

NEW ZEALAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 58

DECEMBER 1999



New Zealand Botanical Society

President: Jessica Beever
Secretary/Treasurer: Anthony Wright
Committee: Bruce Clarkson, Colin Webb, Carol West
Address: c/- Canterbury Museum
Rolleston Avenue
CHRISTCHURCH 8001

Subscriptions

The 2000 ordinary and institutional subs are \$18 (reduced to \$15 if paid by the due date on the subscription invoice). The 2000 student sub, available to full-time students, is \$9 (reduced to \$7 if paid by the due date on the subscription invoice).

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New subscriptions are always welcome and these, together with back issue orders, should be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer (address above).

Subscriptions are due by 28 February of each year for that calendar year. Existing subscribers are sent an invoice with the December *Newsletter* for the next year's subscription which offers a reduction if this is paid by the due date. If you are in arrears with your subscription a reminder notice comes attached to each issue of the *Newsletter*.

Deadline for next issue

The deadline for the March 2000 issue (Number 59) is 25 February 2000.

Please forward contributions to: Joy Talbot
23 Salmond Street
Christchurch 8002

Contributions should be sent by e-mail to m.king@irl.cri.nz. Files can be in WordPerfect (version 7 or earlier), MS Word (version 6 or earlier) or saved as RTF or ASCII. Graphics can be sent as Corel 5, TIF or BMP files. Alternatively b/w photos or line drawings can be posted. Macintosh files cannot be accepted so text should simply be embedded in the email message.

Cover Illustration

Stereocaulon ramulosum with basal cephalodia which house cyanobacteria. This widespread lichen colonises bare soil and is commonly seen on roadside cuttings. Drawn by **Lloyd Esler**, 15 Mahuri Road, Invercargill.

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NEWS

New Zealand Botanical Society News

■ From the Secretary

Nominations for Officers and Committee positions for the New Zealand Botanical Society for 2000 received by the closing date of 20 November 1999 were:

President	Jessica Beever
Secretary/Treasurer	Anthony Wright
Committee	Bruce Clarkson, Colin Webb, Carol West

As the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies there is no need for a postal ballot and the above are declared elected.

The Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Joy Talbot as *Newsletter* Editor for 2000. Joy becomes a member of the Committee ex officio. Joy has an MSc in plant ecology, and has worked at the Centre for Resource Management at Lincoln University. She currently manages an intensively planted hectare of land – more a way of life than a lifestyle block! Joy is an experienced editor having edited the NZ Limnological Society Newsletter and the Canterbury Rhododendron Society Newsletter.

The minutes of the Society's General Meeting held 17 June 1999 are reproduced below.

Subscriptions for 2000 remain unchanged from this year. An invoice is attached to this issue of the *Newsletter*. Please pay promptly and take advantage of the substantial discount for prompt payment.

On behalf of the Committee and all members, I'd like to record a big vote of thanks to Dr Carol West who has cheerfully and very professionally undertaken the role of *Newsletter* Editor for the past two years. This is a very substantial voluntary contribution from an already extremely busy and involved person – we salute you, Carol, and say a heartfelt thank you!

Finally, we wish all members of the Society the compliments of the season.

Anthony Wright, Secretary, New Zealand Botanical Society, C/- Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, Christchurch 8001

■ Minutes of a general meeting of the New Zealand Botanical Society held in Stewart Lecture Theatre 1, Lincoln University, on 17 June 1999 at 5.35 p.m.

Present: Dr Jessica Beever (President, in the Chair), Sarah Beadel, Ross Beever, Peter Bellingham, John Braggins, Andrea Brandon, Patrick Brownsey, Bruce Bulloch, Ewen Cameron, Bev Clarkson, Bruce Clarkson, Ron Close, Suzan Dopson, Audrey Eagle, Allan Fife, David Galloway, Arthur Healy, Wyne Johns, Fran Kell, Bill Lee, Linda Newstrom-Lloyd, John Lovis, Valerie Lovis, Bryony Macmillan, Alan Mark, Dallas Mildenhall, Brian Molloy, Wendy Nelson, David Norton, Heather Outred, Murray Parsons, Dipal Parh, Joshua Salter, Andy Thomson, Peter Wardle, Colin Webb, Carol West, Hugh Wilson, Anthony Wright (Secretary/Treasurer)

1. Apologies

Apologies from Ted Bangerter, Ella Campbell, Peter de Lange and Willie Shaw were received and sustained.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 November 1991 had been published in the *Newsletter* and copies were circulated.

Moved Chair

THAT the minutes of the previous meeting held 26 November 1991 be taken as read and adopted as a true and correct record. CARRIED

3. Matters arising

It was noted that the Society had decided not to pursue membership of the Royal Society of New Zealand after protracted and unsatisfactory correspondence – none of our letters were replied to.

4. Statement of membership and finances

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that paid membership (i.e., *Newsletter* subscriptions) at 16 June 1999 stood at 245. The overall financial position of the Society at the end of each year since the last meeting was as follows:

1991	C/fwd	\$4,008.14		\$4,008.14
1992	C/fwd	\$4,120.49		\$4,120.49
1993	C/fwd	\$4,555.62	Adjustment for '93 invoices paid in '94	\$3,263.17
1994	C/fwd	\$3,017.69	Adjustment for '94 invoices paid in '95	\$4,310.14
1995	C/fwd	\$3,209.30	Adjustment for '95 invoices paid in '96	\$1,748.42
1996	C/fwd	\$573.22		\$573.22
1997	C/fwd	\$1,415.84	Adjustment for '97 invoices paid in '98	\$146.97
1998	C/fwd	\$4,072.16	Adjustment for '98 invoices paid in '99	\$2,753.71

It was noted that after many years of holding subscriptions at the original level, increased costs – primarily due to larger *Newsletters* – had necessitated a subscription increase which had kept the Society viable.

Moved Chair

THAT the report be received.

CARRIED

5. Election of officers and committee

The following written nominations had been received by the Secretary:

President:	Jessica Beever
Secretary/Treasurer:	Anthony Wright
Committee Members:	Bruce Clarkson
	Peter de Lange
	Colin Webb
	Carol West

As the nominations for President and Secretary/Treasurer equalled the number of vacancies, Jessica Beever was declared elected as President and Anthony Wright as Secretary/Treasurer.

A ballot was held for the three committee positions.

Moved Chair

THAT David Galloway and Wendy Nelson be appointed scrutineers.

CARRIED

Bruce Clarkson, Colin Webb and Carol West were elected as Committee Members.

Moved Mildenhall/Braggins

THAT the ballot papers be destroyed. CARRIED

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

(i) Allan Mere

The President outlined the history of the Allan Mere Award and invited Peter Wardle to speak to his proposal. To commemorate the outstanding contribution to New Zealand botany by Dr H H Allan, first Director of Botany Division of DSIR, this mere was presented by Dr Lucy B Moore, to be known as the Allan Mere, and to be presented to deserving members of Botany Division staff. As a result of the disestablishment of Botany Division and the DSIR, the original purpose can no longer be fulfilled. Peter Wardle proposed (on behalf of Canterbury Botanical Society) that, with the agreement of Landcare Research and Lucy Moore's family, New Zealand Botanical Society take over the administration of the annual award of the mere. Draft conditions for the award were circulated at the meeting and discussed.

Moved Mark/Braggins

THAT this meeting adopt in principle the procedures outlined by Peter Wardle (on behalf of the Canterbury Botanical Society) for the New Zealand Botanical Society to take over administration of the award of the Allan Mere and request the committee to finalise the Conditions of Award. CARRIED

(ii) New Zealand Threatened Plant List

Brian Molloy spoke to the long overdue need to amend the Native Plants Protection Act 1934 now that we have a soundly based list of New Zealand's most endangered plant taxa. The first schedule of the amended Act should include the 112 most endangered plant taxa.

Moved Molloy/Norton

THAT the New Zealand Botanical Society actively promote the Native Plants Protection Amendment Act to include a schedule of New Zealand's most threatened plant taxa and any other matters considered appropriate.

The motion was opened for discussion. Allan Fife, supported by David Galloway and Patrick Brownsey, asked why non-vascular plants could not be included. It was noted that any amendment to the Act should refer to the List and not list the species. Geoff Rogers questioned the appropriateness of the NPPA and suggested that a new schedule to the Resource Management Act (currently under amendment) could well be a more effective measure. Wendy Nelson reiterated the need to encompass all groups of plants.

It was clear that the meeting, whilst fully supporting the need for protection, was divided on the best course of action to ensure the protection of threatened plants.

Moved Nelson/Braggins

THAT the committee be asked to task an appropriate group with drafting a proposal for effecting better protection of New Zealand's threatened plants and that the proposal be reported back to the membership

CARRIED

(iii) Future Direction of Society

Wendy Nelson stated her view that the continued publication of the *Newsletter* was extremely important, as was the organisation of occasional conferences such as the present one. The only other immediate need was to pursue initiatives such as the two items of general business above, provided members were prepared to support the committee by undertaking the leg work involved. Members endorsed this view.

(iv) General

Moved Thomson/Cameron

THAT the Society's good wishes be sent to Dr Lucy Cranwell Smith.

CARRIED

Colin Burrows questioned our membership of ECO. It was the meeting's view that support by the national botanical society for the good work done by ECO was appropriate 'in principle'.

A call was made for a volunteer or volunteers to act as *Newsletter* Editor from 2000. None forthcoming!

David Galloway noted that 1999 was the centennial of the publication of Thomas Kirk's *Forest Flora*.

Moved Chair

THAT David Galloway propose a toast to Thomas Kirk at dinner.

CARRIED

The meeting was declared closed at 6.30 pm.

■ **From the Editor**

I was most delighted when Joy Talbot approached me at the 'New Zealand Botany at the End of the Millennium' conference and offered to edit our Society's *Newsletter*. After discussion with the committee we accepted her offer, gratefully.

I have enjoyed editing this *Newsletter*, particularly the communication with authors. The articles have been interesting, varied and generally very well prepared, making the job of an editor so much easier. I apologise for not acknowledging receipt of all articles, especially those sent by post and I have to claim a lack of time as the reason for this. There has always been a steady stream of submissions although most arrive in the last few days before the deadline and a few usually come in a day or two late. Please note that the deadline is always the last Friday of the month before the issue is due – Joy may not be able to accommodate late submissions so please do your best to help her.

I would like to thank Anthony Wright and Janet Cooper, his personal assistant, for taking my edited copy and completing the formatting to turn it into the *Newsletter*. The production of this *Newsletter* really is a team effort.

Thanks to all you botanists out there and all the best as Editor, Joy.

Carol West, Editor, *New Zealand Botanical Society Newsletter*

Regional Botanical Society News

■ Auckland Botanical Society

September Meeting

The evening began with the launching of the book "The Nature Guide to New Zealand Native Orchids" by Ian St George, editor of the Native Orchid Group's journal. The stunning coloured photography and handy distribution maps ensured that the book was keenly sought after. Following this, Dr St George gave an illustrated talk on New Zealand orchids, mostly those that grow in the Auckland district.

September Field Trip

The promise of flowering orchids along the Farley Track, Huia, attracted a good number of members on a sunny spring day. They were not disappointed, and a two hour walk stretched into a five hour botanical ramble. Among other orchids, six species of greenhoods were seen, including a very late flowering specimen of *Pterostylis brumalis*. *Alseuosmia macrophylla* was plentiful, and filled the air with perfume.

October Meeting (The Lucy Cranwell Lecture)

Palynologist Matt McGlone, who described himself as a scientific great-grandson of Lucy Cranwell, began his lecture by paying a tribute to our patron and the ground-breaking work on pollen analysis she carried out in association with Leonard von Post in 1936. Pollen profiles were shown to illustrate the postglacial vegetation and climate history of southern New Zealand, and slides of the Auckland and Campbell Islands illustrated the present-day botany (and zoology) of another area in which Matt and associates have worked.

October Field Trip

This field trip to Waikumete Cemetery covered the native and exotic trees in the area, regenerating gumland scrub, and of course the wonderful springtime display of wildflowers. Leslie Haines, who is involved in the management of the wildflowers, and Mike Wilcox, our resident expert on eucalypts, were leaders guaranteed to make the trip interesting. Many of the wildflowers are African plants established on the graves, which have since escaped and have thrived on the poor gumland clay. Of particular beauty were the drifts of *Babiana stricta* in shades of purple and magenta.

November Meeting

The meeting got underway with a short talk by Melanie Dixon from Waitakere City, on the management plan for *Hebe bishopiana* in the Waitakere Ranges. This helped to smooth Bot Soc feathers which had been ruffled by the accidental spraying of this Waitakere endemic on Mt Donald McLean during roadside maintenance.

The main speaker for the evening was Bec Stanley, botanist with the Auckland Conservancy of DoC. Bec has very recently returned from South America where she worked as a volunteer on Project Paramo in Ecuador. This project is one that is financed by European countries in exchange for the right to produce carbon emissions above the levels set by the Kyoto Convention, and focuses on regeneration in alpine grasslands in the high Andes. The talk also touched on visits to Peru, Bolivia and Easter Island.

November Field Trip

Engine trouble with the chartered boat meant that the large party had only two hours ashore at Ponui Island, one of the bigger inner gulf islands. The landing was on the southern portion of the island, and no time was wasted on heading inland to the bush clad hills. A swampy gully contained several fine fruiting trees of *Syzygium maire*, then the climb upwards through the unfenced bush was under a canopy of tawaroa, taraire, kohekohe and kauri. Grazing stock had depleted the ground cover, but the tiny star-like flowers of *Caladenia chlorostyla*, fruiting *Pterostylis banksii*, and the leaves of *Corybas trilobas* were present. From the summit of a hill it could be seen that the kauri-dominant forest covered quite an extensive area, but time did not allow for the promised hard beech or king fern to be visited, before we hurried back for the return voyage.

Forthcoming Activities: Evening Meetings

1 December Pot luck dinner, Auckland Botanic Gardens

Field Trips

28 January–1 February

Anniversary Weekend at Te Kauri/Pirongia

19 February

a.m. Ambury Park, monocot workshop

p.m. Puketutu Island or Mangere Mountain, Mike Wilcox

Maureen Young, 36 Alnwick Street, Warkworth

■ **Rotorua Botanical Society**

The Society has recently recommenced the publication of its newsletter. October 1998 saw the publication of *Newsletter No. 31* with the following articles:

- Flax swamp on Oruanui Road (C. Ecroyd; S.M. Beadel and P. Cashmore)
- Lagoon Rd field trip and herbarium visit (W.B. Shaw and G. Milligan)
- Papamoa dunes (P. Cashmore)
- Kuirau Park and Sulphur Bay (S.M. Beadel)
- Recent name changes of native ferns, trees, shrubs and woody climbers (C. Ecroyd)
- Cyberbotany (C. Ecroyd; B. Knowles and E. Miller)
- Plants required to complete proposed third volume of Eagle's Trees and Shrubs of N.Z. (C. Ecroyd)

Newsletter No. 32 was published in May 1999 and contained the following articles:

- Urchin, Northern Kaimanawas (G. Milligan)
- Hukutaia Domain, Opotiki - an update (M. Heginbotham)
- Cabbage tree comeback (F. Clarkson)

Recent Activities

Twenty-seven people turned out for a very interesting field trip to the top of Putauaki (Mt Edgecumbe) on 8 August. The open shrublands along the steep track to the top harboured a few herbaceous species, including *Helichrysum filicaule* and *Vittadinia australis*, with *Coprosma acerosa* on one of the summits. Karetu (*Hierochloa redolens*) was also present near one of the trig. Several wetland species were observed including *Baumea tenax*, *Carex secta* and *Ruppia*.

In May, monitoring of possum browse on key indicator plant species in Kaharoa Forest was carried out using the Foliar Browse technique. This was undertaken as part of the Kaharoa Kokako Trust's (a local volunteer group) programme to protect kokako populations in this forest.

Other field trips this year were to the Plot Road Wetland and Hautapu Bog in Kaingaroa, a combined trip with Auckland Botanical Society to Pureora at Easter, Bowentown Heads, and Lakes Tikitapu and Okareka in June looking at *Rorippa divaricata*, *Tupeia antarctica* and *Ileostylus micranthus*. The last trip was followed by the AGM and a pot luck dinner, at which Paul Cashmore gave a talk on threatened plants in the Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

The new committee is *President*: Willie Shaw; *Vice-President*: Chris Ecroyd; *Secretary*: Joan Fitzgerald; *Treasurer*: Grant Milligan; *Editor*: Paul Cashmore; *Committee*: James Bibby, Barbara Spring-Rice, Helena Beeser, John Hobbs.

Dr Peter Johnson gave a fascinating evening address on "Ecological Stories from Southern New Zealand Wetlands" in September.

Sarah Beadel, c/- Wildland Consultants Ltd, P.O. Box 7137, Te Ngae, Rotorua. email: wildland@wave.co.nz

■ Wellington Botanical Society

Easter Field Trip – Tongariro National Park

Nineteen members stayed at the Victoria University Ski Club hut, and spent four days botanising on and around Mount Ruapehu. Day 1 was mainly in the ski village area, getting reacquainted with alpins. Day 2 was a long day up to Hauhangatahi Wilderness Area, experiencing the changing vegetation belts as we climbed in drizzly conditions. On day 3 we visited the local sights of Taranaki Falls, Tawhai Falls, and the Mounds Walk and on day 4 we walked across to Silica Rapids.

April Meeting

Stephen Fuller gave a detailed update on progress at the Karori Sanctuary. He discussed the Management Plan, the proposed pest eradication programme, and the design of the predator-proof fence.

May Meeting

Boyden Evans and Vicky Froude described the history and work of the Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet. This local group has been active in promoting the natural values of the inlet, and continuing the study begun by W B Healy (DSIR) in the 1980s.

June Field Trip – Pauatahanui Wildlife Management Reserve, and New Judgeford Golf Course Forest Remnant

On a grey day, 30 members and friends strolled around the saltmarsh and freshwater plant communities at the head of the inlet. After lunch we visited the important forest remnant by the New Judgeford golf course.

June Meeting

Members had been invited to select and bring their favourite botanical readings, and a great variety of source material was raided for extracts: various Botanical Societies' newsletters, Transactions of the NZ Institute, poetry, a novel, botanical texts, Captain Cook's journal, and many more.

July Field Trip – Visit to Te Papa

We were privileged to be given a back-room tour, and shown the Hector Library, the *Hebe* database, the archives, and the herbarium.

July meeting

Chris Richmond attended the 7th Triennial Conference of parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, held in Costa Rica. He filled us in on issues discussed there, and showed slides of wetlands of Costa Rica.

August Field Trip – Te Marua Bush Workbee

Wellington Botanical Society has been providing labour for at least two workbees a year on this small bush remnant. Tasks include planting, weeding, clearing and carrying, and litter removal. Members have also been working with Hutt Valley YMCA Conservation Corps in this area.

August Meeting

Members brought their botanical (or BotSoc) slides to show after the AGM. A great variety of species and locations included Everest Base Camp, Makara Foreshore Reserve, Golden Bay, Mana Island, Arthur's Pass and blue kowhai, *Muehlenbeckia astonii*, *Pittosporum obcordatum* and *Danhatchia*.

September Field Trip – Maunganui

The ascent was made from the Maungakotukutuku Valley, behind the Kapiti Coast. Dripping goblin forest gave way to low sub-alpine vegetation, and there were good views out over Kapiti Island and the coast.

September Field Trip, Part 2 – Mana Island

The trip had been postponed three times, but at last we got there. Sixteen members stayed overnight, and carried out several tasks for Wellington Conservancy, Department of Conservation, before exploring the island. The botanical highlight was the rediscovery of the Wellington Botanical Society's 'logo fern' – *Anogramma leptophylla*, previously thought to be extinct on Mana.

October Field Trip - Tapu Te Ranga Island, Island Bay

We were ferried over in an inflatable, and spent several hours on this small rocky island which is struggling to recover some of its original plant cover.

October Meeting

This Wellington Botanical Society 60th Anniversary Celebration evening began with a pot luck dinner. We heard from Elizabeth Gilmore, winner of the BotSoc prize at the recent Science Fair; and Colin Ogle told us about his botanical work in Wanganui, since leaving Wellington.

November Field Trip – Kapakapanui

We had a long day climbing this outlier of the Tararua Ranges, and botanised in the changing vegetation belts as we made our way up to the open and exposed summit ridge. Heavy rain obscured the view from the top.

Forthcoming Activities: Evening Meetings

15 November Botanical illustration, Cathy Jones

Field Trips

4/5 December Palliser Bay, Peter Beveridge, Olaf John

27 Dec/6 Jan Seaward Kaikoura Range, Margaret Aitken

Jill Goodwin, P.O. Box 10-412, Wellington 6036

■ Nelson Botanical Society

September Field Trip Report: Gorge Creek

After a hasty reorganisation because the stream was in high flood, a nearby reserve was visited. River terrace totara forest with a recent understorey mainly of kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*) and occasional plants of *Melicope simplex* and *Streblus heterophyllus* as well as a scattering of ferns along the stream led to the covenant. Inside the fence, the forest was much richer and the search was soon on for *Scutellaria novae-zelandiae* and *Teucrium parvifolium*. Areas surrounding scattered matai were searched and bamboo rice grass (*Microlaena polynoda*), lush *Phymatosorus scandens*, the odd miro, much *Coprosma areolata* and even tree nettle *Urtica ferox* were found before the first *Teucrium* was located. Two more *Teucrium* plants and a small patch of *Scutellaria* were found. The covenant area proved more diverse than expected with patches of pukatea and black beech.

October Field Trip Report: South Branch Riwaka

The first part of the walk along an abandoned road revealed patches of *Clematis paniculata* and huge patches of *C. forsteri* in full flower. Of special interest here was the green mistletoe *Ileostylus micranthus*, in flower. A little further along, a roadside wetland under scattered rimu and miro presented the two common large wetland sedges *Carex secta* and *C. virgata*. The next patch of forest had good variety of ferns including *Lastreopsis glabella*, *Blechnum vulcanicum* and *Rumohra adiantiformis*. Here kamahi was quite common along with quintinia and akeake (*Dodonaea viscosa*). After the river crossing, the steep faces of the gorge clad in mahoe and matai, were dripping with filmy ferns, mosses and liverworts with *Hymenophyllum ferrugineum* and *H. demissum* being particularly prominent. Here the greenhood orchid (*Pterostylis banksii*) was quite common. Further on, the marble rubble brought an abundance of nettle and dense patches of *Metrosideros colensoi* and some *Brachyglottis hectorii*. As we reached the track end at the resurgence rain set in so a hasty retreat was in order.

Labour Weekend Camp Report: Taipare Bay

On Saturday we ascended Askew's Hill. Initially the vegetation was typical lowland forest with pigeonwood, mahoe, tawa, toru, rimu and matai with some kohekohe and an abundance of

hutu (*Ascarina lucida*). Along the ridge was open hard beech forest with mingimingi but the gullies were rich in kiekie and supplejack – a feature of the area. As Askew's Hill was approached the forest became rich in ferns, especially *Hymenophyllum dilatatum* and kidney fern and some *Grammitis pseudociliata* as the transition to ultramafic substrate was made.

Near the first ultramafic outcrop, the rocks were covered with huge masses of *Bulbophyllum pygmaeum* and nearby *Drymoanthus adversus* was noted in flower on mingimingi. Other shrubs included *Pimelea gnidia*, *Pittosporum rigidum* (in flower) and *Hebe urvilleana*. In the low manuka/kanuka shrubland with *Korthalsella salicornioides* we saw *Brachyglottis lagopus*, *Poa colensoi*, *Lepidosperma australe*, *Pterostylis tasmanica*, *P. foliata* and *P. banksii*. On towards Askew's Hill interesting plants included a hybrid between pokaka and hinau, *Raukaua edgerleyi* and *Poranthera microphylla*. In all there were 240 species – a very rich day.

Sunday began with a foray along the beach and into coastal scrub of akiraho and kanuka. Here *Asplenium appendiculatum* var. *appendiculatum* and var. *terrestre* were quite common and a few caladenias were seen in bud. Next, we went to a patch of spinifex on dunes and into a patch of coastal mahoe, kohekohe, kaikomako and pigeonwood forest with a dense understorey of arum lilies. From there we headed along the shore to the limestone headland noting familiar coastal plants and, at one point, *Muehlenbeckia ephedroides*. On the headland the crevices in the limestone revealed few new plants other than *Parietaria debilis* and its near relative *Urtica ferox*. On the nearby ultramafic coastal cliffs were *Meliccytus obovatus*, a very attractive *Raoulia* and, in patches of mahoe amongst the kanuka and manuka, *Pittosporum cornifolium* and *Collospermum hastatum* perched out of reach of goats.

On Monday we climbed Bob's Knob. At the forest edge a special find was a deep red *Caladenia*. The red and silver beech forest had rich regeneration including hinau, rimu and matai with many coprosmas. Towards the summit a more open forest with an understorey of crown fern, *Coprosma foetidissima*, *Metrosideros fulgens* and *M. difussa* contained a rich assemblage of ferns including vast patches of kidney fern and the lopsided *Hymenophyllum dilatatum*. At the summit, the mixed podocarp forest contained one especially large and ancient silver beech. The descent led through rather open beech/kamaha forest, a kiekie gully and then out into teatree scrub. The walk back along a road passed a patch of kohekohe recently almost wiped out by storm damage.

November Field Trip: Dew Lakes

Only a small group of 16 headed out to the Dew Lakes. Some raced ahead to spend time at the tarns while others enjoyed the crop of spring orchids including the spotted blue *Thelymitra decora*, *T. longifolia*, *Pterostylis banksii*, *P. montana* and some late *Corybas oblongus* in full flower. The first stop though was to see seed of *P. alobula* and *Acianthus sinclairii*. This first section of the track also provided an introduction to divaricating shrubs: *Olearia serpentina* and *Aristotelia fruticosa*. Not much further along *Korthalsella salicornioides* on both manuka and kanuka was quite common. On the first respite from the climb an ultramafic tussock gentian had advanced flower buds among the *Chionochloa defracta*. In the forest near the argillite quarry, large rocks were draped in a rich covering of ferns, *Lycopodium varium* and epiphytic orchids. Further up, noses were treated to *Pittosporum anomalum* in full flower and *Pimelea suteri*. In the last stretch of forest before the lakes, *Chionochloa cheesemani* formed a prominent understorey and cedar and pink pine became more common. The brown water of the Dew Lakes is set off by masses of sphagnum and comb sedge and a back drop of cedar and pink pine. The moss mat provided one source of interest while the cedar was often clad in mats of *Hymenophyllum malingii*.

Dec 19	Inwoods Lookout or Gordons Knob
Jan 16	Campbell
Feb 16	Mt Murchison
Mar 19	Anakiwa

Graeme Jane, 136 Cleveland Terrace, Nelson

■ Canterbury Botanical Society

At our AGM in June officers were elected as follows: *President* Peter Wardle, *Secretary* Roger Keey, *Treasurer* Mary Korver, *Committee* Colin Burrows (editor), Fiona Lees, Claire Newell, Bryony Macmillan. The Senior Bledisloe Trophy was awarded to Mr Brooke Dawson for his conservation work at Hanmer Springs forest, and the Bledisloe Trophy to Louise Cullen for the best student talk. Janet Wilmshurst gave an illustrated talk about "Probing the peaty paradise of the Subantarctic Islands".

In July Max Visch illustrated the rich wild flower flora of North America, and led a visit to the propagation area of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens followed by a retreat to the warmth of the cactus house.

At the August meeting Colin Meurk spoke about the philosophy of ecological restoration with indigenous species, contrasting some of the many projects in Canterbury with examples from Europe and North America. Joe Cartman showed us around the City Council's nursery adjacent to the Styx River where trees, flax, and tree ferns for restoration and street planting are grown.

In September Andy McColl, the recipient of our grant, a PhD student in the Department of Plant and Microbial Sciences, spoke about insect predation of *Chionochoa* species and its relation to masting. Edith Mitchell illustrated the wild flowers of the southern Andes, with a commentary by Peter Wardle. Trevor Partridge led a trip to Kaitorete Spit and explained the management of pingao in relation to marram and fresh sand. All the special native plants were seen and their ecology explained.

At the October meeting Olga Nikora, our senior prize winner at the Science and Technology Fair, illustrated her project on the use of fractal geometry to describe leaf shape and structure. Then Tony Conner of Crop and Food Research, Lincoln explained the techniques and benefits of genetic engineering. Our *Journal No.33* with 14 articles was published, including the floras of Nydia Bay, Pelorus Sound and Arapawa Island, and a list of the publications of Dr Eric Godley.

In November Paul Broady gave an illustrated talk about the terrestrial and freshwater algae of Antarctica, and their varied habitats. Also we visited Travis Wetland where the administration and aims of the Trust were explained by Colin Meurk, and we planted about 300 rooted cuttings of *Urtica linearifolia*. These had been raised by Richard Pender as part of his project for the Diploma in Horticulture.

The year concluded with a weekend at Arthur's Pass, where we were joined by seven botanists from Nelson, and we compared the floras of Bealey Valley and the Upper Otira Valley. Among the large herbs *Ourisia macrocarpa* and *Anisotome haastii* were in full flower with *Ranunculus lyallii* less so. There was also an evening of light refreshment and fun at which botanical hats were worn and reminiscences were given.

2000 opens with a week in camp at Cass from 17 February. Enquiries from visitors are welcome.

Bryony Macmillan, P.O. Box 8212, Riccarton, Christchurch

Other News

■ Australian Botanical Liaison Officer (ABLO)

It is appropriate that, as the current ABLO based at Kew Gardens, I have been asked to write a short account of whom the ABLO is and how he/she can assist you in your research. I am a New Zealander by birth, did my Masters at Victoria University and have joint Australian/New Zealand citizenship so I believe that I can claim to be the first "Australasian" Botanical Liaison Officer.

Since 1937, with the exception of the period 1940–1948, an Australian botanist has been based at Kew to service requests from Australia and, more recently, New Zealand. The ABLO is currently an annual appointment, September 1st to August 31st (to coincide with the English school year), and is funded jointly by the State and Commonwealth Governments, or if a federal public servant, solely by the Commonwealth. While in England, the State provides the officer's salary and, sometimes, additional allowances, and the Commonwealth a grant administered through the Australian Biological Resources Study. This grant is provided to cover such expenses as travel to and from England for the ABLO and his/her family as well as accommodation and living expenses while based at Kew.

One of the main purposes of the ABLO is to search for and provide experienced appraisal of plant specimens found in UK and European Herbaria, but in particular types. In addition they can assist with literature although, in many instances, these are better directed through the home institution library as an inter-library request. Photographs of specimens can be obtained either as colour slides or cibachrome prints but this will depend on available facilities and current demands.

In addition to Kew, the ABLO visits the herbaria and libraries at the British Museum of Natural History (BM) and the Linnean Society of London (LINN) on a regular basis. ABLOs usually visit other UK and European Herbaria and at this stage I am visiting Paris in early December, Zurich in March and Leiden in June.

Specimen enquiries, particularly when concerning types, must be accompanied by full details of protologue including the original type citation (translated if necessary) and any other information that might help to locate the specimen. This could, for example, be possible other names that it might be filed under.

The ABLO has a website at <http://www.anbg.gov.au/abrs/ablo/index.htm>

This website provides background on the ABLO position and full details on what help is available. Information on the Herbarium & Library, specimen examination, photocopying and photography are included. In addition a visitor kit is provided which includes information on how to travel to Kew from Heathrow Airport, a map of Kew Gardens with the location of the Herbarium, access times, food and beverage outlets in the area, local transport etc. The ABLO can also provide details on the British Museum of Natural History and the Linnean Society of London.

The ABLO, especially if you have not visited before, should be your first contact. He/she will organise a security pass for you, introduce you to the relevant people and show you where the plant groups are, that you wish to consult. If your research is library based the ABLO will introduce you to the Library staff.

If you intend to come to Kew to work on the collections and would like reasonably priced accommodation to be organised close to the Gardens contact by email Anne Morley-Smith <a.morley-smith@rbgkew.org.uk> or the ABLO. There are a number of local B & B's, which provide accommodation for visitors to Kew, currently in the range of £20 (NZ60)/night which is considerably cheaper than elsewhere.

Contact details for the ABLO are as follows:

Postal: Australian Botanical Liaison Officer
Herbarium
Royal Botanic Garden, Kew
Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3AB, UK

Email: ablo@rbgkew.org.uk

Phone: (from New Zealand) 0044 181 332 5270 (within UK) 0181 332 5270

Fax: (from New Zealand) 0044 181 332 5278 (within UK) 0181 332 5278

Bob Chinnock, ABLO, Kew

Congratulations

■ Brian and Chris Rance receive two conservation awards

It has been a busy year for Brian and Chris Rance of Invercargill. In March they received an "Old Blue" Award from the Royal Forest and Bird Society of New Zealand. This was followed by the presentation of New Zealand's premier conservation award, the Loder Cup, in August. The Rances justly deserve both awards for their substantial contribution to conservation and propagation of New Zealand's southern plants, particularly those which are threatened. Aside from discovering many populations of a wide range of Southland's threatened species they have set up a community nursery to assist local people with propagation of native species for restoration projects. They have also developed a threatened plant garden on their property at 185 Grant Road, Otatara, Invercargill, which contains robust specimens of many of the threatened plants of Southland as well as other species from further afield. If you are in Invercargill at any time, their garden is well worth a visit and they are happy to show people around, by appointment.

Editor

NOTES AND REPORTS

Comment

■ Was Townson mistaken?

Concerning plants in the Lower Buller Gorge, Townson (1906), states, "At the Blackwater I found the delicate *Adiantum aethiopicum* growing among the rocks in the river-bed,....."

So five or six years ago, armed with my "Brownsey and Smith-Dodsworth" and jetboat, I searched the most likely part of the riverbank, i.e., at the site of the old coach staging station but with no luck. I then went up the Blackwater to the site of the old bridge and down into the Buller to suitable habitat on both banks of the river for two kilometres above and below, here and there, on the way back to the port at Westport. All I found was *A. cunninghamii*.

I wonder if *Adiantum aethiopicum* did grow there as an escape from the staging station accommodation house or was Townson mistaken. *A. aethiopicum* is present in my collection of 40 years ago when I ranged far and wide in the area, but only from a cultivated plant.

References

Brownsey Patrick J. and Smith-Dodsworth John C., 1989: New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. David Bateman Ltd, Auckland.

Townson W, 1906: On the vegetation of the Westport District. *Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute* 39: 380-43.

Ian D. McLellan, Research Associate, Landcare Research, P.O. Box 95 Westport. Email: mclellan@xtra.co.nz

■ *Calluna vulgaris* in Tongariro National Park

Introduction of the “purple plague” (3) to the Tongariro National Park from about 1912 is attributed to Police Commissioner John Cullen who was also Warden of the Park and a member of the Park Board. Cullen envisaged the introduction of grouse and other game birds for “sportsmen”. The birds did not survive but heather did. The introduction of heather to Tongariro National Park ranks with the possum as one of the shameful episodes in N.Z. history, though the heather project was opposed by Leon Macintosh Ellis (Director of Forestry), Leonard Cockayne and others.

In recording a little about the history of the introduction of heather to the Park (5), I quoted Cockayne’s forceful plea to preserve the Park in its natural state (2) – “We can do three things to God’s work: let it remain as it is, destroy it, or seek to improve it. I have never heard of anybody improving the work of God, yet they have attempted to by planting heather”. Earlier, on 29 January 1924 at the N.Z. Institute Board of Governors Annual Meeting on a motion by Cockayne and seconded by J.A.Thomson, it was resolved “that this Board strongly opposes the planting of heather on any part of the Tongariro National Park or any other national park or reserve” (1). Cockayne got the story right regarding the introduction of heather though he was wrong about the possum (6).

All the evidence I have seen indicates that heather was introduced to the Park for the activities of a few “sportsmen”. However, prominent Canterbury writer on plants, Derrick Rooney in his Country Diary column in *The Press* of 1 October 1999 (4) suggests that heather was planted for erosion control in the Tongariro National Park. This explanation seems most unlikely and I have never seen it mentioned before.

Incidentally, on our annual journey along the Desert Road in February 1999 I did note what appeared to be a substantial spread of heather along the roadside towards Waiouru.

References

1. Anonymous 1924: Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors 29th January 1924. *Transactions and Proceedings of the N.Z. Institute* 55: 772. 2. Cockayne, L. 1926: *Evening Post* (Wellington), 19 August. 3. Field, Kingsley 1994: Purple plague. *N.Z. Herald*, 19 January. 4. Rooney, Derrick 1999: Country Diary: A horror’s new image. *The Press* (Christchurch), 1 October. 5. Thomson, A.D. 1977: *Calluna Vulgaris* on Mt. Ruapehu: Cockayne’s view. *Botany Division Newsletter No.20:8*. 6. _____ 1993: Leonard Cockayne’s view on the possum was wrong. *N.Z. Botanical Society Newsletter No.33: 7–8*.

A.D.Thomson, Centre for Studies on N.Z. Science History, 5 Karitane Drive, Christchurch 2

Herbarium Report

■ Auckland Museum Herbarium (AK) report for 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999

General

The biggest achievement for the year was the completion of the four new Natural History galleries with a wealth of botanical specimens included in the displays. Instead of pressing plant specimens new techniques were acquired to preserve plants in a three-dimensional form. Most other tasks were put to one side until these galleries opened on 1 January 1999.

Databasing of the algae collection was completed with funding from the Lottery Board. The collection numbers 6,296 algae sheets (56% are from New Zealand), which was lower than the estimated total (this excludes the Lindauer algae on long-term loan to the Museum from AKU). The Museum collection includes material of Lucy M. Cranwell (909 sheets), V.W. Lindauer (380 Exsiccatae sheets) and R.M. Laing (157 sheets), the only W.H. Harvey “Friendly Islands” Exsiccatae within New Zealand (62 sheets, collected 1853–1855), as well as W.H. Harvey Exsiccatae from Australia (465 sheets), J.E. Tilden’s South Pacific Plants Series (mainly from Australia, 31 sheets, 1910–1934), and modern duplicates of H.B.S. Womersley from South Australia and Victoria (365 sheets).

All the native and foreign nonvascular plant specimens (algae, bryophytes & lichens) in the herbarium are now databased, a total of 42,750 specimens. Almost all the native vascular

plants are databased as well, with only parts of three dicot families to go: Asteraceae, Alseuosmiaceae and Rubiaceae.

Two new half-sized type cabinets were fitted under the herbarium bench to accommodate all the type and Banks and Solander specimens. All four computers were replaced with new models to avoid any Y2K problems, and the computer network was extended within the building and email connections provided.

Fieldwork/Research

Fieldwork was mainly restricted to local trips collecting for gallery displays, and research was concentrated on label information for displayed specimens. Twenty articles and scientific papers were published by the herbarium staff, including flora and vegetation accounts on areas in the Auckland region, specific articles on native or naturalised species, new names from the journals, and a book review.

Acquisitions and donated specimens

With the restructuring of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) in 1998 the herbarium (LEV) of some 5,000 pressed plants and a wet collection of c.1,000 specimens, excluding the seed collection, was gifted to AK. We have since gained a Lottery Board grant to accession this and three other recently gifted herbaria into AK. *Metrosideros* (168 specimens) and *Coprosma* (53) vouchers for a DNA study were lodged by Auckland University. With Peter de Lange's encouragement for mistletoe host vouchers for the New Zealand Loranthaceae, AK's collection now numbers 639 specimens! Other specimens were received from: Jessica and Ross Beever, Steve Benham, Gillian Crowcroft, Pat Enright, Alan Esler, Peter de Lange, Lisa Forester, Max Goodey, Graham Hambly, Dan Hatch, Michael Heads, Barbara Parris, Wendy Patterson, Graeme Platt, Karen Riddell, Bec Stanley, Graeme Taylor, Alan Tennyson, Mike Wilcox, Anthony Wright, Shane Wright and Maureen Young.

Staff

Curator	Ewen K. Cameron
Honorary Botanist	Lucy M. Cranwell
Honorary Research Associates	Rhys O. Gardner, Jeanne Goulding
Technician/IT	Douglas B. Rogan
Technicians (contract)	Maree Johnston (part-time), Steve G. McCraith (until mid November), Claire Miller (part-time)

Volunteers

Chris Ashton, Joan Dow, Colleen Foster (since May), Kay Haslett, Vic May, Wendy Patterson and Meryl Wright contributed over 1200 hours. They mounted all the new specimens, assisted proofing thousands of new databased labels and filing specimens. Rhys Gardner and Peter de Lange assisted with difficult vascular plant identifications, Jessica Beever and John Braggins with bryophytes, and Wendy Nelson with algae.

Visitors

There were 38 visiting researchers and only three special interest groups. This low number was because we had to partially close the herbarium for part of the year to give time and space to develop the new gallery displays.

Statistics

Although most of the year was concentrated on the Natural History galleries, herbarium work did progress with the assistance of the contract staff and volunteers. New accessions numbered 3,549 specimens and 5,442 existing specimens were databased bringing the herbarium up to 57% now databased (=136,497 specimens).

New accessions:		(1997-1998)
30 June 1999	239,415	
30 June 1998	<u>235,866</u>	
	3,549	(3,236)
Records on AKILLES database:		
30 June 1999	136,497	
30 June 1998	<u>127,506</u>	

	8,991	(9,334)
Loans of specimens		
Inwards:	18 [972 spec.] from 16 institutions	(32 [621] from 16)
Outwards:	46 [1,216] to 19 institutions	(61[2,780] to 17)
Exchange specimens		
Inwards:	175 specimens from 4 institutions	(440 from 7)
Outwards:	780 specimens to 7 institutions	(266 to 5)
Total number of specimens out on loan = 7,183 to 36 institutions		(8,105 to 35)

E. K. Cameron, Curator of Botany, Auckland Museum, Private Bag 92018, Auckland

BIOGRAPHY/BIBLIOGRAPHY

■ Biographical Notes (36): Francis Logan (1784–1862) and Houston Francis Logan (1839–1922)

In the Introductory Essay to his *Flora Novae-Zelandiae* (1852–1855), Joseph Dalton Hooker wrote: "Amongst the earlier explorers of this period, Dr Logan, now a resident of the colony, deserves especial attention; his contributions of excellent specimens arriving at a time when New Zealand plants were almost the rarest, and scientifically the most interesting." At first I had thought that this referred to Dr John Logan Campbell of early Auckland (called Dr Logan in his early life), particularly because three of the five Logan records in Hooker's work came from the Bay of Islands. However I realised later that Hooker's collector was the Francis Logan described by Scholefield(1) as "interested in natural science".

Francis Logan was born in Ayrshire and studied medicine at Glasgow University. In 1808 he was admitted as an assistant-surgeon in the Navy and, after various postings on both Atlantic coasts, made his first voyage to Australia(1). According to Scholefield(1) this was in charge of convicts on the *Fanny*, which arrived in Sydney on 1 February, 1833. However, Maiden(2) quotes a letter from Sir William Jackson Hooker to Charles Fraser, Colonial Botanist at Sydney, dated "Glasgow, July 1st, 1829", with the following passage: "Dr. Nesbitt has given me a favourable account of your health, which I was much pleased to hear, for you were not so well when Dr Logan came away."

Logan's second voyage to Australia, again in charge of convicts, was on the *Mangles*. He left her at Sydney in August 1837 to return to England via New Zealand(1), probably visiting the far north as suggested below.

Logan left the navy unfit for service in 1839(1). Enthused by his visit to New Zealand, he left England in October 1839, with his wife Janet and infant son, as surgeon on the *Bengal Merchant*, bound for Wellington with 120 passengers. They arrived at Wellington Heads on 12 February, 1840, anchored in the lee of Somes Island, and began erecting their homes, "most of them located near the site of the present Government railway workshops at Petone"(3).

During the 104 day voyage, the Logans had become close friends with Ebenezer Hay and his wife Agnes, who later settled at Pigeon Bay, Banks Peninsula. The two families felled trees and built a cottage, in which they lived together for over two years(3). Hay notes that "Dr. Logan had possessed himself, when at Hokianga, of a small Maori vocabulary, compiled by the missionaries there". This visit to Hokianga would have been made during Logan's first visit to New Zealand in 1837.

Logan selected his country land first at Porirua. He was much older than his wife and predeceased her on 20 May, 1862(1,3).

The following Logan gatherings were found in the *Flora Novae-Zelandiae*:

1:192 *Veronica macrocarpa* Vahl var. \square . *myrtifolia*, Bay of Islands, Logan, etc.; 2:13 *Hymenophyllum crispatum*, Northern Island, scarce: Bay of Islands and East Coast, Cunningham, Logan, Colenso, etc.; 2:78 *Macromitrium mauritanium*, Bay of Islands, Logan; 2:79 *Macromitrium hemitrichodes*, Northern Island, Logan; 2:123–124 *Hookeria microcarpa*, throughout the Islands, Logan, etc.

Hay(3) also notes: "Dr. and Mrs. Logan had an only child – a son – then an infant of a few months old, now our good friend, Mr. H.F. Logan, to whom, as well as to his mother, we are much indebted for many details of this time." This was Houston Francis Logan, born in Glasgow(4), whose obituarist in the *N.Z. Times*(5) states that he "resided on Lambton quay, then known as the "beach", for many years. Later in life Mr Logan established a provision store on Lambton quay opposite where the Police Court now stands". The Wellington Provincial electoral roll for 1862–63 does not give his occupation but states that his place of abode was Webb Street and that he had property in Hopper Street as well(6). The electoral rolls repeat this until 1879–80 except for 1878–79, which tells us that he had a section at Ohariu as well as 1480 acres of unsurveyed land. Occupations are not given until 1880–81 when Logan is listed as a grocer with a residence in Brougham Street. The roll for 1881–84 adds that he had a house and shop in Lambton Quay.

Logan was always a man of many interests. In 1863 he is listed as an Ensign in No. 2 Company of the Wellington Militia(7) while at the same time he was very interested in ferns. The Museum of New Zealand has several specimens collected by him from around Wellington in 1861–63, and in 1865 he exhibited a collection at the Dunedin Exhibition(8). In 1879 he wrote to T.F. Cheeseman, curator of the Auckland Museum, as follows:

"Wellington July 1/79

T F Cheeseman Esq

Dr Sir

I am sending a collection of NZ Ferns to the Sydney Exhibition and I am short of the following varieties to complete it and take the liberty of asking your assistance to fill up these gaps.

Hymenophyllum Cheesemanii

_____ unilaterale

Aspidium acutatum [*sic*]

Gymnogramme Pozoi

Hoping you will kindly assist though we are personally unacquainted – if I can do anything for you from this province I will be very happy. I have all but a dozen varieties of NZ ferns under cultivation.

I am Dr Sir

Your [?]

H F Logan

P.S. I notice also that you describe a new species of Polypodium (phymatodes)"

Logan also exhibited a fern collection at the Melbourne International Exhibition 1880-81(8).

At Christmas 1881 Logan and a friend climbed Mount Holdsworth in the Tararua Ranges. Logan does not name his companion in his account of the expedition(9) but his references to their discovery of two species considered new indicate that the friend was John Buchanan of the Geological Survey Department, Wellington. I will describe their journey in some detail because it is the first botanical account of the Tararuas in any detail, preceding Aston's 1910 account by 28 years.

The two botanists left Wellington for Masterton by the afternoon train on Saturday, 24 December. On Christmas Day they rode from Masterton to Mr Compton's homestead via Fern Flat, hoping to enlist him as a guide, but he was away and they spent the afternoon botanising unsuccessfully on the banks of the Waingawa river. When Mr Compton returned in the evening, they found that he would only be able to take them to the foot of the mountain and bring back the horses for the two assistants from the Botanic Gardens who were to follow them from town on the Monday.

On Monday, Boxing Day, the party set out on the four-hour tramp up the river to the so-called "lower camp". Here the horses were unloaded and they left most of their gear. Then, with tent, blankets and food for three days, they set out for the upper camp at about 2800 feet, which they reached about 5 o'clock.

On Tuesday, 27 December, at half-past six, the two botanists started for the top. Logan wrote: "An hour's climb brought us to the edge of the bush with an altitude of about another 1000 ft. Here you at once get into a new flora. Leaving birch trees behind, you emerge into a fringe of different varieties of Olearias, Senecios, and Veronicas." After a further 400 feet they came out into the open grassland. Near the summit it was "blowing hard with driving mist from the north-west", but to the east it was clear and Logan gives us an excellent description of the Wairarapa panorama beneath them. Their descent with full collecting bags and with sundry packages to collect began about 4 o'clock. "A couple of hours brought us back to camp rather tired, but thoroughly content with our day's luck, having found two new and several uncommon plants." That evening their two assistants joined them, "both right good hill travellers, to whom a pack is not so objectionable as to myself".

On Wednesday, 28 December, a second ascent was delayed until noon by bad weather; but near the summit there was "a splendid clear sky". "Immediately in front of us," wrote Logan, "lay the Island of Kapiti, with a wreath-like cloud encircling it, at such a height as to show its shore below and its mountain-top above. This latter we both recognised as an old friend, having together – some years ago – spent some days there." Back at the camp they packed plants in moss till dark.

Thursday, 29 December, at 3 p.m. saw the party at the summit of Holdsworth for the third time. It was "blowing nearly a gale of wind, and nothing to be seen beyond a few yards". But they found *Astelia linearis* and, when returning through the bush, made their first record of *Alsophila colensoi* in the Wellington district.

After a stormy night, it was still raining hard on Friday morning the 30th but at midday Logan and the two assistants set out for the lower camp where they loaded the horses and reached Mr Compton's farm at 8 p.m. "My friend I left on the mountain to get some more collecting done," wrote Logan.

Logan's account contains much botanical information and concludes with a list of the species seen. The two novelties collected on 27 December are listed as "*Haastia Loganii* (new)" and "*Raoulia rubra* (new)". There is a specimen in AK labelled "*Raoulia rubra* Buchan., Mount Holdsworth; J. Buchanan and H.F. Logan, 1880, syntype, date uncertain (differs from protologue): Herb. T.F. Cheeseman"(10).

Logan's obituarist also wrote: "The late Mr Logan took a keen and active interest in the welfare of **the city, and the citizens of the present day** have much to thank him for. From 1877 to 1883 he was a member of the City Council, during which period he was chairman of the reserves committee, and was instrumental in getting plantation work carried out. The present plantation in Pirie street was practically planted by Mr Logan, who also planted the trees that grew in the Basin Reserve and down Kent terrace before the present improvements were carried out. With the assistance of the late Mr Brewer, he planted the trees in Newtown Park, and with Mr McGinnity, the then caretaker, Queen's Park, Thorndon, was planted. Mr Logan was the founder of the Star Boating Club, and for a number of years acted as secretary. He was an enthusiast in everything he undertook, and there are many old oarsmen to-day who will have kindly recollection of him and the interest he took in procuring crews to take part in the annual regatta at Nelson."(5) Logan was also a committee member of the Athenaeum Club(11), an honorary member of the Early Settlers' and Historical Association(12), and a member of the Wellington Philosophical Institute.

In later life Logan became involved in mining ventures in Marlborough. At Endeavour Inlet antimony lodes had been mined but proved unviable. In 1883, however, a small syndicate headed by Logan was formed to resume operations. This Endeavour Inlet Antimony Company ran into difficulties but continued to work the property after its assets were transferred in 1888 to the London-based New Zealand Antimony Company, of which Logan became New Zealand manager. In 1889 he was unjustly dismissed for incompetence following failure of the smelting furnace(13). Logan was also involved with gold mining. In 1887 he took up leases at Cape Jackson and by 1890 he had leases in Mahakipawa and Waikakaho (northwards of Blenheim), and was living at the latter place in charge of the mines, having obtained his mine manager's certificate in 1890(13). But, once again, the project was unsuccessful, although in 1896 the ever-optimistic Logan attempted a refinancing.

There are seven undated Logan specimens in AK, five from Collingwood and one each from the Marlborough Sounds and Wellington(10) and some are presumably referable to Logan's mining period.

In December 1905 Logan was posted to the retired list of the New Zealand Militia with the rank of Captain(14). In his retirement, he "lived in Ellice street, where he occupied his time in gardening, being a great lover of flowers and shrubs".(5) He died on 11 August 1922 at Wellington Hospital, from 73 Brougham Street [sic], at age 85, and was buried in the Sydney Street Cemetery(4,15).

Eponymy (H.F. Logan)

Haastia loganii. Hab. – Mount Holdsworth, Tararua Range, North Island, 4,500 feet alt., 1882.
"Named in honour of H.F. Logan, whose zeal in botanical science has added to our knowledge of the flora of the North Island" J. Buchanan *TNZI* 14:350–351 t. 30, f. 3.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to the Librarian, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, for much information about H.F. Logan, and also to Ewen Cameron (AK) and Patrick Brownsey (WELT) for information on specimens in their herbaria. Ritchie McNaughton (Christchurch) kindly helped with reading and typing.

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(1) G.H. Scholefield 1940: Logan, Francis (1781–1862). *A dictionary of New Zealand biography*; (2) J.H. Maiden 1902: The Sydney Botanic Gardens: biographical notes concerning the officers in charge. 1, Charles Fraser (continued); (3) H.L. Guthrie Hay 1901: *Annandale: past and present, 1839–1900*; (4) Death Certificate; (5) Anon. 1922: Obituary, Mr Hooston [sic] Logan, Wellington pioneer resident passes away. *New Zealand Times*, 16 Aug., p. 3; (6) Henry St. Hill 1862: List of qualified persons etc. *The New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian*, 9 April, p. 2; (7) John S. Kirwan 1863: Militia District Order No. 1. *Ibid.*, 1 Aug., p. 2; (8) P. Brownsey pers. comm.; (9) H.F. Logan 1882: Trip to Mount Holdsworth (Tararua Ranges). *New Zealand Mail*, 4 Feb., p. 7; (10) E. Cameron pers. comm.; (11) Anon. 1884: *The New Zealand Mail*, 2 May, p. 17; (12) Anon. 1922: Personal items. *The Dominion*, 14 Aug., p. 6; (13) M. Johnston 1993: *Gold in a tin dish: the search for gold in Marlborough and eastern Nelson*. Volume 2; (14) Anon. 1905: *The New Zealand Mail*, 6 Dec. p. 12; (15) Anon. 1922: Funeral Card. *Evening Post*, 12 Aug., p. 1.

E. J. Godley, Research Associate, Landcare Research, P O Box 69, Lincoln

■ **Tribute to pioneer botanical enthusiast, pteridologist and conservationist, Miss Marguerite Winifred Crookes**

Botanical science has had many early pioneer women researchers including Ellen Blackwell (8) who were enthusiasts and excellent and dedicated botanists often with an extensive knowledge of some facet of the science; with these pioneers, botany was not so much a profession but more of a life-style. Formal science was not their major interest but with careful observation and dedication they achieved much and have helped provide a foundation of knowledge for branches of botanical science in New Zealand. Included in this group of early pioneers is Miss Marguerite Winifred Crookes (1898–1991) who was for many years the senior member of the botanical community in Auckland. This tribute to Marguerite relies heavily on the excellent article on her life and work by Dr Joan Dingley (4) and we are indebted to Joan for providing a bibliography of Marguerite's publications, some of which were published in the N.Z. Smallholder which unfortunately is not commonly held in libraries.

In a tribute to Marguerite, Dr Lucy Cranwell Smith writes (3), "I knew Marguerite very well and benefitted greatly from all contacts with her. She was ever generous especially if asked to help out with meetings and shows at Auckland Museum...many young plant enthusiasts owed a great deal to her." Marguerite was Auckland University physicist Dr Ruth Lyon's aunt.

Marguerite was born in Clay Cross, Derbyshire, England and was one of a family of four children brought to Auckland by their parents in 1906. Dr Dingley in her tribute to Marguerite (4) records, "Madge [Miss Marguerite Crookes] was eleven when she attended Miss Bewe's School for Girls, then the Auckland Girls' Grammar and finally Auckland University College." She graduated B.A. in 1920 and was awarded the John Tinline Scholarship in English and in 1921 graduated M.A. with double Second Class Honours in botany and English. Marguerite also studied painting with John Weekes at the Elam School of Art in Auckland and she obtained great pleasure from painting in watercolours and oils (4).

In 1923–26 Marguerite gave a winter course of lectures on natural history under the auspices of the Workers Education Association and formed the W.E.A. Natural History Club which is still active as the Auckland Natural History Club (4). She wrote and illustrated a series of articles on native plants for the Auckland Star and the Lyttelton Times in the 1920s and in the 1950s published articles in The Weekly News. In later years, pioneer botanists Dr Cranwell Smith and Dr Lucy Moore also wrote general articles on native plants for the Auckland Star. Included in the aims of these publications by the pioneer botanists was the especially praiseworthy aim of helping children to understand our plants. The newspaper articles by Marguerite were republished in her well-known book "Plant Life in Maoriland: A Botanist's Note Book" which was published by Whitcombe and Tombs in 1926 (1); a considerable achievement for the youthful botanist at the age of 28.

The venue for Marguerite's published work was not the more formal science journals, but rather the N.Z. Smallholder and the Auckland Botanical Society Newsletter. Included in the N.Z. Smallholder were seven articles on the botany of Rangitoto Island published in 1928; and in 1931–32 she published in the same journal eight articles on orchids. Then follows a gap of 17 years before Marguerite published again when her interests turned to ferns and in 1949 she published her only paper in a formal science journal, "A revised and annotated list of New Zealand Filicinae" in Transactions of the Royal Society of N.Z (2). Clearly, this paper on New Zealand ferns indicates that she had developed an understanding of ferns that up to 1949 was not reflected in any published work. Dr Dingley (4) has suggested that Marguerite's interest in ferns may have been initiated by a series of 16 articles on growing ferns by Elizabeth F. Kibblewhite in the N.Z. Smallholder in 1929–31. Dr Dingley records that Miss Kibblewhite was the first woman in New Zealand to receive the National Diploma of Horticulture which was awarded to her in 1929 (see 7, p.45 and Appendix VI). Dr Dingley notes that Miss Kibblewhite in an article on ferns in the N.Z. Smallholder of 16 May 1930 announced the formation of a Fern Society. H.B. Dobbie (1852–1940) the pioneer New Zealand pteridologist had also published articles about ferns in the 1928 issues of the N.Z. Smallholder. Perhaps these developments acted as an impetus for Marguerite to develop her passion for the study of ferns which was her most important contribution to botanical science. Marguerite corresponded with authorities interested in fern species in the Pacific Basin, including E.B. Copeland and R.E. Holttum.

Dobbie's "New Zealand Ferns" in its third edition (1931,5) was the standard text on New Zealand ferns but was recognised by Marguerite and others in the 1940s as seriously out-of-date and needing revision and Marguerite was approached to edit a fourth edition. She completed the "revised and edited with additional matter" fourth edition of "New Zealand Ferns" in 1951 (6). In the Preface Marguerite particularly acknowledges Miss Kibblewhite, "To my old friend Miss E.F. Kibblewhite who assisted with specimens and records of many valuable observations and to whom I owe a debt of lasting gratitude in that it was she who first aroused my enthusiasm for ferns, and by ever-ready help and advice fostered a study that has proved a constant delight." A fifth edition (virtually a reprint of the fourth) was published in 1952 and a sixth edition in 1963 with the authorship given on the title-page, "Marguerite Crookes, M.A. Incorporating Illustrations and Original Work by H.B. Dobbie." Dr Dingley (4) records that a seventh edition of "New Zealand Ferns" was prepared but was eventually turned down by the publishers.

Most of Marguerite's work in later years was published in the Auckland Botanical Society Newsletter on a range of botanical subjects, including a series of six articles entitled "Weeds in my garden" published in 1956–57. Then in 1977 she re-examined this topic in an article entitled "Unwanted immigrants" and described garden escapes in the Henderson Valley which had become well established as weeds in the 50 years she had lived in the valley (4). Marguerite was a pioneer conservationist though the term had hardly been used during her era. The protection of the Waitakere Ranges close by where she lived at Henderson was an interest close to her heart but she also worked for the preservation of small bush remnants in the Auckland area. Dr Dingley records an example of Marguerite's conservation effort with regard to the Waitakere Ranges when in March 1974 she made a submission on behalf of the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society for their objection to the Waitakere Tip Scheme which would have ruined the lower waterway of the Waitakere Stream and Bethells Swamp, "It was

said that the way she presented her evidence and pleaded for the preservation of one of the last swamps in the Auckland area won their case."

Marguerite had a long association with horticulture. In 1926 she was a judge for the Royal N.Z. Institute of Horticulture and organised many of the Cheeseman Native Flower Shows at the Auckland Institute and Museum, and was an Executive Officer of the Auckland District Council of the Royal N.Z. Institute of Horticulture.

Marguerite was a foundation member of the Auckland Botanical Society in 1937 and was elected a member of the first Committee and served for 20 years and was also President and Vice-President. She initiated their Newsletter and was Editor for 20 years. Marguerite was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Society in 1964 (4).

Marguerite's honours include the award of the Loder Cup in 1952 for her work on New Zealand ferns. Dr Dingley (4) in her tribute to Marguerite writes, "...She belonged to an era long since passed. As she was an unmarried daughter she lived at home with her parents and was there to meet any emergency and then of course to look after her parents in their old age...In her fifties she had courageously learnt to drive a car and when her parents died the family's holiday house in Mountain Road, Henderson, became her permanent home...She enjoyed living in the Waitakeres and the bush was her garden...She will always be remembered by her old friends for her graciousness, her warm and generous nature, and for her dedication to botany but perhaps botany as an art more than a science and as a result she managed to communicate her view to everyone."

This writer recalls visiting the home of Marguerite with Dr L.H. Millener (b.1914) and Stage III botany students from Auckland University College in 1952 during a visit to Waikumete Cemetery in search of *Phylloglossum drummondii*. Marguerite had just published her edition of "Dobbie" and we were encouraged by Laurie Millener to purchase a copy. I did not meet Marguerite again but recall with affection her gentle manner and enthusiasm and complete dedication to her ferns which were growing in profusion around her small unpretentious cottage. I recall she spoke of the fern prothalli as "her little babies". Surely plant science could have had no greater enthusiast.

Acknowledgements

Dr Joan M. Dingley kindly read and commented on the essay for Marguerite Crookes. This and my earlier articles on pioneer New Zealand women in botany are part of a larger account of New Zealand women in science and I am grateful to the Suffrage Centennial Trust for funding the project.

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A.D.Thomson, Centre for Studies on New Zealand Science History, 5 Karitane Drive, Christchurch 2

DESIDERATA

■ *Notothlaspi rosulatum* at Lake Tennyson

This is one of our most unusual native plants. It grows only in stable scree in Marlborough and through into Canterbury. It takes two years to flower, seed and die. When not in flower it grows as a rosette with the leaves tightly overlapping and curved downward like an umbrella. The foliage is of a brownish, sandy-grey hue and the plants are often difficult to spot amongst the

scree. However, when it is in flower the cone-like heads of flowers are obvious not only by their appearance but by their strong sweet fragrance. You can often smell them before you can see the plants.

There is, or was, a large population just off the 4-wheel drive track from the Rainbow Road to the Southern end of Lake Tennyson. Just at the top of the rise, before the track drops down to the lake, there is on the right, a patch of stable scree which extends up to a narrow stream bed on the slopes above. There was a population of a thousand, more or less, on this stable scree at least until 1997.

I have observed this population on a number of occasions and gained the impression that, not only are they biennial, but in the case of this population they all flower one year and they are all in the vegetative, non-flowering phase the next year. This would be unusual as normally one would expect at least some to be in flower each year.

PLEASE can anyone who is in the area have a good look at the population as far as it extends up the streambed. Let me know the date of the visit and whether the plants were all showing signs of flowering or all completely vegetative or if there were some of each, and approximate proportions of flowering/nonflowering plants.

They should start flowering in mid to late November and continue through to January and then be in seed till April-May. I suspect that they may all be in the vegetative stage this summer in which case they will be very hard to see in the scree until late autumn when the plants should have grown to about 4 cm diameter. If so, this will be a good season to make observations as any plants which are out of phase with the rest of the population will be easy to see as they will be in flower.

Please send your observations to **Phil Gardner**, 186 Marsden Point Rd, Ruakaka, Northland. Phone/Fax (09)432 8525, e-mail: phil.gardner@xtra.co.nz

■ Request for *Hydrocotyle* specimens

I am preparing a paper on a new adventive species of *Hydrocotyle* which has been previously misidentified as *H. novae-zeelandiae* and *H. moschata*, and I would like more specimens to obtain a better picture of its current distribution. So far it appears to be well established on the east coast of Northland between Moerewa and Wellsford. Any fresh or dried specimens of hairy hydrocotyles with location details would be appreciated, but especially any from north of Auckland.

Chris Ecroyd, Forest Research, Private Bag 3020, Rotorua

PUBLICATIONS

■ Journals received

New Zealand Native Orchid Group Journal 73

(December 1999; ISSN 1170-4543) Edited by Ian St George. 43 p.

Original papers in this issue are: Graeme Jane & Gael Donaghy – The second coming; Bruce Irwin – *Corybas trilobus* “pygmy/sandhills”; Bruce Irwin – *Corybas trilobus* from southern Wairarapa; Dan Hatch – The NZ genera 10: *Caladenia*.

Editor

