network; restoring pohutukawa on Coromandel coast; etc.
- Project Crimson, PO Box 301027, Albany, Auckland. Ph 09 414 0466; e-mail info@projectcrimson.org.nz*
18. **Canopy.** No.40 Winter 2004: Opoutama Wetland Reserve, Mahia, opened; Motu Kaikoura purchased; fire at Mangarakau Wetland Reserve; donations welcome; etc.
- NZ Native Forests Restoration Trust, PO Box 80 007, Green Bay AK 1230. www.nznfrt.org.nz*
19. **Botanical Society of Otago Newsletter.** No.43 9-11/04: Summary of 2004 Hocken Lecture by Emeritus Professor Alan Mark, Botany Dept., University of Otago: *Our Golden Landscapes – History of the development and use of our tussock grasslands*; etc.
- Botanical Society of Otago, PO Box 6214, Dunedin North.*
- 20a. **Top ten tips for successful forest restoration.** 2 p.
- 20b. **The value of native forest in windy Wellington.** 2 p. Proves that protecting existing forest should be a higher priority than planting new forest.
- Jonathan Kennett and Bronwen Wall, ph 472 5891; e-mail: jonathan@kennett.co.nz*
- 21a. **RMAlink Directory – A directory for those who use the Resource Management Act to protect the environment and community values.** Jan Simmons 2004. 107 p.
- 21b. **RMAlink –Your link to skills, experience and environmental information.** A4 leaflet.
- Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZ Inc., PO Box 11 057, WN. Ph/fax 385 7374; www.eco.org.nz*
22. **Canterbury Botanical Society – Journal 37 – 2003:** Proceedings of the 50th anniversary symposium “*Conserving Native Plants for the 22nd Century*”; 50th annual report. .
- Canterbury Botanical Society, PO Box 8218, Riccarton, CH. Ph 03 352 7922, e-mail: bert.marg@xtra.co.nz*
23. **Friends of Mana Island Newsletter** No. 20 6/04: revegetation now focusing on canopy species; removing tree lucerne, boxthorn, karo etc.
- FOMI, PO Box 54 101, Mana.*
24. **The Natural History of Southern NZ.** 2004. Fifty-three authors, most from scientific disciplines and leaders in their specialist fields. Hardback, 400 p, over 500 illustrations in colour. ISBN 1 877133 51 5; RRP \$120.
- Bookshops, or University of Otago Press, PO Box 56, DN. Ph 03 479 8807, fax 03 479 8385, e-mail university.press@otago.ac.nz*

25. **Walking access in the NZ outdoors.** 8/04. A3 brochure.
Hon Jim Sutton, Minister of Rural Affairs, Parliament House, WN. Cathie Bell ph 04 471 9855, catherine.bell@ministers.govt.nz
26. **The Salty Shore.** Sheila Natusch 2003. Compiled for school talk 1960. \$29.95.
S Natusch, 46 Owhiro Bay Parade, WN. Ph 04 383 6645.
27. **Botany of Rotorua.** BD Clarkson, MC Smale, CE Ecroyd 1991. Forest Research Institute/Rotorua Botanical Society. A4 soft cover, 132 p. \$22 incl. p&p.
Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10 412, WN.
28. **Our Islands, Our Selves – A History of Conservation in New Zealand.** David Young 2004. 298 p. University of Otago Press. RRP \$60.
Bookshops.
29. **Going Native – Making use of NZ plants.** Editor: I Spellerberg, David Given 2004. Publication mid-November 2004. Paperback, 240 by 170 mm, 256 p, colour throughout. ISBN 1-877257-13-3. \$39.95.
 Canterbury University Press, PBag 4800, CH. Ph 03 364 2914, fax 03 364 2044. mail@cup.canterbury.ac.nz www.cup.canterbury.ac.nz

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.

SUBMISSIONS CALLED FOR

- Arthur’s Pass National Park Management Plan – notification of intention to review.** Information from: Arthur’s Pass NPMP Review, Department of Conservation, PBag 4715, CH. Ph 03 371 3745, e-mail ppalmer@doc.govt.nz. Suggestions for the review to be received by **15 November**.
- Queen Elizabeth Park – Intention to review management plan.** This is the first opportunity for input to review. A draft plan will then be developed, and submissions sought on it. For more information see www.gw.govt.nz, or ring Trecia Smith 381 7753. Suggestions, or comments on current plan, by **31 December** to QE Park Submissions, Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, WN, or by e-mail to parks@gw.govt.nz.
- Kaitoke Regional Park Draft Management Plan.** See draft at the park, at Council Offices, 142 Wakefield St, WN, and Upper Hutt Depot, 1056 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt. For more information see www.gw.govt.nz, or ring Trecia Smith 381 7753. Submissions by **31 December** to Kaitoke Regional Park Submissions, Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, WN, or by e-mail to parks@gw.govt.nz.

SUBMISSIONS MADE

Submissions have been made on the following :

- Mislabelling of seeds. 6/5 and 14/6 to AHM Group, Auckland.
- *Draft Long Term Council Community Plan 2004/2014.* 6/5 to Porirua City Council.
- Telford Terrace – hazardous tree removal and native species to replace them. 7/5 M Oates, Wellington City Council.
- *Towards a Sustainable Region: Greater Wellington’s Statement of Proposal incorporating the 2004/05 Proposed Annual Plan.* 17/5 to Greater Wellington Regional Council.
- *Draft Community Plan 2004-2014.* 18/5 to Hutt City Council.
- *Draft Annual Plan 2004/05.* 20/5 to Wellington City Council
- Growth rate and form of northern rata. 16/6 to M Oates, Wellington City Council.
- Galbraiths Gully pine removal. 16/6 to Mayor Terris, Hutt City Council.
- *Foreshore and Seabed Bill 129-1.* 12/7 to Fisheries and Other Sea-Related Legislation Select Committee.
- *Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 1991: Amendment 18 Part 3 (Animals).* 30/7 to Wellington City Council.
- *Wellington Regional Council (Water Board Functions) Bill 139-1 – Local Bill.* 13/8 to Local Government and Environment Select Committee.
- Proposal to sink the frigate “Wellington” off Island Bay. 13/6 to Hon Mark Burton, Minister of Defence; 26/8 to Wellington Conservation Board.
- Rata trees in Hutt City. 28/9 to CEO, Hutt City Council.
- *Draft Regional Forests Lands Plan: Future water collection areas.* 30/9 to Greater Wellington Regional Council.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO 65TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WELLINGTON BOTANICAL SOCIETY, 23 AUGUST 2004

It has been a busy year for the Society. I would like to thank all those members who have contributed in so many ways to the running of BotSoc, to the study of our indigenous plant communities, and to the protection and management of indigenous ecosystems.

Field trips

We have had sixteen trips, with attendance totalling 235 people – average 14.7/trip. (2002/03 year total 16 trips/244 people/15.3 average).

2003

6/9	<i>Wilf. Mexted Scenic Reserve; Larsen Crescent Reserve; Redwood Bush</i>	17
	Leaders: Richard Herbert, Richard Robertson	
4/10	<i>Waterfall Road Bush, Raumati</i>	
	Cancelled because of storm	0
18/10	<i>Te Marua Bush Workbee</i>	10
	Leaders: Glennis Sheppard, Sue Millar	
1/11	<i>Carey Gully, Owhiro Bay Catchment</i>	13
	Leaders: Barbara Mitcalfe, Chris Horne	
6-7/12	<i>Mangapakeha Taipo, East Wairarapa</i>	13
	Leaders: Aidan Bichan, Geoff Doring	

2004

31/12/03–11/04	<i>West Coast and Murchison</i>	29
	Leader: Chris Horne	
24/1	<i>Otari-Wilton's Bush off track</i>	12
	Leaders: Barbara Mitcalfe, Chris Horne	
14/2	<i>Onoke Spit, South Wairarapa</i>	14
	Leaders: Sunita Singh, Gavin Dench	
6/3	<i>Orongorongo Station, Wainuiomata Valley</i>	16
	Leader: Chris Hopkins	
13/3	<i>Wellington Botanic Garden indigenous forest remnants</i>	16
	Leaders: Barbara Mitcalfe, Chris Horne	
9-11/4	<i>Mangaweka area</i>	15
	Leader: Rodney Lewington	
24/4	<i>123 Pinehaven Road, Pinehaven workbee</i>	10
	Owner/leader: Helen Druce	
1/5	<i>Pukerua Bay Escarpment/Carrad property</i>	18
	Leaders: Barbara Mitcalfe, John Daniels	
15/5	<i>Alpine garden, 37 Lyndfield Lane, Newlands</i>	14
	Owners/leaders: Arnold and Ruth Dench	
12/6	<i>Mana Island planting</i>	10
	Leader: Sue Chesterfield	
3/7	<i>Kaiwharawhara Valley planting; Otari-Wilton's Bush rock garden</i>	10
	Leaders: Jonathan Kennett, Bronwen Wall, Susan Moore, Robyn Smith	
7/8	<i>Private wetland, North Waikanae.</i>	20
	Leaders: Tim Park, Barbara Mitcalfe	

Evening meetings

Victoria University's Murphy Building Lecture Theatre M101 has proved ideal for our meetings. We thank Professor Phil Garnock-Jones, School of Biological Sciences, and Jude Urlich, Director of Public Affairs, for making this room available, and for providing teaching aids.

We had nine excellent speakers on fascinating topics, plus our annual members' evening. Attendance totalled 321 people – average 32/meeting. (2002/03 year: 10 meetings, 339 people; average 34 per meeting). We thank Julia White for promoting the programme through her e-mail contact, George Jones.

2003

18/8	<i>AP Druce Memorial Lecture – Paengaroa Scenic Reserve, near Taihape</i>	52
	Speaker: Colin Ogle, Department of Conservation (ret'd)	
15/9	<i>Not enough water – plants of deserts and other dry places</i>	36
	Speaker: Dr John Dawson, author, Victoria University (ret'd)	
20/10	<i>Our disappearing indigenous freshwater plant communities – out of sight, out of mind</i>	22
	Speaker: Victoria Froude, Pacific EcoLogic	
17/11	<i>NIWA Science and Technology Fair BotSoc Award winners</i>	19
	Speakers: Daniel Rogerson, Annalise Bolger <i>Onslow College Arboretum</i>	
	Speakers: Deidre Burke, Richard Goldsbrough	

2004

16/2	<i>Fuchsia in the Tararuas</i>	30
	Speaker: Dr Steve Urlich, Department of Conservation, Wellington Conservancy	
15/3	<i>Offshore islands of New Zealand.</i>	49
	Speaker: Dr Carol West, Department of Conservation, Southland Conservancy	
19/4	<i>Recent Wairarapa happenings.</i>	29
	Speaker: Tony Silbery, Department of Conservation, Masterton Area	
17/5	<i>Members' evening.</i>	19
21/6	<i>Menacing, munching moths – biosecurity threats to indigenous plant communities.</i>	32
	Speaker: Kevin Hackwell, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society	
19/7	<i>Environmental weeds – Wellington region</i>	33
	Mark McAlpine, Greater Wellington Regional Council	

We thank Sunita Singh for organising the programme; our speakers, field trip leaders, people involved in "recess" for field trips and in preparing plant lists for land owners and land managers; and Gordon and Sheelagh Leary for organising the food for our New Year's field trip.

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

Publications

We thank:

- Jeremy Rolfe for formatting the Newsletter, and updating our letterhead stationery.
- John Sawyer for editing *WBS Bulletin No.49*.
- Sheelagh Leary for preparing a one page poster summarising our programme.
- Ian Goodwin for summarising field trip reports for inclusion in the *NZ Botanical Society Newsletter*, and drafting a revision of our letterhead stationery.
- New Zealand Print for printing 420 copies of the three issues of the Newsletter, and 150 copies of a one page summary of our programme, for use as a poster.
- All contributors to our *Bulletin* and Newsletter.
- Everyone who has helped with mailing the Newsletter.

Sponsorship

We thank NZ Post's Community Post for 200 postage-paid envelopes to use when promoting BotSoc's objects.

Electronic communications

We thank Richard Herbert who has taken over management of our web site, from Penny Currier and Roger Currier, who designed it; Julia White for passing on e-mails from local and overseas contacts. Our newsletter is available to members by e-mail, and the programme is available to everyone with access to the internet.

Membership

As at 22 August 2004, BotSoc had 270 financial members, comprising: ordinary – 133; group – 16; country – 67; student – 5; life – 49.

We thank Rodney Lewington, Penny Currier and Roger Currier for maintaining our membership records, and Penny and Roger for producing address labels.

NZ Plant Conservation Network

Indigenous ecosystems are increasingly under threat, and professional botanists are struggling to stem the tide. The need for botanical societies has never been greater. We congratulate BotSoccers Mike Oates, John Sawyer, and Philippa Crisp who were elected to the new council on 7 August.

Te Marua Bush

Since 1989 BotSoc has jointly managed the restoration of this 0.6 ha remnant matai-totara-black maire forest near Upper Hutt. We had a workbee on 18 October, concentrating on removing tradescantia and clearing broom from the northern fence. We thank Greater Wellington Regional Council for arranging to remove a concrete building foundation near a kahikatea at the south end, replacing it with clean topsoil to protect the roots, and for taking weeds from the site. We thank BotSoccers Sue Millar and Glennis Shepperd, who live nearby, and keep an eye on the forest.

Display boards

These boards, sponsored by DOC, help us tell the public about BotSoc activities. They were used at Otari-Wilton's Bush Open Day 14/9/03, a NZ Ecological Restoration Network meeting 8/5/04 at Wallaceville, Wellington City Council's Berhampore Nursery Open Day 22/5/04, and during Conservation Week 31/7–14/8/04 at Wellington Anglican Cathedral and in Parliament's Legislative Chamber's Great Hall. We thank Barbara Mitcalfe for keeping the display up to date, and Ted Abraham for allocating a prime spot at the cathedral.

Secretary

We thank Barbara Clark for her work managing so much of BotSoc's paperwork, and for her involvement in our communications around the country.

Treasurer, Auditor

We thank Treasurer, Rodney Lewington, for managing our accounts, Darea Sherratt for doing the banking when he is unavailable, and Peter Beveridge for auditing our accounts.

Submissions Co-ordinator

We thank Barbara Mitcalfe who during the year handed over the role after ten demanding years to Joyce Stretton. Joyce has since passed the work to Chris Horne. Barbara continues her work analysing documents on which submissions have been called, and Joyce Stretton, and Sunita Singh also help.

Awards

We thank Dr Patrick Brownsey, Prof. Phil Garnock-Jones, and Dr Barry Sneddon for assessing applications for BotSoc's Jubilee Award. We congratulate Dr David Galloway, this year's winner. His award will go towards the cost of publication of the second edition of *Flora of New Zealand Lichens*. BotSoc's award will be acknowledged in the book. We thank Arnold and Ruth Dench, and Bryan Halliday, for selling plants at our evening meetings, and donating the proceeds to the Jubilee Award Fund.

We nominated Dr Ian Atkinson for the New Zealand Botanical Society's *H H Allan Mere Award*. Botanical Society of Otago also supported his nomination. We have yet to hear the result.

We congratulate Colin Ogle, this year's winner of the Loder Cup. Nominations are assessed by the Loder Cup Committee, which is appointed by the Minister of Conservation, and one recommended to the Minister for his approval.

We nominated Arnold and Ruth Dench for a Conservation Award for their work in raising threatened indigenous alpine plants and regret that our nomination was not successful.

We nominated Wellington City Council's publication *Branch Out* for a Green Ribbon Award, and regret that our nomination was not successful.

We thank Joyce Stretton who liaised with NIWA. about the Wellington Science and Technology Fair, for which we provided a \$100 prize. We thank Joyce, Darea Sherratt and Barbara Polly for judging the entries involving indigenous plants. The joint winners in 2003 were: Annalise Bolger, Muritai Intermediate: *Flammability of native trees*; Daniel Rogerson, Tawa Intermediate: *How does acid affect native plant growth*.

Grants

We thank Rodney Lewington and Prof. Phil Garnock-Jones for administering BotSoc's Student Field Grants scheme for students at Victoria University.

Appointments

Our nominee, Bev Abbott, continued her work on the Wellington Conservation Board. We congratulate another BotSoccer, Dr Maggy Wassilieff, who was appointed to the board by the Minister of Conservation.

Robyn Smith is Curator Manager, Otari-Wilton's Bush, where she works with BotSoccers Eleanor Burton and Mick Parsons.

Jill Broome is Plant collections Supervisor at Percy Scenic Reserve, Petone, Lower Hutt, where she manages the A P Druce alpine and other threatened plants collections, the indigenous forest in the reserve, and the indigenous plantings on Petone Esplanade.

Queen Elizabeth 11 Open Space Covenants

It is satisfying to report that Janet and Mike Warren have signed the covenant document on their Erin go Bragh Bush on South Makara Road. Fencing has begun, so that stock and feral animals can be excluded from this remnant of partly pre-European forest. BotSoc began its involvement with this forest in 1991, and in 1994 promised to donate \$1000 to the cost of fencing. That pledge has been met.

It is also satisfying to report that since our field trip to the Carrad farm, south of Pukerua Bay on 1 May, John and Christine Carrad are proceeding with registering a QEII Open Space Covenant to protect their forested gullies in perpetuity.

Riparian trial plantings

To assess the ability of native plants to replace introduced species on riparian sites, native plantings were done in 2002 at three sites on the banks of the Hutt River. They were monitored by BotSoccers and Greater Wellington Regional Council staff on 17 October 2003. The next monitoring will detect the impact of floods in February and August 2004.

Committee

We thank all our hard-working committee members for sharing BotSoc's work between them, thus spreading the considerable workload.

Conclusion

The plant lists that we prepare on our field trips help landowners and land managers to work towards implementing the NZ Biodiversity Strategy. The pleasure that we derive from visiting natural areas is reward enough. The knowledge that we gain about our indigenous flora, the landscapes it belongs in, and the threats it faces, then using that knowledge to promote its conservation, is an added bonus. The ultimate pleasure must be when, as reported above, areas that we deem to be of ecological significance, are given legal protection in perpetuity.

To ensure continued success in the protection of our indigenous flora, we must continue to focus on the study of, and advocacy for the 2500 species of vascular plants, and many more species of bryophytes, which comprise indigenous ecosystems.

Thank you for the honour of being elected as President for 2003/04. I have enjoyed working with so many enthusiastic BotSoccers. I wish Joyce Stretton the very best.

Chris Horne, President

Treasurer's Report 2003-04

The audited accounts for the year ended 30 June 2004 are included in this newsletter.

The General Account

The General Account records a surplus of \$3,055. In part this is because we have not had *Bulletin* costs in the past year. Also, thanks to our President's efforts, we have collected arrears of subscription of over \$1,000 compared with \$316 in the previous year.

To better reflect the costs and benefit to members in the General Account I have made a transfer of \$880 from the General Account to the Student Field Grant Account. This represents the value of hire of the meeting room for the evening meetings. We do not pay a hire charge to the University but do provide the Student Award and provide non-financial assistance to students.

Subscription level 2004/5

As I pointed out last year the Society has been eating into its capital in recent years. The financial assets, which provide the funding to pay awards and cover the cost of life members, have not been keeping pace with inflation.

In the past year our uncommitted financial assets have increased by \$4,367, a 5.3 % increase. During the same period inflation has increased 2.4%. Thus we have caught up a bit.

For the coming year we expect a *Bulletin* and, as already mentioned, we cannot expect much by way of subscription arrears. Consequently at the AGM on 23 August 2004 the subscription for the 2004/05 year was set at the same level as last year.

The subscription notices for the 2004/5 year are being sent out with this *Newsletter*.

Rodney Lewington, Treasurer

The Jubilee Award

The committee is seeking donations to increase the value of the Jubilee Award Fund and the annual award from this fund.

The Jubilee Award was set up in 1990. This Award, originally set at \$1,000 each year, is to assist and encourage persons who have demonstrated their commitment to work on the indigenous flora of New Zealand and who intend to persevere in that area.

Inflation has lowered the real value of the award and the Committee would like to be able to increase the annual award to around \$2,000.

Each year small donations and plant sales have supplemented the interest earned on the fund which now stands at a little over \$32,000. Interest earnings on this are expected to be about \$1,750 in the coming year. If the real value of the fund is to keep up with inflation, this leaves about \$1,000 per year available for awards.

Hence, we are making this appeal for contributions to the Jubilee Award Fund, in order to increase the value of the fund and subsequently the annual award.

The Society is exempt from tax and in May 2004 was approved for charitable exemption. As a consequence, donations to the Society of \$5.00 or more by an individual taxpayer qualify for a rebate of income tax equal to one-third of the donation. This is within the limits set by income tax laws. Gifts to the Society are also exempt from Gift Duty.

Much botanical research work is under threat because of the redirection of government funding. Over the past 15 years the Society's Jubilee Award has assisted with taxonomic studies and publication. The most recent award will assist with the publication of the much-needed revised edition of the Lichen Flora.

Contributions should be made to the Wellington Botanical Society Inc., PO Box 10 412, Wellington. Receipts will be provided for tax purposes

Rodney Lewington, Treasurer

Wellington Botanical Society Inc.
Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 30 June 2004

General Accounts

2003	Expenditure	2004	2003	Income	
2,813	Printing and Stationery	3,535	3,013	Ordinary	3,807
873	Post and telephone	244	562	Country	1,344
1,128	Meeting expenses	370	65	Student	87
807	Sundry expenses	127	630	Group	857
200	Subscriptions to other organisations	388	316	Arrears	1,066
			4,586	Total Subscriptions	
600	Depreciation on equip.	521		Interest on investment	
			1,377	Wgton. Conservancy grant	
113	Purchase of Publications		87	Sales Tony Druce Trip Book	
	Opening stocks" Wellington Cloak"	125	206	Sale of other publications	
	Transfer to Student Award Fund	880	125	Closing stock of "Wellington Cloak"	
847	Surplus for year	3,055			
<u>7,381</u>		<u>9,244</u>	<u>7,381</u>		

Jubilee Award Fund

2003	Expenditure	2004	2003	Income	
			29,765	Opening Balance	
100	Science Fair Award	100	696	Donations	
-	Jubilee Award	2,000	382	Plant Sales	
31,906	Closing Balance	32,290	1,163	Interest on Investment	
<u>32,006</u>		<u>34,390</u>	<u>32,006</u>		

Student Field Grant

2003	Expenditure	2004	2003	Income	
			7,831	Opening Balance	
1,500	Grants to Students	500	306	Interest on Investment	
6,637	Closing Balance	7,316		Transfer from general Account	
<u>8,137</u>		<u>7,816</u>	<u>8,137</u>		

Provision for Bulletin

2003	Expenditure	2004	2003	Income	
			11,437	Opening Balance	
2,921	Printing Bulletin		37	Sale of bulletins	
8,553	Closing Balance	9,193			
<u>11,474</u>		<u>9,193</u>	<u>11,474</u>		

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2003

2003	Liabilities	2004	2003	Assets	
			12,377	BNZ Current Account	2,836
				Less unrepresented cheques and late pay in.	-634
2,010	Life Membership Fund	2,010	662	Computer less depreciation	
31,906	Jubilee Award Fund	32,290	525	Fax Machines less depreciation and sales	
6,637	Student Field Grant Fund	7,316	1,417	Display unit less depreciation	
8,553	Provision for Bulletins	9,193	30	Projector	
			16	Stock of Bulletins	
			24	Camping Equipment	
			125	Stocks of Wellington Cloak	
			931	Sundry debtors	
	Jubilee Award for 2003-4 awarded but not yet uplifted	2,000		Investments	
187	Sundry creditors	25	8,800	Tower	11,800
			10,279	National Bank	10,279
				BNZ Finance	41,729
36,239	Accumulated fund as at 30 June 2001		26,915	BNZ Finance Call account	415
	add surplus for the year	3,055	10,006	Westpac Call Account	0
		39,294	13,426	Westpac Term Investment	23,510
<u>85,532</u>		<u>92,128</u>	<u>85,533</u>		

Note that the Society has a No 2 Current Account used for handling moneys for field trips. At July this had a credit of \$ 313.72
This account is not included above and is not subject to audit.

I have examined the accounting records of the Wellington Botanical Society Inc. and have received all the explanations requested. I believe the and balance sheet to be a true and fair record of the Society's operation and its financial position at the close of the financial year.

Peter Beveridges
Auditor
3-Sep-04

2004/2005 committee

At the 65th Annual General Meeting on 20 August 2004, the following were elected:

President Joyce Stretton 934 2437
Vice-Presidents Chris Horne 475 7025
Leon Perrie* 381 7261 (w)
Secretary Barbara Clark 233 8202
Treasurer Rodney Lewington 475 3145
Auditor Peter Beveridge 237 8777
Committee Barry Dent 476 6536
Ian Goodwin 475 7248
Dave Hole 566 3124
Gordon Leary 527 7389
Sunita Singh 387 9955

Bulletin Editor John Sawyer

Submissions

co-ordinator Chris Horne 475 7025

* appointed since AGM.

President's message

As your new president, I am looking forward to the coming year with a little trepidation, but with a lot of trust in the committee and the support of all members. These now total almost three hundred. What a great interest in botany there must be in the Wellington region!

It has been good to see lately the degree of concern for the environment and New Zealand's indigenous biological diversity ("biodiversity") expressed by local bodies in the region. In the last six months alone, they have published several plans, proposals and reports, and sought public submissions on them. From the detailed knowledge of Chris Horne, Barbara Mitcalfe and others we have prepared authoritative submissions, which we hope will have been effective. I believe that if we confine our views to the botanical aspects of such documents, in accordance with our constitution, our submissions will be valued and effective.

I am interested in promoting more interaction with BotSoccers. With this in mind, I wonder if we could have occasionally an evening meeting involving a botanical question, perhaps led by an expert. I favour a topic that could have a controversial aspect. We could all freely express our ideas, and this may help the committee to form a BotSoc policy on it. Some questions I thought of are:

- Should BotSoc encourage the planting of all native species, including those that were not in the past native to the Wellington area?
- How far back in time do we go to establish a defined natural ecosystem, considering how much the climate has changed in recent decades? Crops traditionally grown in some areas can now be grown in other areas – it must be the same for native plants.
- What is biodiversity, and why do we try to restore and maintain it? Should we not let nature take its course?
- With diversity in mind, how far should we go promoting the use of locally sourced, ecologically appropriate native plants, instead of exotic species, in Wellington region reserves and gardens?

Having a list of BotSoc members with phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses is, I find, a great way to facilitate interaction between members. A list may be sent out with our December Newsletter, but to comply with the Privacy Act, it would not

include the contact details of any members who do not wish to have that information publicised.

Let's hear your feelings about any of the above, and any topics you would like discussed.

I hope that any BotSoccer who feels that BotSoc could do something more, or do it differently, to further our botanical interests and good fellowship, will contact me, or any other committee member. The committee cannot act in a vacuum.

I wish you enjoyable and satisfying botanising.

Joyce Stretton, President
e-mail: jwilson1@paradise.net.nz

Highlights of committee meeting

11 October

- Roles allocated to committee members.
- Ideas for field trips and evening meetings listed.
- Summer camp planning continued.
- Owhiro Bay Quarry upgrade – agreed that our submission should seek use of part of building as an interpretation centre and ranger station; any plantings should be of appropriate, locally sourced, Cook Strait Ecological District species; developments should be low-key.
- Ideas for inclusion in draft annual plans of territorial local authorities considered.
- Ideas for nominations for Loder Cup 2005 sought.

NZ Journal of Ecology goes on-line

The NZ Ecological Society's *NZ Journal of Ecology* is now at: <http://www.nzes.org.nz/nzie/>

The web site provides free access to over 1000 science articles from 50 years of ecological research. Articles date back to 1952.

Useful web sites

Pat Enright reports that articles from the *NZ Journal of Botany*, 1994–present can be downloaded free from the <http://www.rsnz.govt.nz/publish/abstracts.php> web site. The availability of these articles was funded by the Department of Conservation's Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information System Programme. There is also free access to several other Royal Society of NZ journals. The *Flora of New Zealand* series is on-line at the <http://floraseries.landcareresearch.co.nz/pages/index.aspx> web site. The original material from volumes 1–5 has been 'digitised'. To check the up-to-date name of a New Zealand plant, use the <http://nzflora.landcareresearch.co.nz/> web site – this is regularly updated to account for taxonomic changes.

Finally, though a little difficult to use, the <http://extranet.doc.govt.nz/bip/> website can be used to check the boundaries of Department of Conservation land, making it a useful resource for planning field trips.

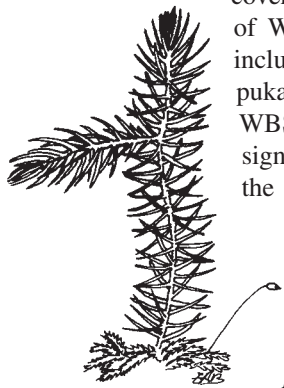
Leon Perrie

Help the Editor

Compiling this newsletter takes several days. If you can help by word-processing your own material and sending it on disk, preferably in Microsoft Word, it would be much appreciated.

Warren Bush – Erin go Bragh protected

We congratulate Janet and Mike Warren on their signing on 23 May of a Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Open Space Covenant over their forest in a True Right tributary of Karori Stream, near the end of South Makara Road, Wellington. This covenant contains some of the remaining 1% of Wellington City's pre-European forest, including several impressive rimu, emergent pukatea, miro, hinau and rewarewa. (See WBS Newsletter November 1993, p 7). The significance of this forest was highlighted in the 1984 publication *Biological Resources of the Wellington Region*, published by Wellington Regional Council, QEII National Trust and the NZ Biological Resources Centre. It was listed in *Schedule C: Sites Requiring Protection: Other Significant Sites* as site 10b: "One of very few areas of forest in southern peninsula... unfenced, badly 'eaten out' by stock... recommend fencing". The idea of protecting this forest resulted from the first BotSoc trip there on 6 November 1993, attended by twenty-six people including BotSocers, Wellington Branch, Forest and Bird, QEII Trust and DOC representatives. The protection of this forest is an example of close co-operation between landowners, community groups and the QEII National Trust.



Rimu seedling.

Illustration: Eleanor Burton.

In a letter dated 19 June 1994, signed by our then-secretary, Dr Carol West, BotSoc promised to donate to the QEII National Trust \$1000 towards the cost of protecting this ecologically important forest. At a meeting on 10 August 2004, the committee agreed to donate \$1000 from the Jubilee Award Fund towards the cost of fencing the covenant. Wellington Branch, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society also made a donation. Fencing is now complete, and the removal of any farm or feral stock remaining is being planned.

Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne

NIWA Wellington Science and Technology Fair – BotSoc 2004 award

We congratulate Ella Mayston who won the BotSoc Award of \$100 for her project "*Native Plants vs Bacteria*".

"My experiment in the 2004 NIWA Science Fair was testing the effect of traditional Maori remedies, using native plants, on the growth of bacteria.

"I chose several plants, e.g. rangiora, koromiko, broadleaf, harakeke, cabbage tree, kawakawa and karaka, and compared them with a modern antibacterial medicine, Betadine. I prepared the traditional remedies according to Maori methods, and cultured bacteria on gelatine. I was surprised to find that all plants had some effect on the bacteria, and that broadleaf, *Griselinin littoralis*, was more effective than Betadine

"I was really thrilled to to win the Wellington Botanical Society prize, as well as second place in my class (year 8).

"I am really looking forward to my year as an honorary member of Wellington Botanical Society!"

Ella Mayston

We thank Joyce Stretton and Darea Sherratt for their work judging the entries.

Editor

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 15 November 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

Hutt City rata walk – Crimson Trail

You will have read Dave Holey's article, *Rata in the lower Hutt Valley* (October 2003, page 17), in which he explained his interest in northern rata, *Metrosideros robusta* and southern rata, *M. umbellata*, and gave the locations of trees he has found in Lower Hutt's suburbs.

Dave will share his interest on Saturday 11 December when he will lead a walk to visit up to forty rata. Plan to join us for this special addition to our programme, timed to coincide with the spectacle of the rata in flower! Please check the programme on page 3 for details.

Editor

New Conservation Officer – Flora at Karori Wildlife Sanctuary

We welcome the appointment of Peter Russell as the Conservation Officer – Flora at Karori Wildlife Sanctuary. To some extent Peter replaces Mark Kearney, although the new position places more emphasis on strategic planning. Peter is required to produce a weed management plan and planting plans for the Sanctuary and is also involved in general operational tasks such as dealing with animal pest issues. He manages to squeeze in many other plant-related tasks such as dealing with public enquiries, managing the Sanctuary's nursery and coordinating planting bees.

Peter graduated from Lincoln University in 1994 with a Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management degree, having focused on ecology. He has since gained a wide range of experience, having worked for DOC, Forest & Bird, Native Forest Action and several private restoration projects including Hinewai Reserve in Canterbury and Manawa Karioi in Island Bay. Peter has surveyed and written weed management plans for all the larger islands in the Wellington region, and most of the smaller islands, as well as the Nga Uruora – Kapiti restoration project between Paekakariki and Pukerua Bay.

More recently, Peter has been involved in ground-breaking work for DOC at St Arnaud where his main project involved assessing weeds on private land adjacent to Nelson Lakes National Park and the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project (a 'mainland island'). Dealing with more than 150 land owners was a challenging task, but Peter gained agreement from most landowners to allow DOC to control a long list of weeds on their properties to protect surrounding natural areas.

We trust the Sanctuary will make the most of Peter's skills, especially regarding weed invasion from surrounding areas.

Editor

Matiu Matters

Another successful planting season on Matiu/Somes Island has ended with 5000 ecologically sourced natives planted by volunteers and fortnightly work parties. DOC contract planters have added a further 1500. Soil conditions could not have been better, with regular rainfall from May to September. All the available spaces have now been planted, including parts of the lawn around the quarantine station and houses. The task for the future lies in opening up spaces among the well-known pioneers, for successional species. This is work for small teams; the days of large group plantings are now behind us. The Lower Hutt branch of Forest & Bird look back to 1981 when the revegetation project began. 90,000 plants later they have seen a green cloak cover most of the island, offering habitat for the introduction of tree and giant weta, tuatara and kakariki, with other species to come. Karo, *Pittosporum crassifolium*, is an unwanted species on the island. Both DOC and Forest and Bird have worked to eliminate it, often to the surprise of visitors, who say, "But it's a native plant!" Boxthorn, *Lycium ferocissimum*, elderberry, *Sambucus nigra*, and gorse, *Ulex europaeus*, are the other weed tree/shrub species now largely controlled. There are 159 non-native species in the plant list included in DOC's *Matiu/Somes Island – a plan for conservation management*, September 2000. Twenty-five are grasses and 125 are herbs; clearly the island can never be returned to a wholly indigenous plant cover.

Stan Butcher

Bushy Park update

Bushy Park, situated 25 km west of Wanganui, comprises an 87 ha forest reserve and 12 ha of grounds and paddocks centred on a 1906 historic house. The forest reserve belongs to Forest and Bird and is leased to the Bushy Park Trust which owns the house and grounds. The forest is well worth visiting. It contains NZ's second largest northern rata, *Metrosideros robusta*, with an 11.6 m girth, and some fine rimu, *Dacrydium cupressinum* and tawa, *Beilschmiedia tawa*. Five years of intensive possum and other predator control have left the forest in fine condition. Very strong winds this year have felled several large tawa, rewarewa and dead rata. The light wells opened up are part of the natural process of forest regeneration. The Bushy Park Trust is now committed to the erection of a 4.6 km predator-proof fence around the forest and grounds, commencing this November. This bold scheme will cost about \$900,000. Well over half of this sum has been raised with grants, sponsorships and donations. The urgent need now is for the remainder to be met. Should any BotSoccer wish to help, contact Stan Butcher, phone 04 567 7271 for information and an appeal brochure.

Stan Butcher

Percy Scenic Reserve news

Redevelopment associated with roadworks

Transit NZ will start widening SH2 in July 2005. Vehicle access to the reserve will be off Dowse Drive, and safer than the SH2 access. Parking will be at the north end of the reserve, and the entrance will incorporate some of the newly landscaped features.

Transit is taking a large parcel of land from the nursery area, including the sites of the propagation and fern houses, A-frame holding area, rockery, caretaker's house, house garden, bottom stand-out areas and parataniwha bush shade house. An alpine house and other houses/structures to hold the potted collection will be built.

The potted collection, including the Druce Alpine Collection, plus other alpine, sub-Antarctic plants, threatened plants and curiosities, will be housed at Plantwise Nursery, Summit Road, Naenae, during the development period. Written confirmation of this is being sought from Judy Robb, Asset Manager, Hutt City Council (HCC).

Duplicates of the collection will be farmed out to Otari-Wilton's Bush. The Dench property in Newlands can take some of the hardier species. All suitable species will be planted in the reserve. A formal agreement of the exchange of collectable plants will be created and interested parties notified.

Orchids may go to the Tutukiwi Orchid House, Civic Gardens, Lower Hutt, and some duplicate ferns will be planted at Jubilee Park, just north of Percy Scenic Reserve, Maungaraki. Jubilee Park is also administered by HCC and is being redeveloped after several years of neglect.

Open day – Sunday 31 October

Tours start at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, 1 p.m. Take this opportunity to see the Druce Alpine Collection, and other threatened plants and curiosities, and the alpine rockery

From report by Jill Broome, Plant Collections Supervisor

Karori tunnel eastern portal planting update

We are grateful for the large specimens of *Sophora microphylla* and *Cordyline australis* supplied this winter by WCC's Berhampore Nursery. They are growing well. It should not be long before the kowhai will be flowering and attracting tui. Unfortunately, as reported in the last newsletter, very few of the earlier plantings of wharariki and ti kouka survived, and the appearance of the site is marred by an accumulation of rubbish.

Barbara Mitcalfe.

BotSoc Student field grants

We congratulate the following students at the School of Biological Sciences, Victoria University, who have been awarded grants:

Phil Taylor, \$300 towards his attendance at the Bryophyte Workshop in Golden Bay.

Rowan Huia Brookes, \$350 towards her research on "Limits to seed production: Pollen and resource limitation in the grassland plant, *Aciphylla squarrosa*".

Rodney Lewington, Treasurer

OBITUARY

Donald Ross McQueen 1927–2004

Ross was born in Dunedin in 1927 and moved with his family to Wellington in 1937. Ross attended Wellington College and then moved on to Victoria University College in 1948, where he gained his BSc and MSc in Botany and Geology. His Masters thesis was on regeneration of burned bush country in the Tararuas, above the old Dobson Hut. This project enabled Ross to indulge in two of his passions: botanical research and tramping. He was a keen member of the University and Tararua tramping clubs.

After several years working as a paleobotanist in the Geological Survey, Ross and his wife Pamela spent many years in England, France, Sudan and Nyasaland, punctuated by several years working as a forest scientist at NZ Forest Products at Tokoroa. During two satisfying years at the University of Montpellier in southern France, Ross gained his doctorate in plant ecology, and in the process became a confirmed francophile. Ross's first stint in Africa led to his being rudely dumped for treating the natives as he treated Maoris, and therefore accused of being Communist. On his second stint he played chess with the local French-speaking bishop and was accused of being a Christian missionary. Neither of these two accusations was true but one suspects the latter would have rankled more.

Ross and Pamela returned to Wellington permanently in the late 1960s, Ross to teach in the Botany Department for more than 20 years. Ross was a congenial supervisor. He was very supportive of his students, pushing hard in the Botany Department for space and resources for them. Ross loved travel and revelled in seeing his students in the field. Their study sites were far-flung, but there were few which Ross did not visit.

Ross was interested in vegetation and all its surroundings: the soils, the geological substrate, the landscape, the animals. This was a truly landscape ecological approach, probably stemming back to his tramping days, his early career working in Geological Survey and then his travels in Europe and Africa. The landscape approach has permeated the work of his students, many of whom have gone on to make diverse and substantial contributions to natural history and resource management work.

Ross was justly proud of this legacy and after retirement he kept in touch with many of his students and colleagues.

He continued to carry out fieldwork in Central Otago, and to publish. He and Pam also travelled extensively in New Zealand and overseas over the following decade. The destinations reflected his interests in wilderness areas, geology, archaeology, high country vegetation, beech forests and trains.

Even after he became less mobile, he was interested in the ecology revealed in the wonderful view from his Whitby house. Vicky Froude had a lively phone conversation with Ross 10 days before his death, fittingly about the ecology of fire in the Tararuas, a subject which he studied as a student 60 years ago.

Olaf adds: "Ross and I met at Alloway Hut on a VUC Tramping Club trip. We also met through Pam and I working as Art Advisers in Wellington schools from 1952 onwards.

"My wife Daphne and I visited their various homes starting with Prof Bobby Munro's boat shed at the now poetically enhanced Bottle Creek at Golden Gate, Paremata. We visited them at Ross's parents' home in Karori, at their Titahi Bay house for wonderful outdoor barbecue meals, then back to Paremata with an impossibly steep section but a fabulous view. Pam was a very good exotic cook, Daphne and I swapped visits and meals and always had an enjoyable and memorable time. I can recall tales of their caravan trips with their two cats and a canoe.

"Through our BotSoc interests I was invited on numerous field trips with Ross' students and regaled with tales of his African times and of his South American visits.

"Ross was President of BotSoc in 1975 and on the committee some years before then. I appreciated Ross's good advice when I became a BotSoc committee member and later on, when becoming President.

After Ross retired we still did field trips together until his ill-health prevented it. We worked together on Pam's book and visited fairly regularly until his last weeks."

His friendship enriched our lives and we will remember him fondly.

Paul Blaschke and Olaf John

New Zealand Plant Conservation Network update

The New Zealand Plant Conservation Network is expanding rapidly with many initiatives continuing or about to begin. The Network's web site (www.nzpcn.org.nz) has received over 25,000 visitors with more than 1000 people logging on each week. Many documents are now stored on the site including threatened plant fact sheets, reports and brochures. Threatened plant descriptions for all Nationally Critical and Data Deficient species are now complete and the Network is working to finish off all other acutely threatened species (Endangered and Vulnerable) over the next two months. Photos of all the threatened plants species will also be added over the next few months.

The Network held a successful annual conference at the Auckland Regional Botanic Gardens on Saturday 7 August. Guest speakers were Ewen Cameron (Curator of the Auckland Museum), Kevin Prime (Environment Court Commissioner and Conservationist of the Decade for Northland) and Hugo Baynes (Auckland Zoo). Various workshops were held in the afternoon including one on the threatened plants of Auckland (by Bec Stanley and Peter de Lange), one on indigenous fungi (by Peter Buchanan) and one on plant translocation (by John Sawyer and Andrew Townsend). A field trip to several sites supporting threatened plants (such as *Anogramma leptophylla* and *Sicyos australis*) in Auckland City was run on Sunday 8 August by Bec Stanley of the Department of Conservation.

If you have any plant conservation news or events that you want to raise awareness of then please send them to the Network at info@nzpcn.org.nz and they will be put up on the web site.

*John Sawyer, Secretary
New Zealand Plant Conservation Network
PO Box 16 102, Wellington.
E mail: info@nzpcn.org.nz, www.nzpcn.org.nz*



Anogramma leptophylla. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

New plant conservation strategy for Wellington Conservancy



The Department of Conservation has recently published a new *Plant Conservation Strategy for Wellington Conservancy: 2004–2010* (excluding the Chatham Islands). This document sets the direction for the Department's regional plant conservation programme for the next six years and includes objectives to be achieved during that time. Conservation outcome targets to be achieved by 2020 are also described. The strategy is a substantial revision of the 1996 strategy by Raewyn Empson and John Sawyer.

Wellington Conservancy's national and regional threatened plant list has been substantially updated and identifies 173 nationally and 254 regionally threatened plants. A preliminary list of twenty threatened plant communities has also been included. One chapter describes the plant conservation achievements since publication of the last edition in 1996. The Department's work programme on indigenous plants will now be divided between in-situ management, ex-situ management and Conservancy-wide initiatives such as survey and monitoring, research and public awareness.

A number of Wellington Botanical Society members and botanists assisted in the production of the strategy including Chris Horne, Barbara Mitcalfe, Pat Brownsey, Pat Enright, Philippa Crisp, Tony Silbery, Jeremy Rolfe and Peter de Lange. Copies are available from the Department of Conservation (price \$15) and will also be available in the near future as a pdf file that can be downloaded from the Department of Conservation's website (www.doc.govt.nz).

*John Sawyer, Biodiversity – Technical Support Officer
Department of Conservation, Wellington Conservancy
P.O. Box 5086, Wellington. E-mail: jsawyer@doc.govt.nz*

EVENING MEETING REPORTS

17 May 2004: Members' evening

The April Newsletter urged members "to share slides or photographs of recent trips" with others at this annual event. After the Newsletter was posted, it struck me that members who are artists, others who have favourite botanical texts, and others who have plants to display, should be asked to contribute to the interest of the evening. The result was a wonderfully varied range of presentations. We thank:

- Eleanor Burton: pen-and-ink and coloured pencil drawings; water-colour paintings of native plants.
- Rae Collins: reading about observations by the botanist George

Forster in Dusky Bay in 1773.

- Arnold Dench: reading about the work of the botanist David Monro (1813–1877).
- Arnold and Ruth Dench: threatened plants of the daisy family, e.g. edelweiss, and an edelweiss/vegetable sheep hybrid.
- Bryan Halliday: paintings of native plants.
- Dave Holey: montage of photographs of northern and southern rata in the lower Hutt Valley.
- Chris Horne: slides taken on field trips.
- Andy Malone: slides of vegetation

and wildlife on the Auckland Islands.

- Barbara Mitcalfe: slides taken on field trips.
- Julia Stace: slides taken on New Year's field trip; montage of photographs of weeding on Raoul Island, Kermadecs.

All in all, a thoroughly enjoyable evening! We plan to a similar programme at the members' evening in 2005, and look forward to a bigger attendance than the nineteen who were present at this one. Please plan to attend!

Editor

21 June 2004: Menacing, munching moths – protecting NZ from invasive moths

Speaker: Kevin Hackwell, Conservation Manager, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society

Kevin focused on biosecurity, NZ's biggest conservation challenge, saying that it costs \$450 million p.a., plus another \$100 million p.a. to eliminate the results of incursions, c. 1% GDP – 1999 figures. We must:

- Strengthen our borders
- Transfer the cost from the community (taxpayers) to the importers
- Improve surveillance
- Maintain public support for eradication programmes.

The greatest biosecurity pathway risk is sea containers. There has been a 180% increase in their use in the last decade, biosecurity measures have failed to keep pace with this increase, and there are serious problems with

the inspection regime. A 2003 review showed that only the four vertical external sides were inspected at our ports, and the interior at the end destination, by employees of the importer. MAF inspected only a small sample. Forest and Bird campaigned for the top and bottom to be inspected, because they are the most likely places where pests would hide.

It was encouraging that a MAF survey during the spraying to kill the painted apple moth showed strong public support for protection against impacts on indigenous flora and fauna.

Kevin highlighted the depletion of the public good science capacity over the years. Are there enough scientists to identify pest species and biosecurity

risks? He then suggested changes to container filling procedures at ports of origin, stationing biosecurity officers at foreign ports, and on ships with high-risk cargoes, encouraging the public to be alert for new pests, and providing a free pest identification service.

Trade liberalisation poses extra threats. MAF, the agency responsible for biosecurity, must focus on threats to indigenous flora and fauna, as well as its traditional focus on economic security, and engage more with the public. Forest and Bird is part of an NGO forum with MAF on biosecurity, and is one of the few NZ conservation organisations with the resources to appoint a part-time biosecurity officer.

From report by Richard Herbert

19 July 2004: Environmental Weeds, Wellington Region

Speaker: Mark McAlpine, Biosecurity Officer (Pest Plants), Greater Wellington Regional Council

Mark described the staffing of the Biosecurity Division, and the 2002-2022 Regional Pest Management Plan with respect to pest plants. The four main sections of the plan cover management policy, rationale depending on the phase of infestation, and whether the area is part of a Key Native Ecosystem.

He described:

- **Eradication Plants** – those of limited distribution and density, and with the potential to have serious adverse effects if they were to become more widespread. Every attempt will be made to eradicate

them, at no cost to landowners. There are 13 Pest Plants in this category.

- **Containment Plants** – well established in some part of the region. Each species has been zoned, with different rules applying in different parts of the region. The aim is to prevent their spread into areas where they are relatively rare. There are 7 Pest Plants in this category.
- **Suppression Plants** – these are widespread in the region. Landowners are required to

destroy any of the species on their land, except for old man's beard in Wellington city, where a 10 m boundary rule applies. There are 4 Pest Plants in this category.

- **Site-Led Plants** – these are so widespread that boundary control is the only practical option. Landowners are responsible for controlling infestations along their boundary, and out to a specified distance. There are 3 Pest plants in this category.

From report by Richard Herbert

20 September 2004: Origin and biogeography of NZ *Craspedia* (Gnaphalieae: Compositae)

Speaker: Kerry Ford, University of Canterbury

The genus *Craspedia* is a member of the daisy family, Compositae, and is represented by twenty-three species restricted to NZ (6) and Australia (17). In NZ *Craspedia* is an outlier in the subtribe Angianthinae, with the remaining c. 60 genera of this subtribe endemic to Australia.

Craspedia in NZ are widely distributed through latitudes south of East Cape, with a centre of density in northwest Nelson. They are however morphologically variable, and this variation lacks an easily understandable pattern, making species definition problematic. Localised and morphologically distinct populations have resulted in the recognition of 45 informal undescribed entities.

In Australia, distribution is confined to temperate regions, with a centre of density in the Koziuzsko alpine zone, NSW. Only one species occurs outside the temperate regions, *C. haplorrhiza*,

which is the only annual of the genus.

It was unclear whether there were one or several lineages shared between the NZ and Australian members of the genus. This was the focus of Kerry's research—to investigate whether *Craspedia* in NZ is a monophyletic group, indicating one dispersal event, or a polyphyletic group, indicating several dispersal events.

It is unlikely that a Gondwanan vicariant (long distance dispersal) hypothesis can explain the disjunct distribution of *Craspedia* between Australia and NZ. The age at which Australia and NZ reached a maximum distance from each other by sea floor spreading is about 55 m.y.a. in the early Eocene. The earliest records of a Compositae fossil (pollen) are about 30 m.y.a. in the middle Oligocene. The earliest records from NZ and Australia are also fossil pollen from the Oligocene. In NZ, which has near

continuous Cenozoic Era (< 65 m.y.a.) terrestrial stratigraphic sequences, the first record of Compositae, as fossil pollen, is from the Late Oligocene (c.25 m.y.a.). Molecular phylogeographic evidence suggests that the Angianthinae are the result of an Australian Miocene (5-24 m.y.a.) radiation. Therefore jump-dispersal over ocean is a more plausible hypothesis to explain the disjunction.

Kerry described some of the NZ species she studied, and showed photographs of: “*C. Garibaldi*”, “*C. Tararua*”, “*C. elongata*”, *C. incana*, “*C. Otago*”, *C. lanata*, *C. robusta*, “*C. Clutha*”, “*C. Kaitorete*” and *C. minor*.

Kerry described the basis of her work using DNA studies to group the *Craspedia* species she studied into lineages

From report by Richard Herbert.

NOTE: The full reports of the above three talks are on our web site: www.wellingtonbotsoc.wellington.net.nz

TRIP REPORTS

6 March 2004: Orongorongo Station, Wainuiomata

A chilly wind blew down the Wainuiomata Valley as we crossed the bridge that leads to Baring Head Lighthouse. Our plan was to botanise the hill shrubland on the TR of the river from the bridge to almost the end of the slope 500m from the sea, then on the TL, a narrow strip of shrubland above and parallel to the Coast Road, and the 40m hillock between the road and the river. *Coprosma propinqu* var. *latiuscula* was the main cover on

these dry, steep, scree-covered hills. A bonus too, was that these plants were smothered with colourful fruit that varied between bushes, from white and shades of blue and purple, to almost black. Other shrubs of interest were *Brachyglottis greyi*/Grey's groundsel, *Discaria toumatou* matagouri, and *Muehlenbeckia astonii* (uncommon). Lianas were well represented and included *Scandia geniculata*/climbing aniseed, still common here, *Rubus*

squarrosus/leafless lawyer, and *Clematis afoliata*/leafless clematis, (uncommon). The fern *Pellaea rotundifolia* was found growing in association with *Cheilanthes distans*/woolly rock fern, and *C. sieberi*/rock fern, on sunny sites. Two mistletoes were also present: *Ileostylus micranthus*/common mistletoe, which was struggling to survive here owing to animal browse, and *Korthalsella lindsayi*/dwarf mistletoe, which is abundant at a number of sites.

We thank Steve and Margaret Rairi for permission to botanise this botanically interesting part of the Wainuiomata River Valley.

Participants

Barbara Clark, Rae Collins, Penny Currier, Barry Dent, Sue Freitag, Chris Hopkins (leader/scribe), Chris Horne, Brenda Johns, Gordon and Sheelagh Leary, Rodney Lewington, Cath Mathews, Pat McLean, Barbara Mitcalfe, Mick Parsons, Darea Sherratt, Julia White.

Left: *Clematis afoliata*. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.



TRIP REPORTS

15 May: Workbee at Arnold and Ruth Dench's garden

It was a privilege to be invited to help in this specialised garden, a hands and knees job if ever there were one, among treasures requiring great care. I spent at least an hour on one tiny patch of *Parahebe canescens* infested with oxalis, and as I worked on it I recalled seeing the plant in the wild, smothered with delicate mauve flowers near the sandy shore of Lake Pukaki.

Participants

Margaret Aitken, Barbara Clark, Arnold and Ruth Dench, Barry Dent, Sue Freitag, Dave Holey, Chris Horne, Barbara Mitcalfe (scribe), Merrin Pearce, Gordon Purdie, Robyn Smith, Louise Taylor, Julia White (leader).

Below: BotSoccers at work in Arnold and Ruth Dench's garden. Photo: Barbara Mitcalfe.



12 June: Mana Island planting

Eight BotSoccers and eighteen others planted 600 plants such as ngaio, karamu, koromiko and kanuka, in the rank pasture grass on the summit platform. Near the landing we noted signage about northern rata, and admired several planted rata saplings nearby. Outside the bunkhouse, in the threatened plant garden, we were pleased to see the Cook Strait, regionally critically

threatened, endemic shrub *Meliccytus* aff. *obovatus* flourishing alongside tiny plots of the nationally endangered and regionally critical *Leptinella nana*.

Participants

Barbara Clark, Kathleen George, Margaret Herbert, Richard Herbert, Dave Holey, Chris Horne, Amy Leask, Barbara Mitcalfe (scribe).

3 July: Kaiharawhara Valley restoration

Jonathan Kennett and Bronwyn Wall began with a slide show documenting the history of their restoration team's work in the valley over several years. Challenges faced, successes celebrated and hard lessons learnt along the way were discussed. The session was an excellent model of the essential task of record-keeping, which is not often observed in restoration projects. Enlightened by this and armed with tools and enthusiasm, we went to our streamside work stations in slushy conditions, for this final planting of the year. Along the way we were impressed by the notices explaining the restoration project. Jonathan and Bronwyn had

allocated to us a number of podocarps and other canopy species and we set to work in bouldery soil to bed them in and stake them. Later, Susan Moore and Robyn Smith guided us around the Otari rock garden designed and planted many years ago by Walter Brockie. We were pleased to renew our acquaintance with Otago BotSoccer Moira Parker who was with us for the day.

Participants

Barbara Clark, Phil Garnock-Jones, Chris Hopkins, Chris Horne, Jonathan Kennett (co-leader), Rodney Lewington, Barbara Mitcalfe (scribe), Moira Parker, Mick Parsons, Darea Sherratt, Joyce Stretton, Bronwyn Wall (co-leader).

Saturday 7 August 2004: Waikanae wetlands

We met at the Nga Manu Nature Reserve turn-off and went into the most recently fenced area on the Smith family's farm, a manuka-coprosma/carex scrubland/sedgeland. We climbed fences, forded an ephemeral stream, and passed lancewood and *Olearia solandri*. We crossed a wet area (past *Baumea tenax* in flower), to a colony of cryptic *Korthalsella salicornioides*. Later we crossed the farm to a site nearer the coast.

We passed manuka scrub on the way to the area of podocarp forest nearest to the Kapiti coast, nestled in plantation radiata. This area is still exposed to the northwest winds and is dominated by kahikatea and pukatea. After lunch we split into small groups and botanised the area. Specimens of note were a very large hinau, abundant kiekie, *Coprosma tenuicaulus* and a several *Coprosma* hybrids.

From here we crossed dune country to the large Te Harakiki [sic] wetland and admired from a knob, the large expanses of raupo reedland, toetoe grassland and harakeke flaxland.

Participants

Catherine Boyle, Bryan Halliday, Margaret Herbert, Richard Herbert, Chris Hopkins, Chris Horne, Michiyo and Yastaka Ikuta, Darryl Kee, Rodney Lewington, Pat McLean, Barbara Mitcalfe (co-leader), Tim Park (co-leader/scribe), Graham, Judy and Robbie Petterson, Penry Putnam, Darea Sherratt, Joyce Stretton, and Julia White.



Examining *Korthalsella salicornioides*.
Photo: Barbara Mitcalfe.

4 September: Te Marua Bush Workbee

A 2 × 3 m concrete slab lying beside the old kahikatea at the south end of the Bush was removed during the winter. This was done while a large digger was available to break it up and shift it, after the fence along SH2 had been removed during road works. Greater Wellington Regional Council organised the dumping and spreading of a load of topsoil over the newly exposed area and some planting was done into this patch two weeks before the workbee, before the soil became too consolidated.

During the workbee more plants were planted to fill gaps created

along the roadside and in the existing plantings. A total of 115 plants were put in. This included thirty-six kahikatea grown on from seedlings found the previous year under the old tree beside the concrete slab, also five matai and five larger black maire sourced as small seedlings from the Bush and grown on for several years. A load of bark mulch donated by Wilco Tree Services was spread round the new plants.

A good search through the Bush was made to pick out any remaining *Tradescantia* (only a little at present) and other weeds. Rubbish was also

collected—during the current road works while there is no fence along SH2 much rubbish ends up in the Bush. We look forward to having the Bush fenced off again, more secure from unwanted visitors (human vandals, and animals).

After a wet year, Te Marua Bush is showing good growth and plenty of seedlings.

Participants

Frances Forsyth, Dave Holey, Chris Horne, Rodney Lewington, Sue Millar (co-leader/scribe), Barbara Mitcalfe, Alan and (co-leader) Glennis Sheppard, Darea Sherratt.



Passiflora tetrandra is common in Te Marua Bush. Photo: Barbara Mitcalfe.

25 September: Measuring indigenous riparian trial plantings

A team of eleven assembled at the Maoribank site (on the True Right of the Hutt River) to measure the height and crown spread of the following species planted in 2002 at 1 m spacing in rows of 50: riverside row *Phormium tenax*, then *Phormium cookianum*, then *Cortaderia fulvida*, then *Podocarpus totara*, then *Plagianthus regius*. This bouldery site is overgrown with blackberry and in places silt has almost smothered some plants. One of the conditions of the trial is that we must not weed the plantings except where weeds make it impossible to take measurements, so secateurs had to be used sparingly. Maoribank is the best performer of the three sites and most of the indigenous plants are still there.

The second site, on the True Left, opposite Manor Park golf course, is more subject to flooding and is under a tall, dense infestation of fennel, as

it was last Spring. The riverside row here was *Dicksonia squarrosa*, now all washed away or buried deeply under silt. Floodwaters have been up to three metres high on several occasions at this site, evidenced by the debris. The second row is *Pittosporum tenuifolium*, then *Pittosporum eugenioides*, then *Podocarpus totara*, then *Plagianthus regius*. Plant numbers are all reduced compared with last year's results. The third site, at Avalon, is on the TL, in two halves, 3A and 3B, one upstream of the other. Both were already closely planted in 2 m tall poplars when the trial began in 2002. 3A was destroyed by a flood in 2003 which removed about five metres of the bank width. The substrate is bouldery and frequent floods deposited silty sand to a depth of at least 50 cm, burying many of our plants. We don't even know whether they are surviving underneath, because our job was just

to measure, not exhume. The species planted here were the same for 3B: the riverside row, *Dicksonia squarrosa*, has long gone, and the plants in the other 4 rows are much reduced in number.

The trials are in their second year of five. Independent monitors Tim Porteous and Tim Park will check the results. In the next issue of the Newsletter Ian Atkinson will provide statistics.

Participants

Margaret Aitken, Peter Beveridge, Barbara Clark, Gavin Dench, Bryan Halliday, Dave Holey, Chris Horne, Rodney Lewington, Barbara Mitcalfe (leader/scribe), Darea Sherratt, Sunita Singh. Steve Murphy represented the GWRC Flood Protection team, and Darryl Kee of Weedworks arrived to deal with OMB at Site 3B. Apologies were received from Ian Atkinson, Stan Butcher, Patricia Tankersley and Vicky Froude.

2 October: Waterfall Road Bush

We were finally lucky with the weather, after two previous washouts. Rather than approach Waterfall Road via a risky rail crossing, we turned off SH1 at Paraparaumu and drove south on Valley Road to reach the property. Peter and Diane Kiernan met us at their gate and we were soon botanising the tracks which Peter had very clearly marked. We set off down the Totara Ridge Track then took the Rata Ridge Track through northern rata, totara, matai, rewarewa and a very wide variety of shrubs, among them *Olearia rani* in flower. Notable were three species of maire: *Nestegis cunninghamii*, *N. lanceolata* and *N. montana*. Further on we saw both forms of the uncommon NZ sandalwood, *Mida salicifolia*, one wide-leaved and the other narrow-leaved. There were several orchids such as *Pterostylis alobula*, some still in flower, *Nematocerus triloba* agg. "Rimutaka", and *Acianthus sinclairii*. On the dry, open banks were *Microtis*, *Thelymitra* and even *Pterostylis banksii* in flower. We added *Dicksonia fibrosa* and *Senecio jacobaea* to Pat's list. The lunch spot provided some *Clematis paniculata* in flower and an excellent sea view. All in all, a happy and productive day, blessed with perfect weather.



Pterostylis alobula. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

Participants

Peter Beveridge, Barbara Clark, Rosemary Collier, Rae Collins, Gavin Dench, Pat Enright, Bryan Halliday, Dave Holey, Chris Hopkins, Chris Horne, Olaf John (leader/ scribe), Diana and Peter Kiernan, Pat McLean, Barbara Mitcalfe, Leon Perrie, Sunita Singh, Owen Spearpoint.

10 October Workbee at Tapu Te Ranga Marae

Conditions were perfect for planting, as a very small BotSoc turnout worked alongside members of Manawa Karioi Society. We planted six northern rata generously donated by Lower Hutt Branch of Forest and Bird, potted up seedlings and weeded the Surville Cliffs section, then the threatened Wellington coastal plants section, where *Muehlenbeckia astonii*, *Coprosma acerosa*, *Melicytus* aff. *obovatus* and *M. crassifolius* are looking very much at home among coastal flax and large boulders.

Participants

Stan Butcher, Bryan Halliday, Chris Horne (co-leader), Ann and Barbara Mitcalfe (co-leader/scribe).



Melicytus aff. *obovatus*. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

11 October: Forest & Bird Matiu/Somes Island planting

Four BotSoccers joined a large group of Lower Hutt Forest and Birders on this fine, Spring day. October is usually too late for planting but this year's plentiful rain has allowed for an extension to the planting season. Along with Mana Island, Matiu/Somes must surely be a Wellington equivalent of Auckland's Tiritiri Matangi, i.e. the staged, long-term re-vegetation of a previously pastoral island, using local, native species. We were very impressed with the preparation and organisation evident at every stage of the planting, which was carried out with military precision and the cheerful cooperation of all concerned. The task of the day was to interplant the thriving shrubland of planted taupata and ngaio in "Lighthouse Valley" with longer-lived species to overtop the early successional. Our small group were given the privilege of planting a grove of northern rata. It was a special pleasure to meet the Matiu/Somes Ranger, David Moss, who remembers us from our BotSoc trip based at Borland Lodge in Southland during his time as ranger there in 2000.

Participants

Chris Horne, Ann and Barbara Mitcalfe (scribe), Julia White and about thirty members and friends of Lower Hutt Forest and Bird. Workbee leader Stan Butcher.

Wellington Botanical Society Inc. – Membership Application

(For new members, **NOT** for renewal of existing membership)

I wish to join the Society

My name Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr Phone (.....) (h)

My address Phone (.....) (w)

..... Fax (.....)

I would like to receive my newsletters by e-mail as a PDF Please tick if appropriate.

My e-mail address@.....

Signature Date:..... / / 200...

The membership year is from 1 July to 30 June. Dues received after 1 May will be credited to the following year.

Type of membership: Ordinary \$32; Joint (Family) \$42; Student \$20. All reducible by \$5 if paid by 30 November.

We welcome donations to support research into NZ native plants and to the Jubilee Award Fund.

Please make your cheque payable to Wellington Botanical Society Inc, and send it with this form to:

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My cheque is enclosed for Ordinary membership \$.....

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Donation \$.....

TOTAL \$.....

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Action	Init.	Date
N/L, flyer etc		/ /
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WELLINGTON BOTANICAL SOCIETY SUMMER CAMP 28 Dec – 6 Jan 2005
REGISTRATION

Please send this registration form together with a deposit of \$150:00 as a cheque made out to Wellington Botanical Society Inc. to:

Sheelagh and Gordon Leary
PO Box 48 110
Silverstream

Ph: (04) 527 7380
Email: GandSLeary@xtra.co.nz

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

Address:

Phone: Fax:

E-mail:

Preferred Accommodation Camp ... Lodge ...

Length of stay From ... to ...

Special Requirements: Please tell us if you have any special food/health/other requirements.

ACCOMMODATION

Staveley Campsite on Sawmill Road 42 km west of Ashburton is signposted from Highway 72, 1 km north of Staveley. The lodge has 8 bunkrooms each with 12 bunks. Both camping and staying in the lodge are \$8 per night. Food for many meals will be provided at a cost of about \$11 a day.

TRANSPORT:

- I can provide shared transport **to, from** Staveley for people.
- I do not have transport. I would like to share transport **to, from** the camp.
- I can provide transport forextra people from camp to trip sites for days.
- I would like transport from base camp to trip sites for days.

BOTANICAL TRIPS

There are numerous trip possibilities within 50km of Staveley. They range from overnight, full day, to short in length, and botanically from alpine vegetation, to scrublands, bush and wetlands. Some of the sites are Lake Coleridge, Rakaia Gorge, Mt Somers Conservation Area and Ashburton Lake wetlands.

ADDITIONAL FOUR DAY TRIP

A number of people propose to go to Hinewai Reserve Lodge (holds 12) on Banks Peninsula 6–10 January. Some of the time will be spent weeding and some walking and botanising. There is only lodge accommodation – no camping. The cost is \$12 a night. (There is more accommodation at Otanerito Homestead and Cabin)

If you would like to join this group please contact Hugh Wilson, Hinewai Reserve, Long Bay Rd, RD3, Akaroa 8161. Phone 03 304 8501.

Details about the camps and possible trips will be sent out closer to the time of the camp but do phone us if you have questions about the camp sites, trips, maps etc.