

EDITORIAL WANDERINGS

CYATHODES COLENSOI

Allen gives the flowering period of Cyathodes colensoi as December and January. On a visit to Jolies Pass and Jacks Pass on the 24th and 25th May, 1975 this species was seen flowering in great abundance. Other plants noticed in flower were: Cassinia vauvillersii, Senecio bellidioides, Senecio lautus, Wahlenbergia albomarginata, Celmisia du-rietzii, Celmisia laricifolio, Meuhlenbeckia axillaris, Gaultheria rupestris, Pernettya alpina, Dracophyllum Sp. Euphrasia zelandica.

IPHIGENIA NOVAE-ZELANDIAE

What a delightful flower Iphigenia novae-zelandiae bears. On a trip to the Bankside reserve on 13th November, 1974 numerous plants of Iphigenia were noticed with their dainty white flowers partly hidden in the grass. Also in the reserve were a number of Pterostylis mutica with flower heads that had withered before they had fully grown. The cause of this withering was not apparent. It was interesting to find plants of this species with similar withered flowers on Mt. Herbert a few days afterwards.

OPHIOGLOSSUM CORIACEUM

One more note on Ophioglossum coriaceum, this time concerning the largest find of all. On the 23rd April, 1975 we travelled to the end of the Ellesmere Spit road and walked further on for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour until we approached two largish hollows. In these hollows were hundreds and hundreds of Ophioglossum, some with fertile fronds just peeping through the soil. The fertile fronds of others were fully developed whilst some had dropped their spores.

PTERISTYLIS GRAMINEA

An unusual finding was a plant of Pteristylis graminea var. graminea with twin flower heads. This was seen on the edge of the Okuti reserve on 28th October, 1974. Both flowers were normal in shape and appeared little if any smaller in size from the adjacent single headed plants.

CYATHODES JUNIPERINA

Autumn is a good time to visit the Eyrewell reserve. On the 26th April, 1975 we greatly enjoyed the brave show of berries provided by the many Cyathodes juniperina plants. The colour of the berries range from white, through various shades of pink, to a very dark red.

CHILOGLOTTIS CORNUTA

We did not mean to visit the Bottle Lake Plantation at New Brighton on the 23rd October, 1974 but somehow we found ourselves there. What a pleasant surprise it was to find growing under the trees three patches of the orchid Chiloglottis cornuta with one of them in flower. They appeared to be finding the growing conditions satisfactory. Let us hope that they spread.

MENTHA CUNNINGHAMII

Mentha cunninghamii could be a more abundant plant on the Port Hills than would appear from the comparatively few findings by us. It was seen a few years ago on the Lyttelton reserve but not on recent visits. Other findings have been under a rock on the track from Halswell Quarries to the Summit Road, in a ditch on the Summit Road near Coppers Knob and last year in a damp grassy area in Victoria Park. The latest finding was on the 1st February, 1975 in full flower in the upper portion of the Ahuriri bush.

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A FURTHER NOTE ON BAUMEA RUBIGINOSA - A SPECIES RARE IN CANTERBURY

R. Mason

On the cover of the Society's journal for 1973 (No. 6) there is an illustration of the sedge Baumea rubiginosa and on page 1a a note mentions that it was rare in Canterbury, but that it had recently been found at Mt. Grey. In fact there seem to be only four definite records for Canterbury and all are fairly recent. Neither of the Armstrongs found it in Canterbury, nor did Laing find it on Bank's Peninsula. There is nothing to show that Kirk found it when he was stationed at Lincoln College at a time when there was much swampy land between there and the Lake Ellesmere, conditions one would think very favourable for Baumea rubiginosa.

The first known collection for Canterbury is one I made in the upper Waiiau Valley in a wet patch by the roadside between Gabriel's Gully and Camp Stream in 1962 on 31st January. The second is that of Dr. Moore from a swampy neglected corner of a paddock at the Carter's Road and English Road near Greenpark on 29th October, 1962. The third I made on 24th November, 1967 near the coast about half a mile south west of Wakanui Beach (Grid. ref. S103 315959). The latest is that of Mr. John Thompson at Journey's End, Mount Grey on 23rd May, 1973. Mr. Thompson mentions that farming operations would very likely soon destroy the patch at Mount Grey and that near Greenpark has already been so destroyed. Baumea rubiginosa was probably