

Editorial

Carol West

Kia ora ki te whanau o Te Rōpū Manāki i ngā Tamariki a Tāne o te Whanganui a Tara. The Wellington Botanical Society certainly is a family and I'm sorry that we have lost a number of our kaumatua since the last *Bulletin* was published. Three kaumatua who were prominent in the Society and in my acquaintance are: Tony Druce, arguably the tekoteko or figurehead of our Society, and an editor of the *Bulletin* for many years; Kingsley Brown who, for 25 years after he retired, ably managed the Society's funds and skipped nimbly about the hillsides; and John Findlay who submitted a poem for this issue (see overleaf) and latterly had a keen interest in mosses. Three mighty totara have fallen in Tane's forest.

This is my last issue as Editor. I apologise for the long interval between this issue and Number 47, published in September 1996. Six years is a rather long time to wait for an annual publication. However, I had to wait until 1998 before I had enough material for an issue. Hopefully, with the Editor now based in Wellington, members will submit material more freely. Please support the *Bulletin*—members of the Society have many interesting plant stories to tell.

I would like to thank the authors of this *Bulletin* for their patience and their informative articles. Thanks also to Peter de Lange for sharing his experience of Norfolk Island with Judith Petterson and me. Finally, thanks to Jeremy Rolfe for typesetting and providing photographs on the cover and accompanying John Findlay's poem overleaf.