

Wellington Botanical Society

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



NEWSLETTER September 2008

Last issue: May 2008

ISSN 1171-9982

From the President

It's a great honour to be elected President of Wellington Botanical Society following, as I do, in the footsteps of many of the leaders of New Zealand botany from the first President, W.R.B. Oliver. I note that the subscription for a senior member when the Society was set up in 1939 was 5/-. Just like the cost of running a car today compared with 70 years ago, the current subscription for an ordinary member of \$20 represents a much smaller fraction of the average household income than it did in 1939. We owe our ability to keep subs so low to the prudent judgement of our Treasurers, the generosity of members, and wise governance by committees over the years. On the subject of Treasurers, it's revealing to note that in the 70-year history of the Society, we have been served in the last 44 years mainly by two Treasurers: Kingsley Brown and Rodney Lewington. The Society owes a deep debt of gratitude to Rodney, in particular, as he has been an active member since the early 1960s and an office-holder almost continuously since 1972, apart from an 18-month absence when seconded to Australia. He has been Secretary, Vice-President, President (twice), a committee member and, for the last 20 years, Treasurer. In addition he's played a significant role in organising many summer trips, and for decades was deputy and then chief porridge-maker. Thank you Rodney.

Looking forward I'd like to welcome the new committee, including Barbara Clark and Rodney Lewington, returning Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. New committee members are Jill Goodwin and Richard Herbert. Thanks to outgoing committee members Robyn Smith and Dave Holey for the work they've done while on the committee.

Carol West

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,
Tawa,
Wellington 5028
ph 232 6828 (h)
fax 803 7003 (w)
e-mail herbert.r@xtra.co.nz

Manawa Karioi Society Revegetation Programme Workbees

1st & 2nd Sunday each month,
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Bring your lunch.

Contact:

Peter Russell ph 383 6898
mob 021 207 6011

Wellington Botanical Society

Address: PO Box 10 412, Wellington 6143
Web site: www.wellingtonbotsoc.wellington.net.nz
President: Carol West 387 3396
Vice-Presidents: Sunita Singh 387 9955
Bev Abbott 475 8468
Secretary: Barbara Clark 233 8202 233 2222 (fax)
e-mail: bj_clark@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer: Rodney Lewington 970 3142
Auditor: Peter Beveridge 237 8777
Submissions
co-ordinator: Bev Abbott 475 8468
Bulletin editor: John Sawyer 470 8427 (w) 499 0077 (fax)
DOC, PO Box 5086, WN 6145
Newsletter
editor: Chris Horne 475 7025 475 7253 (fax)
e-mail: jchorne@paradise.net.nz
28 Kaihuia St, Northland, WN 6012
Annual
subscription: ordinary \$25; country \$20; student \$10;
group / family \$30.

Send your subscription to Treasurer, WBS, Box 10 412, Wellington 6143.

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 Parade 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 in January and at Easter.

DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE – 20 November 2008

Articles may be edited for clarity and length

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 6143, 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 Metlink Enquiry Service 0800 801-7000.

FIELD TRIPS AND EVENING MEETINGS: OCTOBER 2008 – JANUARY 2009

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 4 October: Field trip

Coastal plants of Rocky Bay and Whitireia

Botanise the neglected but important Rocky Bay coastal wetland, then continue round the coast to Whitireia Park. See the last stand in Titahi Bay of what used to be *Hebe elliptica* var. *crassifolia*, now merged into *Hebe elliptica*. Further round the coast in the park see *Aciphylla squarrosa*, *Asplenium appendiculatum* ssp. *maritimum*, *Carmichaelia australis*, *Meliccytus crassifolius*, *Carex* cf. *testacea* ("raotest"), *Raoulia hookeri* var. *hookeri* and two completely different forms of *Pimelea*—*Pimelea prostrata* and *P. urvilleana*. Continuing round the coast see *Spinifex sericeus*, planted *Austrofestuca littoralis*, *Euphorbia glauca*, pīngao, *Arthropodium cirratum* and five wetland species. The planted coastal and wetland species are part of a revegetation project in the park. After botanising a patch of coastal turf, we return to our vehicles via an original patch of bush, previously botanised by BotSoc; see the Nationally Endangered *Leptinella nana*, and view old terraces formerly used by Māori to grow kumara and other vegetables. Meet: 9 a.m. at Rocky Bay carpark on Terrace Rd, Titahi Bay. Leader: Robyn Smith ph 236 6086 or 027 437 2497. Phone if you need a map showing how to get there—I will e-mail it to you.

Monday 20 October: Evening meeting

A very merry Mere

Speaker: Dr Peter Johnson, a Dunedin botanist, formerly with Botany Division, DSIR, and Landcare Research, and the 2007 recipient of the Allan Mere Award, will use pounamu, and a "mere" of his own making, to explore a multitude of threads—trees and timbers, flowers, fossils, and photographs, to illustrate parts of his botanical life. His interests include floristic botany, plant ecology, wetlands, wildflowers, weeds, lichens, conservation and gardening. He is the author of books on wildflowers and wetlands.

Saturday 1 November: Field trip

Eastern Hutt catchment

Botanise TR bank from swingbridge at Hutt Forks, either up to Quoin Ridge, or up valley along the track to the saddle. See podocarp/hardwood forest down to the forks, similar to Kaitoke Regional Park, and up to the saddle, see beech/hardwood forest with some podocarps. We will drive to end of 4WD road in Greater Wellington Regional Council vehicles. Meet 9 a.m. at Kaitoke Ranger Station, Waterworks Rd, off SH2 at Kaitoke. Catch 7.35 a.m. train from Wellington to Upper Hutt – ask leader to meet you. Map S26 Carterton.

Leader Owen Spearpoint, GWRC, 526 4133 (w), 562 8780 (h). Booking essential – numbers strictly limited.

Monday 17 November: Evening meeting

Phil Garnock-Jones's research students

Mei Lin Tay: Evolution and biogeography of *Plantago* (Plantaginaceae). NZ has about 8 native species of *Plantago*. Phylogenetic trees, constructed using DNA sequences, indicate that *Plantago* has invaded NZ three times from Australia, and the immigrants have speciated here. Long-distance dispersal might be aided by their mucilaginous seeds. Molecular data have been less useful in untangling several species complexes in the genus however.

Gesine Pufal: Hygrochastic capsules in alpine NZ – a tool to restrict dispersal? Alpine habitats are extreme and often confined. Plants adapted to those conditions would be quickly out-competed in lower elevations. Therefore, many restrict their dispersal range to the small habitats they are well adapted to. Some alpine plants in NZ exhibit a rather uncommon capsule-opening mechanism, which responds to rain, and might ensure short-distance dispersal of seeds through raindrops. Here, I will present the first results of dispersal experiments conducted with selected alpine *Veronica* (Plantaginaceae), showing the tight relationship between rain-operated capsule opening, short-distance dispersal, and its potential influence on the plant's distribution.

Peter Martin: Taxonomy and phylogeography of *Lessonia* around NZ and the subantarctic islands. Early results in this taxonomic and phylogeographic study have indicated there are four species of *Lessonia* kelps present in the NZ region. Mostly their distributions don't overlap, but planned genetic work will focus on key places where more than one species co-occur.

Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 December: Field trip

Eastern Tararua Range

Day 1: Donnelly Flat, Atiwhakatu Valley: Botanise swamp maire forest, and see mistletoes, hutu etc. Day 2: Botanise Gentle Annie Track, via Pig Flat, to Mountain House shelter, a steepish climb, or along Atiwhakatu Track. Map: Tararua Forest Park, or S26 Carterton. Accommodation: Holdsworth Lodge \$8-10/night; \$4-6/campsite. Meet at Holdsworth Lodge 10 a.m. From Wellington, take SH2 to Clareville, 1 km past Carterton, turn left onto Chester Rd, and left at its junction with Norfolk Rd, which further on becomes Mt Holdsworth Rd. Leader: Tony Silbery 06 372 5620. Wellington contact: Sunita Singh 387 9955.

Saturday 13 December: Field trip

See northern and southern rata, and other species of the genus *Metrosideros*, including some in flower, plus native plantings on Petone Esplanade. A 3-4 km walk. Meet at 9.15 a.m., Petone Station, Hutt Road, cnr. Jackson St. Catch no. 83 Eastbourne bus 8.50 a.m. from Courtenay Place, **or** 8.45 a.m. from Eastbourne, **or** 9.05 a.m. train on Hutt Line from Wellington Station, **or** 8.30 a.m. train from Upper Hutt. A cafe call after the trip is inevitable. Leader: Dave Holely 566 4124, deputy leader: Margaret Aitken 566 2731.

Rata walk, Petone

16–26 January 2009: Field trip

Book by 31 October. See details, and booking form, at back of newsletter.

Westport – Karamea

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP

Wellington Botanical Society Jubilee Award

2008 – applications sought

Wellington Botanical Society invites applications for an Award of up to \$2500 to encourage and assist applicants to increase knowledge of New Zealand's indigenous flora, and to commemorate the Society's 50th Jubilee in 1989.

Purpose of the award

The Award is open to anyone working in New Zealand. It will be granted for:

fieldwork; artistic endeavour; publication; research; propagation or cultivation of NZ native plants for educational purposes and/or other studies which promote the better understanding of NZ's 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 NZ's indigenous 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 6143

by **15 November 2008**.

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 2008. 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 the 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

Tom Moss Student Award in Bryology

Tom Moss was an active member of Wellington Botanical Society for many years, and was a participant in the very first John Child Bryophyte Workshop in 1983. He helped to organise the second Workshop at Akatarawa in 1984 and attended every year after that until the Kaikoura Workshop of 1993.

To commemorate his name, his contribution to New Zealand botany, and his particular interest in bryology, a Trust Fund was established following discussion at the 2006 John Child Bryophyte Workshop. It is administered by Wellington Botanical Society. The *Tom Moss Student Award in Bryology* provides a small annual prize for the best student contribution to NZ bryology.

The first Award will be made at the John Child Bryophyte Workshop that will be held in December 2008 in the Catlins, SE Otago. Contributions that would qualify for the Award include:

- A student presentation at the Workshop relating to NZ bryology.
- A paper relating to NZ bryology. Only one application per student will be accepted, i.e. either a presentation or a publication.

This can be published, or accepted for publication, or a significant unpublished report. This should be published or written in the twelve months immediately before the Workshop, and submitted for judging by **1 November 2008** (see below). It is not necessary to attend the Workshop where a paper is submitted for consideration.

Contributions are invited and will be considered from any student enrolled for a BSc, MSc, PhD, or equivalent degree, in the twelve months immediately before the Workshop. Students may be enrolled in a NZ or overseas university, and may include work on overseas bryophytes, as long as the work relates in some significant way to NZ bryology.

An Award of \$150 will be made by a panel of three judges attending the Workshop and appointed by Wellington Botanical Society. The panel may reserve the right to make no award if there are no suitable contributions.

Publications for consideration should be submitted with a covering letter to Tom Moss Student Award, Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10 412, Wellington 6143, by **1 November 2008**. Students intending to make a qualifying presentation at the Workshop should indicate this when they enrol for the Workshop.

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

Te Papa MSc Scholarship in Molecular Systematics at Victoria University

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa and Victoria University of Wellington are offering a Master of Science (MSc) scholarship in the field of molecular systematics at Victoria University. The purpose of the award is to promote research between Te Papa and Victoria University in molecular systematics, ecology and evolution.

An MSc degree at Victoria University is undertaken over two years (Parts 1 and 2). It involves four courses worth equal marks, plus a research thesis worth 60% of the total. The Te Papa-VUW scholarship provides the successful applicant with a student stipend of \$4000 in part 1 (2009), and \$6000 in part 2 (2010). The project offered in 2009-2010 will be a molecular systematic investigation of the NZ species of *Pseudopanax* (Araliaceae) or *Gleichenia* (Gleicheniaceae), or another project to be determined. The thesis research will involve the DNA sequencing of chloroplast and nuclear genes, with complementary morphological analyses, and will address phylogenetic questions such as the relationships between species and generic boundaries, as well as issues of biogeography and species-delimitation. The ideal applicant will have completed a BSc degree and have an interest in NZ plants and molecular phylogenetic techniques.

For more information about the thesis project, or studying towards an MSc degree at Victoria University, contact: Dr Leon Perrie (e-mail: leonp@tepapa.govt.nz), Dr Heidi Meudt (e-mail: heidim@tepapa.govt.nz), or Dr Peter Ritchie (e-mail: Peter.Ritchie@vuw.ac.nz).

For information about the School of Biological Sciences and a copy of the post-graduate prospectus visit www.vuw.ac.nz/sbs

Applications are lodged through the Scholarships Office, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington.

E-mail: Scholarships-Office@vuw.ac.nz

Tel +64-4-463 5113/5557

Visit the web site for an application form and instructions: www.vuw.ac.nz/scholarships

Applications close on 1 November 2008

Selection will be based on academic merit and short-listed applicants may be required to participate in a telephone interview.

SUBMISSIONS MADE

- **Proposed National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels (proposed NES).** We supported the proposed NES because it makes a positive if timid step towards better protection for freshwater habitats. We focused on wetlands because the risks to wetlands and their plants are probably greater than for rivers and lakes. We suggested changes to the definition of ecological flows, the interim standards for wetlands, and the risk assessment criteria for wetlands.

SUBMISSIONS DUE

- **22 September: Draft Track Recreation Activities Policy.** Document from Wellington City Council, ph 499 4444. Submissions to Freepost 2199, WCC, PO Box 2199, WN, fax 04 801 3231, or www.Wellington.govt.nz.

EVENTS

29 September – 2 October. **NZ Ecological Society conference.** Unitec NZ campus, Auckland.

- See www.newzealandecology.org/conf2008/

15–17 October. **Getting to know groundwater and surfacewater.** Mancan House, cnr Cambridge Tce & Manchester St, CH.

- *Centre for Groundwater Studies,*
c/- Flinders Uni, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001.
cgs@groundwater.com.au, +61 8 8201 5632

12–17 December. **24th John Child Bryophyte Workshop.** Catlins.

- *John Steel, Dept. of Botany, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin.* john.steel@botany.otago.ac.nz

GRANTS AVAILABLE

31 October. **Wellington City Council Environmental Grants.**

Criteria, application forms and other information available 6 weeks before closing date.

- *Grants Advisor, WCC, PO Box 2199, WN. Ph 499 4444,*
www.Wellington.govt.nz/services/grants

15 November. **Wellington Botanical Society Jubilee Award.** See article in this issue.

24 November. **Lottery Environment and Heritage Grants.** These grants are for projects that promote, protect and conserve NZ's natural, physical and cultural heritage.

- 0800 824 824, or www.cdgo.govt.nz

PUBLICATIONS

1a. **Conservation Action – Te Ngāhau ki te Kura Taiao.** 2008. 32 p.

1b. **Strengthening community capacity to undertake conservation work: sharing conservation skills and knowledge.** A L Johnson, M Wouters 2008. *Science for Conservation* 287. 74 p.

1c. **NZ's remaining indigenous cover: recent changes and biodiversity protection needs.** S Walker, R Price, D Rutledge 2008. *Science for Conservation* 284. 82 p.

1d. **Consolidated list of environmental weeds in NZ.** C Howell 2008. *DOC Research & Development Series* 292. 42 p.

1e. **The NZ Threat Classification System.** R A Hitchmough 2008. 3 p. Describes the process and its history.

1f. **The revised NZ Threat Classification System.** R A Hitchmough 2008. 3 p. Describes the recent revision of the system.

- *Science & Technical Publishing, Department of Conservation,*
PO Box 10 420, WN 6143.

E-mail: science.publications@doc.govt.nz

2a. **Wild orchids of the lower North Island – a field guide to orchids of the lower North Island from Manawatu to Wellington.** P de Lange, J Rolfe, I St George, J Sawyer 2007. \$15 to BotSoccers at Conservancy Office, 181 Thorndon Quay, and DOC Visitor Centre, 18–32 Manners St, WN.

2b. **Taputeranga Marine Reserve.** A3 colour brochure.

2c. **FOOTnotes 31.** 6/08: Restoration Day report; Conservation Week; experiencing marine reserves; Eastbourne reserves transferred to Greater Wellington; Spanish heath control in Tararua Range; etc.

2d. **Conservation Week publications.** A2 and A3 posters, flyer re Taputeranga Marine Reserve and Otari Open Day; marine reserve hotline contact details – fridge magnet; information cards re plants, animals, places.

- *Department of Conservation, PO Box 5086, WN 6145.*
Ph 472 5821.

3. **EnviroNZ – Take Taiao Aotearoa.** 7/08: climate change; World Environment Day; Green Ribbon Award winners; etc.
 • *Ministry for the Environment, Box 10 362, WN 6143.*
www.mfe.govt.nz
4. **Open Space 73.** 7/08: beech mistletoes – stemming decline; fencing kohekohe forest in South Karori; etc.
 • *Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, PO Box 3341, WN 6140.*
 Ph 472 6626. qe2@qe2.org.nz
5. **Weedbusters! 16.** 7/08: rising popularity of gardening with native plants; Auckland bans agapanthus sales; etc.
 • *Weedbusters, PO Box 112, Hamilton. Ph 0274 434 431,*
info@weedbusters.org.nz
- 6a. **Regional Policy Statement Newsletter 5.** 8/08. 4 p.
 6b. **Green Shoots Community Newsletter.** 6/08:
 • *Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11 646, WN.*
 Ph 384 5708. www.gw.govt.nz
- 7a. **Annual Plan 2008/2009.** 108 p. Environment pp 37–45.
 7b. **Branch Out 29.** Winter 08: Arbor Day planting; eco-sourcing; carbon credits valued for WCC's reverting forests; environmental grants; weed control and reversion on Tinakori Hill; climbing asparagus a problem; contact details of 30 environmental/restoration groups in city; etc.
 • *Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, WN. Ph 499 4444.*
lyn.murphy@wcc.govt.nz
8. **Trilepidea 54.** 5/08: Phytomed Medicinal Herbs Ltd is new sponsor; *Pseudopanax ferox*; Bay of Plenty Wetland Restoration Guide; Oceania Pollinator Initiative; etc. **No.55** 6/08: *Carmichaelia uniflora*; botanical trail in Karori Sanctuary; 1300 ha "Moawhiti" reserve on D'Urville Is; etc. **No. 56** 7/08: NZPCN Conference programme; Mt Cass Ridge; *Myosotis petiolata* var. *pansa*; Manukau City Council Restoration Guide; revision of the 7 glabrous *Pimelea* spp; new *Parahebe* to be described; *Adelopetalum tuberculatum* in Golden Bay; etc. **No. 57** 8/08: *Clematis marmoraria*; Plant Conservation Awards; Brian Molloy gives Tane Ngahere lecture; canopy lichen studies; eco-sourcing accreditation; new weed naturalisation checklist; David Given Threatened Plant Scholarship; pollination survey of tree fuchsia;
 • *NZPCN, PO Box 16 102, WN. events@nzpcn.org.nz*
- 9a. **NZ Botanical Society 92.** 6/08: *Juncus* aff. *caespiticus* identified as *J. sonderianus*, an adventive; John Stuart Yeates; etc.
 9b. **NZ BotSoc Newsletter.** Back issues: Nos. 1 (8/85) – 46 (12/96) \$2.50 ea; 47 (3/97) – 50 (12/97) \$3.00 ea; 51 (3/98) – 72 (6/03) \$5 ea; 73 (9/03) onwards \$7 ea.
 • *NZBotSoc, c/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Ave, CH 8001.*
- 10a. **Auckland Botanical Society Index to newsletters and journals, volumes 1 – 62, 1943 – 2007.** 75 p.
 10b. **Auckland BotSoc Journal 63 (1).** 6/08. 59 p.
 10c. **Auckland BotSoc Newsletter.** 5/08: *Pratia* now placed back into *Lobelia*, and four new species described.
 10d. **The Natural History of Rangitoto Island.** 2007. 192 p. \$35 incl p&p.
 • *Auckland BotSoc, PO Box 26 391, Epsom, AK 1344.*
11. **Botanical Society of Otago 54.** 6/08: Audrey Eagle becomes patron; BSO 2009 calendar; etc.
 • *BSO, PO Box 6214, North Dunedin.*
12. **A Checklist of the Flora of Arthur's Pass National Park (Vascular Plants).** 124 p.
 • *Canterbury Botanical Society, PO Box 8212, Riccarton, CH 8440.*
13. **Rotorua Botanical Society 50.** 5/08: Okareka mistletoe restoration project; Moawhiti, D'Urville Is; etc.
 • *Rotorua BotSoc, c/- The National Forestry Herbarium, Scion, Te Papa Tipu Innovation Park, PBag 3020, Rotorua 3046.*
- 14a. **Otari-Wilton's Bush.** 9/08: The natural area – where did all those species come from? (Rodney Lewington); outline history; etc.
 14b. **OWB Education Centre Te Mohoao.** Brochure re community initiative.
 • *Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust, 160 Wilton Rd, Wilton, WN 6012.*
15. **Canopy 48.** Mainland islands; weed survey in Pigeon Bush, Wairarapa; etc. **No. 49:** weed control in Pigeon Bush; etc.
 • *NZ Native Forests Restoration Trust, PO Box 80 007, Green Bay, AK 0643.*
16. **Recreating rare restiad wetlands in the Waikato.** M A Peters, B A Clarkson.
 • *NZ Landcare Trust, PO Box 4305, Hamilton.*
17. **Forest & Bird 328.** 5/08: Ulva Island regenerates; rat-free Rakiura?; Te Ara Kakariki Greenway Project in Canterbury; etc. **No. 329** 8/08: Karori Sanctuary progress; Shannel Courtney wins Loder Cup; Maori use of native plants; etc.
 • *Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, PO Box 631, WN 6140.*
18. **Rahui.** Winter 08: *Natural Wellington II*; Transition Towns; restoring your neighbourhood; Marine BioBlitz; Long Gully Bush Reserve; etc.
 • *Wellington Branch, Forest & Bird, PO Box 4183, WN.*
19. **Trees for Survival 6.** 6/08: Wellington regional co-ordinator appointed; etc.
 • *TfS, PO Box 51 684, Pakuranga, Manukau 2140.*
info@tfsnz.org.nz
20. **Friends of the Wellington Botanic Garden.** 5/08: *Prasophyllum hectori*; etc.
 • *FotWBG, PO Box 28 065, WN.*
21. **Friends of Owhiro Stream.** Brochure.
 • *Paul Blaschke 389 8545, paul.blaschke@xtra.co.nz*
22. **Mainland Island Restoration Operation.** Brochure.
 • *MIRO, PO Box 41 029, Eastbourne. Ph 562 7023,*
gail.abel@xtra.co.nz
23. **Pipipi 29.** 05/08: Hinewai now protects 1250 ha; 5421 possums trapped, and others poisoned; wilding pines control; *Coriaria sarmentosa* found; etc. Donations always welcome!
 • *Hinewai Reserve, RD3, Akaroa 7583.*
- 24a. **Tane's Tree Trust 12.** 9/07: kanuka; indigenous forest research; list of big totara; plantation kauri; etc. **No. 13** 1/08: black maire; native trees don't grow slowly; Planted Indigenous Forests Regulations 2007; etc. **No. 14** 5/08: susceptibility of native plants to insect attack; Afforestation Grant Scheme; kamahi; etc.
 24b. **Tane's Tree Trust – Native Trees for the Future.** Brochure, with vision, objectives, list of trustees, etc.
 • *TTT, c/- Ian Barton, PO Box 1169, Pukekohe. 09 239 2049.*
ibtrees@wc.net.nz
25. **Heritage.** Spring 2008: Caroline Lush, 19th century botanical artist – pp 32–33; etc.
 • *NZ Historic Places Trust, 04 472 4341,*
information@historic.org.nz, PO Box 2629, WN 6149.
- 26a. **The Natural History of Canterbury.** Edited by M Winterbourn, G Knox, C Burrows, I Marsden. 924 p, 661 photos, all colour. \$195.
 26b. **Living with natives.** Edited by Ian Spellerberg & Michelle Frey, photos by John Maillard. 224 p. \$44.95 incl p&p.
 • *Canterbury University Press, PBag 4800 CH.*
27. **Bay of Plenty Wetland Restoration Guide.**
 • See www.envbop.govt.nz
28. **Muelleria 26(2).** 2008: papers on *Craspedia*, two new *Pomaderris*, a new *Poa*, and new *Lachnagrostis* taxa; etc.
 • *Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, PBag 2000, Birdwood Ave, South Yarra, Victoria 3141. Muellaria@rbg.vic.gov.au*

Erratum

In the May newsletter we reported that Chris and Brian Rance had been acknowledged in the naming of a "newly discovered" buttercup, *Ranunculus ranceorum*. In fact, this is a new name and rank for the plant. The paper establishing the new name by P.J. de Lange and B.G. Murray is in the *NZ Journal of Botany* 46, published February 2008.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008

Some highlights

- A memorable trip to Great Barrier Island in February 2008
- Excellent speakers
- Establishing a self-guided botanical trail and brochure for Karori Sanctuary.
- A grant of \$3,000 from Wellington City Council towards *Bulletin 51*
- 1,000 post-paid envelopes from Community Post.

Membership

The Society had 287 members in August 2008. The membership includes 112 ordinary members, 52 groups/families, 61 country, 45 life and 7 student members. 26 new members joined during the year and the Committee cancelled 19 memberships after sending reminders.

Trips

Our regular trips continued to provide opportunities for members to visit new places and share or improve their plant identification skills. Plant lists prepared on our trips are passed to DOC and made available to wider audiences through the NZ Plant Conservation Network web site. Trip notes in the newsletter alert readers to significant finds and other trip highlights.

The Orama Christian Camp on Great Barrier Island provided a wonderful base for the summer trip. Catered evening meals meant nobody had to return early to prepare the evening meal, and staff did the evening washing up. Asking participants to arrange their own travel reduced booking issues but probably complicated the arrangements for travel between the airfield or ferry and Orama.

Meetings

This year's speakers have been stimulating, informative and very well prepared. The Committee hopes future speakers may be willing to provide abstracts so we can build a permanent record of key content and make it more widely available.

Members contributed slides, artworks, readings and commentaries to the Members' Evening in March. The new limit of 20 slides per person meant that the meeting finished at a more reasonable hour.

Communications

Newsletters

Our newsletters are valued by members in many parts of the country. Editor Chris Horne compiled the content for three newsletters and Jeremy Rolfe's professional production added to their quality. The 1000 post-paid envelopes from Community Post have enabled us to send newsletters to non-member organisations and individuals mentioned in each newsletter.

Web site: www.wellingtonbotsoc.wellington.net.nz

Richard Herbert has maintained the site for many years, and Julia White does an excellent job of ensuring that people contacting the Society via the website receive answers to their diverse queries and requests.

Bulletin 51

In August 2007, our Bulletin Editor John Sawyer advised that some articles for Bulletin 51 were close to completion. There has been some progress since then, including a new article recording the botanical results of the BioBlitz at Otari-Wilton's Bush. We await news of the delivery date. The Committee will assist with proof-reading.

Community outreach

Displays

Displays at several community events raised the Society's profile, increased awareness of native plants, and attracted new members. Barbara Mitcalfe designed the displays for ten years, and Mick Parsons and Sunita Singh have now picked up the challenge.

Karori Sanctuary Botanical Trail

After hard work by Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne over five years, visitors can now learn more about native plants in Karori Sanctuary from a self-guided botanical trail, illustrated brochure, glossary and plant list. New directional signage for the trail is being planned. The Society provided \$800 towards publication costs of the brochure.

Submissions

The Society prepared detailed submissions on a range of national and regional issues and local places. We've been told these submissions are influential in helping protect indigenous flora.

Awards

Jubilee Award

The Society's Jubilee Award for 2007, valued at \$2,500, went to Leon Perrie and Lara Shepherd for their research into the population genetics of *Pseudopanax ferox*. The purpose of the Award is to assist applicants to increase knowledge of the NZ's indigenous flora.

H.H. Allan Mere Award

The Society successfully nominated Dr Peter Johnson for the H.H. Allan Mere Award in 2007. Peter is our speaker in October 2008.

Loder Cup

The Society supported the nomination of Shannel Courtney for this award.

Student Field Grants

The Society made grants to support the fieldwork of three Victoria University students: Peter Martin, Mei Lin Tay and Gesine Pufal. Thanks to Prof Phil Garnock-Jones for helping administer these grants.

Wellington Secondary Schools Science Fair

The Society's 2007 Award went to Tariq Kader and Josiah Helson of Karori Normal School for their study of "Sweaty Plants".

Newsletter by e-mail?

If you would like to receive your Newsletter by e-mail, and thus help us to reduce our postage costs, please advise our Treasurer:

Rodney Lewington, WBS, PO Box 10 412, WN 6143.

Evening meetings August 2007 – July 2008

Date	Speaker	Topic	Number
20 Aug 07	Ewen Cameron	Vascular flora and some fauna of small northern NZ islands	60
17 Sep 07	David Sole	Otari-Wilton's Bush	51
15 Oct 07	VUW research students	Project reports	36
19 Nov 07	Colin Meurk	The seven dimensions of restoration ecology	43
18 Feb 08	Bruce Moorman	Trees in the urban environment	21
17 Mar 08	Members' evening		25
21 Apr 08	Leon Perrie and Lara Shepherd	Plants of south-western Australia	35
19 May 08	Murray Williams	Teaching restoration at VUW: Is the emphasis right?	40
16 Jun 08	Owen Spearpoint	Monitoring regional council lands	46
16 Jul 08	Rodney Lewington	Otari-Wilton's Bush - BioBlitz and the previous century.	35
Average			39

Field trips August 2007 – July 2008

Date	Leader	Destination	Number
4 Aug 07	Rodney Lewington and Sheelagh Leary	Belmont Regional Park and Korokoro Dam	13
1 Sep 07	Lara Shepherd and Leon Perrie	Mt Victoria, Town Belt	11
6 Oct 07	Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne	Pakuratahi Forest	12
3 Nov 07	Karen Palmer and Ann Evans	Whareroa Farm, Paekakariki	19
1 Dec 07	Robyn Smith	Pukerua Bay – Plimmerton	17
8 Dec 07	Dave Holey	Hutt City rata walk	20
30 Jan – 8 Feb 08	Shared	Aotea/Great Barrier Island	43
1 Mar 08	Chris Hopkins	Gracefield Scrub, Wainuiomata	10
21–24 Mar 08	Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne	Western Ruahine Range	13
5 Apr 08	Owen Spearpoint	Eastern Hutt Catchment	13
3 May 08	Bev Abbott	Korokoro-Maungaraki Bush	Cancelled
7 Jun 08	Mick Parsons	East Harbour Regional Park	12
5 Jul 08	Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne	Ngaio Reserves	14
Average			16

The Committee

The Committee held eight meetings in 2007/08, appreciating the comfort of members' homes as we tackled ambitious agendas. I thank all members for their support and contributions, particularly Robyn Smith and Dave Holey who are standing down after several years of service. Fortunately all other members are willing to stand again. It's often said nobody is indispensable, but it's hard to imagine BotSoc functioning without the experience, commitment and diverse skills of Rodney Lewington and Chris Horne.

Acknowledgements

Thanks and acknowledgements are due to many other people, especially our trip leaders, speakers and:

- Peter Beveridge for auditing the accounts
- Arnold and the late Ruth Dench for sharing their knowledge of special NZ plants and donating to the Jubilee Award Fund the proceeds from the sale of plants they had grown.
- Barry Dent for preparing address labels for the newsletters and Bulletin
- John Sawyer for editorship of Bulletin No. 51
- Prof Phil Garnock-Jones for arranging access to VUW lecture theatre M101.

End of term

Very sensibly, the Society's rules limit the term of the president to two years. As my term comes to an end, I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to lead such an amazing organisation. Thank you all for your support.

Bev Abbott

Working bees

20 Oct 07	Dench garden weeding	17
17 Nov 07	Te Marua Bush	10
23 Feb 08	Druce garden	12
14 June 08	Te Marua Bush	15
Average		13.5

2008/09 committee

At the 69th Annual General Meeting, held on 18 August, the following were elected:

President	Carol West	387 3396
Vice-Presidents	Sunita Singh	387 9955
	Bev Abbott	475 8468
Secretary	Barbara Clark	233 8202
Treasurer	Rodney Lewington	970 3142
Auditor	Peter Beveridge	237 8777
Committee	Frances Forsyth	384 8891
	Jill Goodwin	475 7248
	Richard Herbert	232 6828
	Chris Horne	475 7025
	Mick Parsons	473 1142
Bulletin editor	John Sawyer	472 5821 (w)

If an invoice is enclosed with this newsletter, please help BotSoc by paying your subscription promptly.

Patrick Brownsey awarded the Allan Mere for 2008

It was with great pleasure that I was able to announce Patrick as the recipient of the Allan Mere for 2008 at the AGM on 18 August. As we all know, Patrick is the primary expert on fern systematics in New Zealand and his book "New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants", co-authored with John Smith-Dodsworth, is the standard reference for fern identification. He's a fabulous teacher and BotSoc members have been fortunate to attend a number of workshops, field trips and lectures that he's led over the years. Patrick has been a member of BotSoc since the early 1970s when he came to New Zealand to a Postdoctoral position at Victoria University.

Wellington Botanical Society nominated Patrick for the Allan Mere and we were supported by Auckland, Manawatu and Otago Botanical Societies and some of his colleagues in doing so.

The presentation of the Allan Mere to Patrick will take place on Monday 20 October at our evening meeting where the guest speaker will be Peter Johnson, current holder of the Mere. Peter's talk is entitled "A very merry Mere". Anthony Wright, President, New Zealand Botanical Society, will present the Allan Mere to Patrick in person.

Carol West

Shannel Courtney wins the Loder Cup for 2008

The Loder Cup is New Zealand's premier conservation award. Gerald Loder donated the Loder Cup in 1926 to "encourage and honour New Zealanders who work to investigate, promote, retain and cherish our indigenous flora". In mid-July, the Minister of Conservation, Steve Chadwick, announced Shannel Courtney as this year's recipient. She said, "This award recognises Shannel's personal and professional commitment to protecting and restoring threatened indigenous plant life, particularly in the Nelson and Marlborough regions. Shannel was nominated by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and it is clear that he is highly respected by his colleagues as a leader in his field. Those supporting Shannel's nomination highlighted his support to others in plant conservation and botanical research. Shannel is also recognised for devoting his spare time to promoting, restoring and protecting our native plants, including work restoring 6ha of coastal northern rata-podocarp-mixed broadleaved forest on limestone bluffs at Pohara, Golden Bay. This is a wonderful example of the difference individuals can make in restoring natural environments on private land. Shannel's knowledge of the distribution and habitats of all NZ indigenous plants, especially threatened species, has made a huge contribution to conservation in NZ, and I congratulate and thank him as he joins other worthy recipients of this premier conservation award."

Congratulations from Wellington Botanical Society, Shannel!

Carol West

Financial Accounts for the year ended 31 June 2008

A copy of the audited accounts follow. The General Account shows a small surplus for the year after making several donation and transfers.

The usual transfers of funds from the general (operating) account to the Student Field Grant, equivalent to what we would pay in hire for the lecture room for monthly meetings, has been supplemented by an additional \$500. \$1,000 has been transferred from the General Account to the Jubilee Award Fund.

This will continue to build the capital value of these funds so that we can maintain the spending value of the awards. The transfers also help build a cushion so that, as interest rates drop, we don't face difficult decisions such as reducing the value of the award or spending capital.

The Society contributed \$800 towards the signage and brochure for the Botanical Trail in Karori Sanctuary.

The Jubilee Award Fund has increased to \$49,013 with donations, plant and card sales adding \$1,824 and interest \$3,795. One award of \$2,500 was made from this fund during the year.

Student Field Grants totalling \$1,400 were made during the year.

Total interest income during the year was \$8,189 compared with \$6,934 in the previous year. This has been allocated between the General Account and the award funds in proportion to their opening balances.

Investments at the end of the year are \$106,756 compared with \$102,137 at the start of the year. Total financial assets (Investments plus bank and savings account) are \$110,618. This is 5.5% more than the \$104,830 at the start of the year. This excludes the recent \$3,000 grant from Wellington City Council towards the cost of the upcoming bulletin.

The Society had \$11,800 invested with Tower Mortgage Plus Fund at the start of the financial year. This fund has now been closed and is being repaid at the rate of 10% per quarter. The Society continues to receive interest on the balance of the investment in the Tower fund.

2008-9 Subscription Rates

At the Annual General Meeting on 18 August 2008 the subscriptions for the coming year (ending 31 June 2009) were set at:

Ordinary membership	\$25 reducible to	\$20 if paid by 30 Nov. 2008,
Country membership	\$20 reducible to	\$15 if paid by 30 Nov. 2008
Group/family membership	\$30 reducible to	\$25 if paid by 30 Nov. 2008
Student membership	\$10 reducible to	\$5 if paid by 30 Nov. 2008

A yellow subscription notice is included with this newsletter if you have not already paid.

*Rodney Lewington
25 August 2008*

Wellington Botanical Society Inc.
Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 30 June 2008

General Account					
2007	Expenditure	2008	2007	Income	2008
1,633	Printing and Stationery	2,552	2,357	Ordinary subscription	1,840
1,230	Post and telephone	420	875	Country subscription	975
527	Meeting expenses	374	10	Student subscription	105
272	Sundry expenses	56	555	Group subscription	800
50	Subscriptions to other organisations	300	25	Subscriptions in arrears	105
			3,822	Total Subscriptions	3,825
250	Depreciation on equip.	200	3,290	Interest on investment	3,617
920	Transfer to Student Award Fund	1,470			
	Karori Sanctuary Botanical Trail contributiom	800	250	Contribution by DoC for Plant lists	
	NZ Plant Conservation Network "Sponsor a School"	80		Increase in stock of postage paid envelopes	350
1,104	Purchase of publications	13	1,258	Sale of publications	95
	Transfer to Jubilee Award Fund- surplus on sale of publications	78			
154					
2,000	Transfer to Jubilee Award Fund	1,000			
481	Surplus on General Account for the year	544			
8,620		7,887	8,620		7,887

Jubilee Award Fund					
2007	Expenditure	2008	2007	Income	2008
			38,150	Opening Balance	45,012
			2,000	Transfer from General Account	1,000
100	Science Fair Award	100	1,558	Donations	1,491
	Jubilee Award	2,500	154	Surplus on sale of publications	78
			262	Plant sales	233
			31	Card sales (net of cost)	22
45,012	Closing Balance	49,031	2,958	Interest on Investment	3,795
45,112		51,631	45,112		51,631

Tom Moss Student Award in Bryology					
2007	Expenditure	2008	2007	Income	2008
			1,213	Opening Balance	1,607
			300	Donations	350
1,607	Closing Balance	2,092	94	Interest on Investment	135
1,607		2,092	1,607		2,092

Student Field Grant					
2007	Expenditure	2008	2007	Income	2008
			7,637	Opening Balance	7,649
				Donation	5
1,500	Grants to Students	1,400	592	Interest on Investment	643
7,649	Closing Balance	8,367	920	Transfer from General Account	1,470
9,149		9,767	9,149		9,767

Provision for Bulletin					
2007	Expenditure	2008	2007	Income	2008
2,136	Printing Bulletin		9,066	Opening Balance	7,015
281	Distribution costs		366	Sale of bulletins	54
7,015	Closing balance	7,069			
9,433		7,069	9,433		7,069

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008					
2007	Liabilities	2008	2007	Assets	2008
2,010	Life Membership Fund	2,010	2,070	BNZ Current Account	1,698
				less unrepresented cheques	283
			623	BNZ Savings Account	2,477
45,012	Jubilee Award Fund	49,031	2,693	Bank Funds on current account	3,892
1,607	Tom Moss Student Award in Bryology	2,092			
7,649	Student Field Grant Fund	8,367	254	Computer less depreciation	203
			202	Fax Machines less depreciation	161
7,015	Provision for Bulletins	7,069	544	Display unit less depreciation	435
			96	Stocks of cards	160
			30	Projector*	30
			16	Stock of Bulletins*	16
			24	Camping Equipment*	24
				Stock of postage paid envelopes	350
13	Sundry creditors	2	223	Sundry debtors	0
	Accumulated fund as at 30 June 2007			Investments	
42,913	add surplus for the year	544.19	11,800	Tower Mortgage Plus Fund	10,620
	Accumulated fund at 30 June 2008	43,457	10,279	National Bank	10,915
			50,217	BNZ Finance	54,224
			29,841	Westpac Term Investment	30,997
					106,756
106,219		112,028	106,219		112,028

Note that the Society has a No. 2 Current Account used for handling moneys for field trips. At 30 June 2008 this had a credit of \$516. This account is not included above and is not subject to audit.

* The projector, stocks of old bulletins and camping equipment are held at a nominal value

I have examined the accounting records of the Wellington Botanical Society Inc. and have received all the explanations requested. I believe the accounts 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 Beveridge
Hon Auditor
Date 6 Aug 08

Bev Abbott's term on Conservation Board ends

Six years ago, BotSoc asked if I'd let my name go forward as a potential member of the Wellington Conservation Board. I agreed, and some months later, the letter arrived from the Minister of Conservation saying I'd been appointed for a three-year term. Three years later, again supported by a nomination from BotSoc, I was appointed for a second term. For two of those years, I chaired the Board.

I am extremely grateful to BotSoc for encouraging me in this direction. At times it's been hard work; at times it's been frustrating; but overall, it's been a valuable and rewarding learning experience.

Conservation boards' functions are limited to those set out in the Conservation Act, so they lack the freedom of non-government organisations such as BotSoc to decide what to do. Boards can advise DOC, but don't have any (governance) powers to tell DOC what to do. Members receive fees for attending meetings—\$140/day for (usually) 8-hr meetings, and IRD and ACC want their share. Field trips and site inspections, 1–2 a year, where Board members can talk with DOC staff about their achievements and challenges, more than compensate for the hours spent at meetings.

My main frustration, however, lies in the delay to the start of the process for reviewing the first Conservation Management Strategy for Wellington Conservancy (the Wellington CMS). Wellington's first CMS was approved by the NZ Conservation Authority in 1996. Under the Conservation Act, the Director General is required to review the CMS no later than 10 years after it was approved. The Minister, however, is able to extend the term of a CMS, and the term of Wellington's CMS has been extended twice, most recently to June 2010. The good news is that work on the Wellington review has started, and BotSoc is likely to be invited to be part of the informal consultation on a preliminary draft CMS later this year. We need to be ready to suggest "management objectives for indigenous species and their habitats and ecosystems" and to "identify and, where possible, prioritise the threats posed by pests to indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems" in Wellington Conservancy, and at particular special places. These purposes of CMSs come from the Conservation General Policy approved in 2005.

While waiting (and agitating) for the CMS review process to begin, the Wellington Conservation Board has prepared submissions on a wide range of conservation-related topics, some from DOC head office, some from other central government agencies, some from Greater Wellington Regional Council and others from local councils. This is where much of my learning has occurred, and it's always satisfying when draft plans and strategies are changed to reflect ideas we've put forward. It's also been possible, and quite legitimate, for ideas from BotSoc submissions to be reworded for inclusion in Board submissions, and vice versa. I had one amusing moment though when there was a contradiction between the submission I signed as Chair of the Board and the one I signed as President of BotSoc.

My time on the Board has now come to an end. I expect, however, that from time to time, I'll turn up for the Public Forums that the Board holds at all its meetings for people to tell the Board about conservation matters they care about.

My thanks again to BotSoc for the opportunity.

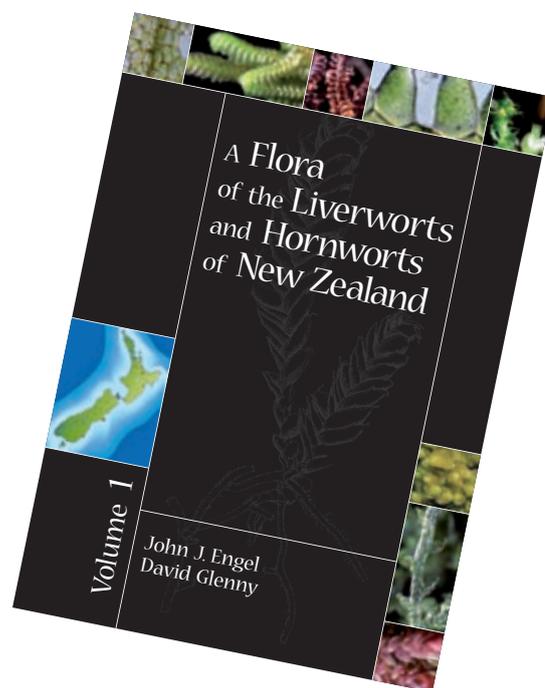
Bev Abbott

Liverworts and hornworts flora

A Flora of the Liverworts and Hornworts of New Zealand, Volume 1 by John J. Engel and David Glenny, published by Missouri Botanical Gardens Press, 2008.

ISBN: 9781930723672

hardback, colour photos, black & white illustrations
pages: viii + 898



This is an illustrated guide to an important component of NZ's green plant flora. The liverworts and hornworts, together with the mosses, make up the bryophytes. Liverworts are morphologically a more diverse group than the mosses in that they have both leafy and thallose forms, the leafy forms sometimes being mistaken for mosses. This volume, the first of three, deals with leafy liverworts, as will Volume 2; Volume 3 will deal with the remainder of the leafy liverworts, together with the thallose liverworts and the hornworts. Volume 1 provides keys and descriptions to 211 of the 595 liverwort species, and provides a key to all genera of the largest order, the *Jungermanniales*. It provides detailed notes on distribution and habitat, and discussions under the family and genus descriptions place the NZ flora in the context of the world liverwort and hornwort flora. To complement the descriptions, 172 black-and-white plates illustrate details of many of the species and 101 colour images illustrate almost all of the 60 genera in this volume.

Volume 1 includes a detailed Introduction, which presents a history of exploration of the NZ flora; provides a detailed overview of the region's climate, geology, and vegetation; and includes a special contribution on endophytic fungi associates in NZ liverworts and their ecological and evolutionary significance.

When this three-volume flora is completed, it will be the first flora for these two groups of bryophytes since Hooker's 1864–1867 *Handbook of the New Zealand Flora*.

Available to BotSoc members from Manaaki Whenua Press for \$144.00 + \$7 delivery within NZ (full retail price is \$160.00 plus delivery). Online orders at www.mwpress.co.nz or email mwpress@landcareresearch.co.nz

To ensure you receive your discount please identify yourself as a BotSoc member when ordering!

Percy Scenic Reserve

Excell Corporation has been sold

Excell, my employer, has been sold to Downer EDI Works and Transpacific Industries, with sale completion by 30/9/08. Little information has been received, so senior management have told us that it is business-as-usual.

SH2 re-alignment

A permanent fence has been erected on the road frontage, south of the culvert, to protect the rear of the threatened species garden. We are waiting for Fletcher-Higgins to erect the permanent nursery fence.

The Dowse Drive interchange work is progressing and should be completed by February 2009. Once it is operational, the caretaker's house will be relocated to the north end of Dowse Drive by the new entrance to the reserve. The retaining wall has been built and clad with ponga battens on the north bank.

An *Olearia hectorii* tree, transplanted from the old house garden to near the new vehicle bridge, has adapted to its new position and seems to be in good health. It has gone through the deciduous stage over winter and has buds awaiting spring.

Threatened plants from the Chatham Islands

The Chatham Island collection garden has been expanded. There are now two sites, one by the waterwheel between the boardwalk and SH2, which is mainly shaded, and sometimes partly inundated with water, and a sunny, dry, site 30 m away between SH2 and the car park lawn.

Current plant species include:

<i>Aciphylla dieffenbachii</i>	<i>Leptinella potentillina</i>
<i>Astelia chathamica</i>	<i>Libertia peregrinans</i>
<i>Carex ventosa</i>	<i>Linum monogynum</i> var.
<i>Carex chathamica</i>	<i>chathamicum</i>
<i>Coprosma acerosa</i>	<i>Meliclytus chathamicus</i>
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> var.	<i>Myrsine coxii</i>
<i>martinii</i>	<i>Olearia traversii</i>
<i>Cortaderia turbaria</i>	<i>Phormium</i> aff. <i>tenax</i>
<i>Embergeria grandifolia</i>	<i>Pratia arenaria</i>
<i>Euphorbia glauca</i>	<i>Pseudopanax chathamicus</i>
<i>Hebe dieffenbachii</i>	<i>Rhopalostylis</i> aff. <i>sapida</i>
<i>Hebe chathamica</i>	<i>Schoenus</i> sp.

Recent acquisitions from Otari-Wilton's Bush include *Embergeria grandifolia*, *Olearia traversiorum*, *O. semidentata*, and *O. chathamica* which will be grown on and planted next year.

Brachyglottis huntii has been planted at both garden sites, but unfortunately has not liked the conditions. It can be seen elsewhere in the reserve, just north of the information board, and between the public toilets and the new bridge.

GRWC – water quality

Greater Wellington Regional Council has been checking water quality in "Percy Stream" during the re-development. Frances Forsyth said the quality is good, and there are several kokopu, large native freshwater fish, in the lower area of the stream.

Jill Broome
Plant Collections Supervisor
Percy Scenic Reserve, Petone

Clean sweep for Wellington region in national plant conservation awards for 2008

The Wellington region achieved a clean sweep of national plant conservation awards for 2008. They were presented in Wellington on 9 August, by Ian Spellerberg, President, NZ Plant Conservation Network.

"These awards acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by individuals, schools, communities, nurseries and councils in protecting our globally important native plants" Ian said. The awards were:

Life-time achievement

Winners: *Barbara Mitcalfe and Chris Horne*

These are two of the most passionate plant people in Wellington. Stalwarts of Wellington Botanical Society, and highly regarded as botanists and wise minds in the plant conservation world, they are truly amazing, inspirational people who have assisted with hundreds of plant surveys and planting projects, and guided botanical walks and BotSoc trips.

Individual

Winner: *Arnold Dench*

In the 1950s, Arnold, with his wife, Ruth, began converting a steep, wind-swept paddock in Newlands, Wellington, into a native plant garden of national importance. Since then, they have specialised in our alpine flora, e.g. *Celmisia*, *Myosotis*, *Wahlenbergia*, *Ourisia*, *Ranunculus*, ground covers, grasses and grass-like plants, learning, by trial and error, how to germinate the seeds, grow on the seedlings, and raise them to adulthood. Arnold has provided threatened plant material to Percy Scenic Reserve, Lower Hutt, and Otari-Wilton's Bush, Wellington, and at other times, accepted seed and specimens from these reserves, and from botanists around NZ, for growing on, and return. Arnold and Ruth have always been ready to pass on what they have learnt about the cultivation and horticultural use of our native plants, and as keen to learn from others. Arnold's knowledge of our alpine flora, his readiness to share that knowledge, his exchanges of plant material, and his presentations on alpine plants, have made an outstanding contribution to the profile of our threatened native plants.

School

Winners: *Kelburn School Gully Project*

In 1999, Kelburn School's community began returning a weedy gully to its native state, using eco-sourced plants recorded in the ecologically contiguous Wellington Botanic Garden bush areas.

Nursery

Winners: *Berhampore Nursery - Wellington City Council*

Each year Berhampore Nursery Manager, Jonathan Bussell, and his team, produce 100,000 eco-sourced plants for use throughout the city in restoration programmes, rehabilitation plantings, streamside and wetland plantings, and for schools. There are few parts of the city, from its coastal margins to the grey scrublands on Mt Kaukau, that the staff have not been planting. They are an invaluable resource that supports the community at large.

Community

Winners: Waitohu Stream Care Inc.

This group was formed in 1999 to restore the riparian margins of Waitohu Stream, Horowhenua. They have produced thousands of native seedlings in their nursery, and planted them to stabilise the banks of the stream and provide habitat for fauna.

Council

Winners: Greater Wellington Regional Council

Greater Wellington lead several programmes in the region, including habitat protection, community restoration days, co-ordinating plant groups, undertaking pest control. They are achieving great things for plant conservation.

The NZ Plant Conservation Network is the largest non-governmental organisation devoted solely to protecting NZ's unique plant life (see www.nzpcn.org.nz). For more information about the Network, the awards, photographs from the ceremony, and for contact details of award winners:

John Sawyer, Secretary,
NZ Plant Conservation Network
M: 0210 583894
T: 04 470 8427 (w)

Matiu matters

Forest and Bird has done limited planting on Matiu/Somes Island this season. The days of mass planting ended when most of the designated areas were filled. We have been cutting out ngaio to open the canopy for successional species, and locating small areas to plant. We have never seen the ground so sodden, and one planting day was cancelled as a result.

Peter Russell, on a DOC contract, has been removing weeds, including native species that are not naturally occurring in Wellington Ecological District, e.g. lacebark/*Hoheria populnea*, karo, and *Pseudopanax lessonii* hybrids.

Peter has written a seventeen-page report: *Recommendations for secondary planting under (planted) forest and shrubland canopies on Matiu/Somes Island*. In it, he notes that forest-floor species are missing, except for tree seedlings – a good sign, and a few ferns. Appendix A includes Stan Butcher's 2006 list of twenty-five candidates for planting in the understorey. Appendix B (12 pages) compares the status of species found on Miramar Peninsula, and on Whitireia, with their presence on Matiu/Somes. The fifty species listed as "Absent" are not all understorey species of course. Appendix C lists the shade-loving species recommended for secondary planting on the island: dicot trees & shrubs—8; dicot lianes & trailing plants—3; ferns—14; sedges—4; monocot herbs, other than orchids, grasses, sedges and rushes—1. That plant is *Libertia ixioides*, found on the island in 1981 during Stan's initial survey, then raised from seed, and planted back on the island. Peter completes his report with an aerial photo of the island divided into 48 sites for the planting of shade-loving species, fourteen of which he suggests for propagation "in the near future". This is an opportunity for BotSoccers to offer assistance!

Stan Butcher

New members

We welcome the following:

Dave and Darlene Adams, Ian & Gwenyth Armitage, Nicky Holt, Bob & Colleen McClymont, Allan Munro, Robert & Andrea Oliver, Nicky Oliver Smith, Phil Parnell, Julia Stanley, Kate Zwartz.

"Complete" list of environmental weeds

A 'Consolidated List' of environmental weeds in NZ has been compiled by DOC to improve consistency for what have been referred to as 'DOC weeds'. This list comprises 328 vascular plant species. The report notes that two-thirds of environmental weeds have been deliberately introduced as ornamental plants. Ominously it predicts that the rate of new naturalisations shows no sign of abating, so it is expected that the 'Consolidated List' will continue to grow. The report, written by Clayson Howell, can be downloaded from the DOC website:

www.doc.govt.nz/upload/documents/science-and-technical/drds292.pdf

Chris Rance is Regional Gardener of the Year for Southland

Invercargill-based BotSoccer, Chris Rance, is the regional winner for Southland in the Gardener of the Year competition. She's in the running to be National Gardener of the Year, but **for her to win that title she needs your vote**. Voting forms are in this month's issue of *NZ Gardener*. Entries close on 30 September. Note: you must use the official form from *NZ Gardener*.

Carol West

Map found

We found a *Great Barrier Island* 1: 50 000 Infomap 336-02, edition 1 1996, at Orama Camp. It was purchased at Mainly Tramping in Wellington. If it is yours, please ring Chris at 475 7025.

Letters to the editor

We would welcome your comments on any aspect of BotSoc's activities:

- places you would like to visit on field trips
- topics you would like to have covered in evening meetings
- topics you would like covered in BotSoc's Bulletin and Newsletter
- other matters of concern or interest to you.

Thank you

The committee

Nominations sought

Who should BotSoc nominate for:

- Loder Cup?
- H. H. Allan Mere Award?
- Conservation Award?

Your suggestions would be welcome! Please send them to:

Barbara Clark, Secretary, WBS, PO Box 10 412, WN 6143. Ph 233 8202, fax 233 2222, bj_clark@xtra.co.nz

QEII Trust Open Space Covenants

The trust has recently registered the following Open Space Covenants in the Wellington region:

- Horowhenua D.C./Jones, Fluker & Brandon – 1.7 ha forest
- Kapiti Coast D.C./Blair & Macdonald – 0.6 ha wetland
- Kapiti Coast D.C./Fisher & Caughley – 1.4 ha forest
- Kapiti Coast D.C./Fraser – 0.5 ha forest
- Kapiti Coast D.C./Jentime Holdings Ltd – 2.0 ha forest
- Tararua D.C./Blatchford – 3.2 ha forest & wetland
- Tararua D.C./Ireland & Olesen – 59.4 ha forest
- Tararua D.C./Thomson & Smyth – 4.7 ha forest & treeland
- Tararua D.C./Wyfield Farm Ltd – 8.9 ha forest
- Masterton D.C./Stuart – 4.8 ha forest & wetland
- South Wairarapa D.C./Skerman, De Latour, Todd & Murphy – 12.9 ha archaeological feature, landscape & treeland

Source: *Open Space* 73, 7/08

For information on covenanting indigenous plant communities, or other natural features, on your property, contact: *QEII National Trust*, Box 3341, WN 6140. Ph 472 6626. *Wellington Regional Representative: Lisa Clapcott*, ph 06 364 2207, lclapcott@openspace.org.nz

BotSoc Bulletins

Expand your collection of our “flagship” publication and boost BotSoc’s bank balance! The following back issues are available at a cost \$3 per issue, incl. p&p; \$12 for any five issues incl. p&p.:

1950s: 23 (9/50); 30 (12/58).

1960s: 32 (12/61); 33 (2/66); 34 (11/67); 36 (12/69).

Index to Bulletins Nos. 1-35.

1970s: 37 (11/71); 38 (9/74); 39 (10/76); 40 (8/78).

1980s: 41 (9/81); 42 (9/85); 43 (4/87); 44 (11/88).

1990s: 46 (12/94); 47 (9/96).

2000s: 48 (9/02), 49 (12/05).

Copies of our latest *Bulletin*, 50 (3/07), are \$11 each incl. p&p, to members and other individuals, and \$21 each incl. p&p to organisations.

Please make your cheque payable to Wellington Botanical Society, PO Box 10 412, Wellington 6143. Thank you!

Rodney Lewington
Treasurer

National Pollination Survey (NPS)

The purpose of the NPS is to survey bird-plant mutualisms throughout NZ. We are using the pollination service for tree fuchsia as an indicator of the health and wellbeing of our native ecosystems. This is part of research run jointly by Landcare Research, DOC, and University of Canterbury.

We need your assistance. We need lots of people to complete the survey from many locations all over NZ this summer! Please help by completing the survey for a tree fuchsia population near you. Even if there are only two or three tree fuchsia near you, the data you collect are valuable.

For more information, and survey forms, visit:
www.biol.canterbury.ac.nz/pollination_survey/

Jenny Ladley
Research Assistant
School of Biological Sciences
University of Canterbury

NIWA Science Fair prize for botany

The Wellington Botanical Society \$100 prize for the best exhibit of a project involving NZ native plants was awarded to Louis Olsen-Stahl, a year 10 pupil at Wellington College.

The NIWA Wellington Science and Technology Fair, held 20–23 August 2008, attracted almost 400 entries, of which a dozen had a botanical theme. Louis entered his project “Sick of gorse – better wait”. This presented the results of a study of succession in coastal forest in East Harbour Regional Park.

The carefully thought-out project, from hypothesis through design, field work and analysis, to conclusion, was clearly expressed in his presentation. Louis concluded that there are more influences on succession than he thought at the start, but his results did support the hypothesis that gorse makes a good nursery for native forest.

Congratulations Louis.

Rodney Lewington



Regeneration on the Eastbourne hills. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

Taputeranga Marine Reserve
For any Conservation-related illegal activity,
call the 24-hour conservation emergency helpline

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468
For Search & Rescue—call 111

All other enquiries to your local DOC office or visit our
website www.govt.nz

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai
New Zealand Government

Conservation Information Centre

Government Buildings, Lambton Quay

Track and hut information • hut tickets •
hunting permits •

Kapiti Island Nature Reserve visitor permits •
conservation publications

Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4.30 p.m. • Sat 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Sun closed

General enquiries tel: 04 472 7356

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

TRIP REPORTS

7 June 2008: Kaitawa, Ridge and Ferry Road tracks, East Harbour Regional Park

This is a small section of the Eastbourne hills, but it boasts a rich list of native botanical delights for an area so close to urban Wellington; surprising perhaps, as the tracks are well-worn and used by many locals. The trackside plants bear the brunt of this heavy traffic, the attention of loose dogs, goats, deer and possums. However it was obvious that the 50-strong pest-control group, MIRO, is having an influence with its bait-station network and trapping.

The track begins immediately above York Bay and follows a small gully amid recovering kohekohe forest. Among the usual suspects associated with moist gullies around Wellington, it was hard to miss, next to the stream, the sprawling parataniwha, *Elatostema rugosum*, that is considered to have resulted from a garden escape. As we made our way out of the gully, a few large hard beech, *Nothofagus truncata* gave way to a canopy of predominantly black beech, *Nothofagus solandri* var. *solandri*. We noted how well the filmy ferns *Hymenophyllum demissum*, *H. bivalve*, *H. rarum* and *H. sanguinolentum* had rejuvenated after the long dry autumn. We also saw the local houhere, *Hoheria populnea*, that is not weedy here as it is in Wellington city. Freshly emerged along the track

were the flowers of an extensive area of *Diplodium alobulum* and *Diplodium trullifolium*, and slightly off the track were a few heart-leaved orchids, *Acianthus sinclairii*. We were also treated to Barbara Mitcalfe's 'spotting' the differences for us between *Drymoanthus adversus* and *D. flavus* attached to beech tree trunks near the track, and at two sites, another epiphytic orchid, *Ichthyostomum pygmaeum*.

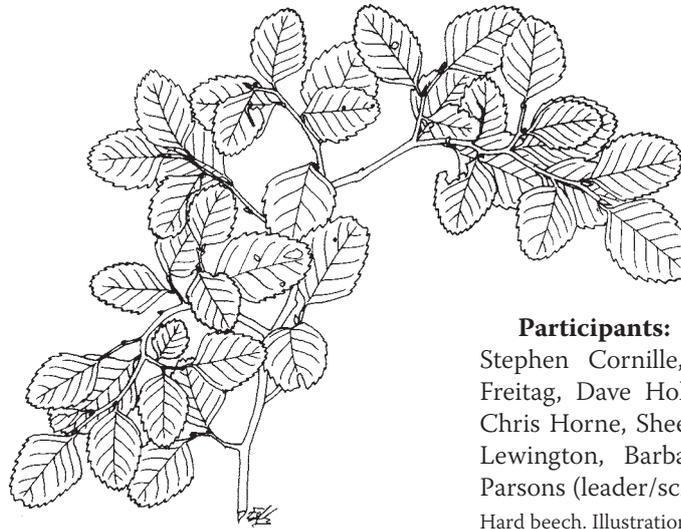
A strong westerly was roaring above by the time we had reached the Ridge Track. Still sheltered, we descended Ferry Road Track amid

the predominantly beech-kamahahi forest, interspersed with some large, terrestrial, northern rata, *Metrosideros robusta*. The lower part of the track opens out into an area of recently felled *Pinus radiata*, and though there are many adventive plant species, the area is reverting to native scrub at an impressive rate. Looking across to the adjacent ridge, we could see a mature beech stand, now dead after being flattened by northerly gales since the pine removal. A new cohort is now apparent, but it served to illustrate the complexities involved in native forest management under disturbance that may appear unrelated.

Thankfully the heavy rain and sleet forecast for late in the day held off until we were well off this exposed site and on our way home.

Participants: Roger Brown, Stephen Cornille, Barry Dent, Sue Freitag, Dave Holey, Chris Hopkins, Chris Horne, Sheelagh Leary, Rodney Lewington, Barbara Mitcalfe, Mick Parsons (leader/scribe), Carol West.

Hard beech. Illustration: Eleanor Burton.



5 July 2008: Ngaio reserves

"It's snowing in Highbury!" exclaimed Rodney and Darea, leaping from their new (!) vehicle to join us at Ngaio Station after our rickety-rackety train journey. Fortunately, further rain (or was it sleet?) held off, and we had dry weather all day. As we botanised little-known Heke Reserve tucked away off Collingwood St, we admired very large tōtara, pukatea, mānuka and tawa, with many kohekohe flowering profusely. Notable also for their size, were ngaio, perhaps descendants of those after which the suburb was named. Beside the track, Rodney showed us the cosmopolitan, thalloid liverwort, *Lunularia cruciata*, its crescent-shaped splash-cups, resembling, (but to be distinguished from), those of *Marchantia* spp. Later, as we climbed towards Huntleigh Park, a panoramic view of western

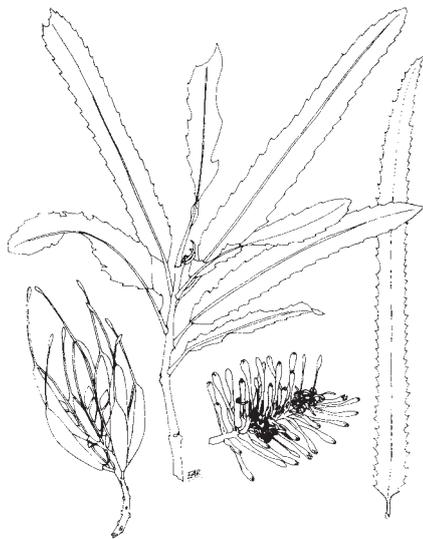
Wellington gradually unfolded below us. From Huntleigh Park Way in Ngaio, the park extends over 20.5 ha. of south-facing gullies and spurs down to "Silver Stream", a branch of "Korimako Stream", in Crofton Downs. Once in the park, we were under a kohekohe-dominant canopy, with three rātā vine species, ground-cover of threadfern, *Asplenium* spp. and *Lastreopsis* spp. Near our scroggin stop, we saw a hybrid *Melicope simplex* × *M. ternata*, also a c. 7 m lancewood, d.b.h. c. 50 cm. We observed that abundant karaka seedlings already have the potential to become a problem throughout this significant, podocarp/broadleaf forest managed by Greater Wellington as a Key Native Ecosystem, on behalf of its several owners, some private. Two main spur crests support stands of tōtara, mataī and miro, with occasional

rimu and kahikatea, estimated at c. 100 years old. Chris and I hope that *Metrosideros robusta*, northern rātā, will also one day be recorded alive here, because about 15 years ago we found a still-standing, dead one, c. 40 cm d.b.h., on the lower slopes. Please let us know if you see northern rātā anywhere in the park.

Some participants left the party here to catch the train, or return to their cars, left at Ngaio Station. The others carried on through Trellissick Park, to round off a very good day in these significant, Wellington ecosystems. We entered the park at the Waikowhai St entrance, descended to "Korimako Stream", went down valley passing revegetation and weed-control sites, then climbed towards the Northern Walkway. We saw two large kamahahi, then Jonathan showed

us a ponga/silver fern with about eight trunks, a big kahikatea, matai, totara and kanuka, and a milk tree. Later, on a track that sidles high on the True Left of Ngaio Gorge, under tall tawa, titoki and rewarewa forest, we saw the maidenhair fern, *Adiantum fulvum*. This forest, damaged by wind-throw in storms in recent years, is still the most impressive in the park.

Participants: Jonathan Anderson, Ros Batcheler, Barbara Clark, Barry Dent, Glenys Evans, Sue Freitag, Nicola Holt, Chris Horne (co-leader/scribe), Rodney Lewington, Ann Mitcalfe, Barbara Mitcalfe (co-leader/scribe), Darea Sherratt, Julia Stace.



Rewarewa. Illustration: Eleanor Burton.

2 August 2008: Grays Bush

We had intended a double-banger trip to Pauatahanui Inlet Reserve, then Grays Bush, but lots of earlier rain, plus high tide, made us cancel the Pauatahanui portion of the trip, save for presentations organised in advance. We were treated to a history of the wetland area by Wanda Tait, a well-known stalwart of the restoration project. It was a surprise to those of us who knew only of the current, restored, state of the wetland, to hear of the “interesting” uses parts had been put to in earlier times, and of the mess that the restoration people found in various places. Ros Batcheler summarised results of three major Ornithological Society (OSNZ) bird surveys in the Inlet, and there were some more surprises with the massive fluctuations in counts of some species over 20-odd years. We thank Stan Butcher, Wanda, and Roy Slack, for

providing plant lists, sadly not used but available for next time.

We repaired to the north side of the inlet and surveyed Grays Bush, in the best weather for a week and surprisingly firm under-foot conditions. Grays Bush, about 2.5 ha, is owned by Alan Gray and Christine Stanley, and has been fenced off from stock for several decades. Alan has seven possum bait-stations in the bush, and the overall good health of this coastal forest remnant is testament to the owners’ foresight and effort. There was quite good ground cover, including numerous kohekohe seedlings. Karaka was also coming away. Christine said that the smaller ground-dwelling plants are much less happy in dry summers, because there is no permanent water. Even in the midst of the wettest winter in some years, there was surprisingly little water in the small gullies. A partial ring of large macrocarpas helps to minimise the edge-effect. There were some nice podocarps, and highlights for many were the splendid specimens of ewekuri, *Streblus banksii* and türepo, *Streblus heterophyllus*. The winter-flowering greenhood, *Diplodium alobulum*, was putting on a nice show. After making some additions to the species list prepared by Lesley Barnes during her 2004 survey, we were ushered into Christine’s and Alan’s house, as the heavens opened, for tea, coffee and beautiful food. We thank them for their marvellous hospitality and for allowing us to share their forest.

Participants who braved the appalling weather forecast were: Ros Batcheler, Barbara Clark, Rae Collins, Barry Dent (scribe), Sue Freitag (leader), Alan Gray, Nicola Holt, Chris Hopkins, Chris Horne, Sheelagh Leary, Rodney Lewington, Cath Mathews, Barbara Mitcalfe, Mick Parsons, Darea Sherratt, Roy Slack, Christine Stanley, Wanda Tait, Carol West, Julia White.

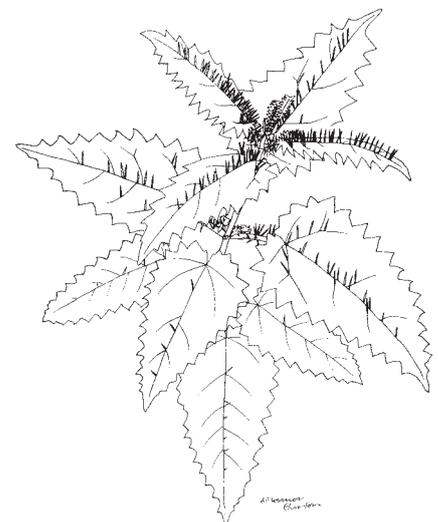
6 September 2008: Dry Creek DOC reserve, Belmont Regional Park

Torrential rain in the early morning, and a forecast that was not promising until the afternoon, almost prompted cancellation of this trip. However, it was too late to contact some members, so I went to the rendezvous, and found five BotSoccers ready to go. Of course the rain had stopped and didn’t return! The difference in rainfall and wind between Wellington and the Hutt Valley was dramatic. Dry Creek was up, so we concentrated on the Dry Creek Loop track which is mostly in regenerating bush. We had no species list, so started from scratch, listing:

- eleven tree species, including kahikatea, nikau, black beech—at its southern limit in the North Island—titoki, tawa, rewarewa, pukatea, and northern rata
- thirteen shrub and small tree species common in regenerating forests in the region, including putaputaweta, tutu, koromiko, manuka, five-finger and ongaonga
- five liane species, including supplejack and white clematis
- sixteen fern species, including sickle spleenwort, crown fern and four species of tree fern
- four monocot herb species, including *Astelia fragrans* and *A. solandri*

We recorded the following weed species: broom, *Buddleja davidii*, gorse, Spanish heath and balm of Gilead.

Participants: Barbara Clark, Rae Collins, Sheena Hudson (leader/scribe), Brenda Johnston, Sheelagh Leary, Chris Moore.



Ongaonga. Illustration: Eleanor Burton.

WELLINGTON BOTANICAL SOCIETY SUMMER TRIP

16–26 January 2009: Westport and Karamea area

Information and registration form

The summer trip in January 2009 will be based in Westport and Karamea. We arrive on 16/1/09 at Westport, move to Karamea on 21/1/09. and leave Karamea on 26/1/09.

Transport

Please find your own way to Westport. Once there we can arrange transport to lodgings and activities from the town centre or the airport. If coming from Wellington, you may choose:

1. Aircraft. There are 2 daily flights from Wellington to Westport.
2. Ferry, or Sounds Air flight, to Picton, then bus to Westport. K-bus and InterCity connect with the ferry departing Wellington at 8.25 a.m. (arriving in Picton at 11.25 a.m.), and with the Sounds Air flight arriving at 12.40 p.m. The bus arrives in Westport at 7 p.m., travelling via Nelson.
3. Car via either Bluebridge or Interislander ferries. If you are driving, you may choose to take other people. Please indicate this on the registration form below.
4. If you are travelling on the ferry without a vehicle, it may be possible to put you in touch with someone who has space in their car. If you do need assistance, please contact Mick. mtparsons@paradise.net.nz

If you are coming from other regions, we trust you can find your own way. Please let us know when you plan to arrive and leave, on the registration form below.

Should you wish to arrive later, or leave earlier, during the 10-day trip, a regular bus service to/from Karamea leaves Westport 11.30 a.m. and Karamea 7.50 a.m. Mon-Sat. Please make your own arrangements to use these services.

For those without their own transport, we will be able to hire local transport to go to botanical sites in Westport and in Karamea. This will be necessary if there is not sufficient space in our own vehicles.

Accommodation

We have booked cabins for 35 people at Westport and at Karamea. Tent sites are available at both; we will book those when we have some idea of the number of people requiring sites.

The first 5 nights will be based at Westport Holiday Park www.westportholidaypark.co.nz/.

Cabins \$22/person/night; 2 motel units available if booked early \$95/night for 2 persons; tent sites \$14/person/night.

Karamea Holiday Park www.karamea.com/ has cabins \$15/person/night; motels \$65/night for 2 persons and \$15 for each extra adult; tent sites \$11 person/night.

Pillows and mattresses are provided in cabins at both locations but you will need to bring pillowcases and bedding. You can hire these by advising the Holiday Parks in advance.

Please note cabins numbers are limited, and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. You will be asked to pay for your accommodation when you leave.

Meals

We will cater for all meals (breakfasts, lunches, dinners) from dinner on 16/1/09 to lunch on 26/1/09.

Cost, less deposit, will be charged for at the end of the trip.

Please bring a cup, cutlery and plate for the Karamea leg of the trip.

Possible botanical trips

- Cape Foulwind, Nile River and pakihi terraces near Westport
- Denniston
- Millerton Ecological Park
- Charming Creek
- Fenian Walkway (Karamea)
- Heaphy Track to Scotts Beach

Collection permits

We will be applying for a DOC permit to collect specimens for identification and education. If you want to take specimens for other specific purposes, it may be possible to include your needs in the general permit—let Mick know by the end of September—or you can arrange your own permit.

Registration

Bookings close **31 October**.

Accommodation is limited. If you do not indicate by this date, you may miss out.

If you are thinking of going and it is not possible for you to indicate with some certainty by 31 October, *please* let the trip co-ordinator, Mick Parsons, know either by:

Phone: 04 972 1148 or 027 249 9663 (it is possible to leave a message on both), or *e-mail:* mtparsons@paradise.net.nz

A \$200 per person deposit is required with each booking (for food and possible transport). Any balance is to be paid on receipt of the invoice at the end of the trip.

Heaphy Track

If you are considering tramping the Heaphy Track after the field trip, please contact Mick Parsons if you would like him to book “Great Walk” hut tickets for you.

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 (.....)

Post code

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 \$25; Country \$20; Student \$10. Group / family \$30.

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:

Wellington Botanical Society Inc., PO Box 10 412, Wellington 6143

My cheque is enclosed for	Ordinary membership	\$.....
	Country membership	\$.....
	Student membership	\$.....
	Group / family membership	\$.....
	Donation	\$.....
	TOTAL	\$.....

Authority to release your name, address and phone number to other members of the Society

The Society holds the names and addresses of all members to use for post-outs of newsletters etc.

The committee sees benefit in circulating the membership list to all members. This is done by many societies to enhance social interaction as well as being of practical value.

Under the Privacy Act the circulation of names on such lists requires the approval of the individual members.

If you are agreeable to your name and address being on the circulated list please sign the authorisation below.

I agree to my name, address and telephone number being on the membership list to be circulated to members of Wellington Botanical Society. I understand that this list is to be used only by members, and that the circulated list will include the caveat that the list is for social and society use and is not to be used for any other purpose. Specifically the list is not to be used for marketing, soliciting, or political purposes.

(Please make any changes you require)

Name..... Signed..... Date / / 08

Name..... Signed..... Date / / 08

If you do not agree it would assist processing if you would please put a line through paragraphs above and return the sheet unsigned.