

There is a clear pattern, with authors from New Zealand supporting center-of-origin/long-distance dispersal models, and authors from other countries favouring vicariance. This reflects current funding practices in New Zealand science. For example, all four proposals to FRST for funding of panbiogeographic (vicariance) research have been rejected, with the Foundation relying each time on reviewer input from opponents of panbiogeography. It is hardly accidental that of the original New Zealand panbiogeographers, two (Craw and Climo) lost their jobs, four (Grehan, Heads, Page and Tangney) found employment overseas, while two (Gray and Henderson) found work in New Zealand but have never again publicly supported panbiogeography.

#### Acknowledgment

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Ironically, in his influential account of contemporary systematics Hull (1988) proposed the term 'New Zealand school' of biogeography for the New Zealand panbiogeographers. The critical importance of the New Zealand school in the development of biogeography is now widely acknowledged by a growing group of panbiogeographers in countries such as Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Spain and Italy (e.g. Llorente Bousquets and Morrone, 2001, Luna-Vega *et al.* 2001). This is probably the first time that a group of New Zealand biologists has had such a direct influence on the science in South America and Europe.

## Katie Reynolds

Graeme Platt

"The most humble weed is no less interesting than a mighty forest giant and deserves equal consideration".

I vividly remember the events surrounding my first ever encounter with the late Katie Reynolds. One of the workers at the Nursery came running to say that there was a grumpy old lady in the retail area wanting to speak to me. When I entered the shade house Katie asked in her imperious manner "Where did I get hold of that?" as she prodded a small specimen of a rare native fern *Davallia tasmanii* endemic to the Three Kings Islands with her walking stick. I replied that Ross Michie had given me a piece out of his garden at Kaitaia. "You know Ross then, it's the only place you could have obtained it", was her rejoinder.

Katie was a remarkable plantswoman: she not only knew her plants, in this case my plants, she also instinctively knew where I got them from. Like many great people, her at times brusque exterior totally belied her true inner warmth and the generous heart of a truly wonderful lady. So began a friendship that lasted up until the time of her death, each time I passed through Whangarei, calling in to see Katie became an obligatory event. Time to have a chat –

that at times lasted all day -and to collect seeds and cuttings from her garden.

It has taken the rest of the country over sixty years to catch up to Katie. It was in her garden that I first encountered many rare native trees and plants. She had a collection obtained from Northland and the northern offshore islands during her boating days. Among her treasures were *Pittosporum fairchildii*, *Tecomanthe speciosa*, *Pseudopanax ferox*, *Pseudopanax gilliesii*, *Nestegis apetala*, *Cordyline kasper*, *Xeronema callistemon*, *Coprosma macrocarpa*, *Pomaderris rugosa*, the Poor Knights Island forms of *Hoheria populnea* and *Hedycarya arborea*, and the three rare northern hebes, *Hebe speciosa*, *H. bollonsii* and *H. brevifolia*, amongst others. I first encountered the deep violet-flowered *H. macrocarpa* var. *latisejala* in her Anzac Rd garden. *Pittosporum dallii*, from the bleak and at times frigid Cobb Ridge in the mountains of North West Nelson was thriving on a poor clay bank alongside a large grove of bananas in her subtropical garden.

Katie was a friend and colleague of the two great Lucy's of New Zealand botany, Lucy Cranwell, and Lucy Moore. It was via Katie that I often felt as if I

knew these ladies personally such was her enthusiasm for the relationship enjoyed with them and botany. After her retirement to Warkworth Lucy Moore became a regular caller and I eventually got to know her well. Katie could at times be pedantically cantankerous. I remember an incident when someone got up her nose and she heard them rabbiting on about the marvellous view. Katie resolutely interjected to say "That is not a view, that's a vista!", baffling the person into silence with the power of her intellect. At the first opportunity I opened up the dictionary to define the difference between a view and a vista, which I very doubtfully resolved to my satisfaction by coming to the conclusion that a vista is a general panoramic landscape where as a view is more specific, such as a view of the lake through the trees.

One of Katie's proudest achievements was her successful campaign to save Coppermine Island from the predations of the multinational miners. During one of our many discussions about plants, Katie pointed out to me the most humble weed was no less interesting than a mighty forest giant and deserved equal consideration. This profound statement is only equalled in the annals of botany by Mr R. Brown's advice to Leonard Cockayne – "Trust not authority; pay no heed to the books but go to the plants

themselves". I am confident I got Brown's advice right as I never studied a botanical book during the first thirty years of my interest with plants. However I got Katie's advice terribly wrong, as weeds are only defined by our sense of outrage and plants by the magnitude of our affection. I closed my mind to only studying plants that I thought worthy of consideration. Weeds were neglected in preference to mighty trees and plants of interest. Any plant that I didn't like or perceived to be useless was overlooked and trampled on while I single-mindedly pursued my interest in the great and mighty. If I was to start out my life over again there are at least two things I would change. The first is I would treat all plants as equals. Secondly I would develop my language skills- in addition to speaking English I would speak Mandarin, French and Spanish.

Katie Reynolds was right. I would urge any person interested in plants, trees and botany is to follow Katie Reynolds' sound advice along with Mr Brown's wisdom.

#### Editor's Note

Other memories of Katie Reynolds were published in Volume 55(1) of the Journal in June 2000.

## **Frank Philip Hudson, 1918-2003**

**Maureen E. Young & Ewen K. Cameron**

### **Maureen E. Young**

Frank Hudson was born in Herne Bay, Auckland on 4 Feb 1918, and lived all his life, apart from war service and his last few years, on the family farm at Kaipara Flats. He left Kaipara Flats primary school when he was 14, to work with his father felling bush. He was in the territorials before the war, mainly as a break from farm life, then in the army when war broke out, but applied to transfer to the air force. He trained for a year in Canada, and was then sent to England, where he flew with the RAF, though he was still a member of the RNZAF. He was a rear gunner in Bomber Command, and flew in 18 operations over enemy territory. He survived a crash, and rescued another crewmember, despite the burning plane and exploding ammunition, and outlived three crews and four navigators. He brought an English war bride home, and they raised four children. He divorced later in life.

His first involvement with Auckland Bot Soc was when fellow Warkworth resident Lucy Moore (1906-1987) was asked to lead a Bot Soc trip to Logues Bush on Labour Weekend 1984. As she had no wheels she asked Frank to supply them, so Frank, Lucy, myself and Frank's friend Marcus Dill joined the trip. I remember Sandra Jones looking at me in astonishment when I found *Bulbophyllum tuberculatum* (now *Adelopetalum tuberculatum*) and knew what it was,

although I hadn't seen it before, and then Frank found two large totara side by side and proceeded to give a lecture on why one was *Podocarpus totara* and the other was *P. hallii*. We were then instantly accepted as the right sort of people and both joined Bot Soc after that trip. Frank resigned (or I resigned him) in 2002, as he was no longer able to join in field trips or read the Journal. His last trip was to Pureora, Easter 1999.

Annie Grace reminded me, in a card she sent, about Frank's habit on Bot Soc trips of dehiscing (dehissing?) his lunchtime can of beer - usually splattering the nearest female.

### **Ewen K. Cameron**

In July 1998 at the regular Bot Soc monthly meeting we marked three members 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays (Dan Hatch, Frank Hudson and Jack Rattenbury) with cake and photos. Sandra Jones recorded (*ABS Journal 53(2)*: 52, 1998) that Frank was a relative newcomer to the Society being a member for only 13 years (in comparison with the other two), but every year he jointly led 1-2 field trips with his new partner and Bot Soc stalwart, Maureen Young. Also that Frank has been a regular at evening meetings, field trips and almost every "away" field trip over the last decade. I well remember his fondness for a glass of sherry