

CANTERBURY BOTANICAL SOCIETY (NZ) INC.

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT 2005

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE (2004-2005)

President:	vacant
Vice Presidents:	Bryony Macmillan, Ryan Young (membership coordinator)
Secretary:	Margaret Geerkens
Treasurer:	Trevor Blogg
Committee:	Rachel Payne, Tomi Rigarisford, Don Bell, Peter Hansen, Hank Verhoef
Hon Auditor:	R. S. Abbott, ACIS, ANZIM

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

June:	AGM Speaker. David Given: The roles of Botanic Gardens worldwide.
July:	Sarah Richardson: 120,000 years of ecosystem development at Franz Josef.
August:	Roger Keey: The sub-antarctic islands of Campbell and Enderby and their flora.
September:	Ryan Young: Spring flowers in the western Himalayan Ranges of the Annapurna Conservation Area, Nepal.
October:	Jenny Schneiderheinze: Photoinhibition under drought and high light loads in New Zealand's divaricate shrubs. Trevor Partridge: Rural ecology.
November:	Kerry Ford: <i>Craspedia</i> , the woolly heads.
December:	Grant Bawden: Alpine plants. Followed by an end of year supper
January:	Members' Show and Tell
March:	Rowan Buxton: Experimental work on hydroseeding pioneer species on mined sites.
April:	Ecki Brockerhoff: Historical deforestation on the Canterbury Plains and the role of plantations in providing forest habitat.
May:	Sue Molloy: Photos of Canterbury College students' field trip to Cass, 1915.

FIELD TRIPS AND CAMPS

July:	Botanical curiosities in the Botanical Gardens. Leader, Max Visch
August:	Addington Bush. Leader, Mike Peters. Cancelled due to weather
September:	Wonderful wetlands! Travis Wetland Heritage Park and Bexley Wetland. Leader, Ryan Young
October:	Kaitorete Spit. Leader, Trevor Partridge

- November: Pearce Queen Elizabeth II Trust covenant. Leaders, Miles Giller and Judy Bugo
- December: Camp based at Mount Somers motor camp (3 days). Manager: Margaret Geerkens
- February: Camp at Mount Cook National Park, based at Glentanner Park Centre (6 days).
- March: Tawhai Reserve, Oxford. Leader, Anthony Holcroft
- April: Eyrewell Forest. Leaders, Ecki Brockerhoff and Chris Ecroyd
- May: Grampians Station, and Medbury and Culverdon Reserves. Leader, Allen Cookson

THE PROGRAMME

We have enjoyed a full and varied programme. Three members gave talks and six trips were led by members. The Show and Tell evening was well supported, illustrating the skills and enthusiasms of members. A novelty at the camps was that participants provided all their own meals, which were cooked communally in congenial surroundings. A convivial close to general meetings was provided by Daphne and Miles Banks who brought the supper.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

This continues to be an important means of information and social cohesion for the whole membership. Those involved with its regular production are John Ward, Philippa Horn, Fiona Lees and Bryony Macmillan. Half the members now receive the newsletter by email which goes to 87 households.

THE JOURNAL

Journal No.38 for 2004 was edited by Peter Wardle (botanical material) and Philippa Horn (technical) and the result is a most stimulating publication of 118 pages. The articles are grouped into related topics or sections and we expect this will encourage future authors to contribute to those sections or new ones. Many line drawings, maps, and photographs both black and white and coloured are included.

MEMBERSHIP

Numbers are steady at about 200. There has been a very welcome improvement in the rate of payment of subscriptions this year which makes management easier.

Roger Keey was elected a life member in recognition of his many innovative years on the executive of the Society.

On her retirement after many years with the Society, Fairlie Horsley generously gave a donation.

We regretfully record the deaths of Joan Edgar and Jack Austin.

PROJECTS

In August our grant from the Biodiversity Condition Fund came to fruition with the planting of 120 *Olearia adenocarpa* at McLeans Island where it is endemic. The plants were raised and the project planned by Peter Heenan (Landcare Research) and Philip Grove (Environment Canterbury).

At Gardenz at Labour Weekend we shared a stand with New Zealand Ecological Restoration Network, to promote our activities. Ryan Young with Mike and Tracy Peters assembled the display which was awarded first among clubs and societies.

In April seven members took part in a Bioblitz held to record the organisms found in Hagley Park and Botanic Gardens. It was run by Landcare Research, Lincoln University, and the City Council.

AWARDS

At the Canterbury and Westland Science and Technology Fair held on 22 August our judges were Margaret Geerkens and Pat Morris. The junior prize winner was Hugo Miller, Halswell School. The title of his exhibit was Reforestation on the Port Hills. The senior prize winners were Rachael Hemmingway and Philippe McMurdo, Rangiora High School. Their exhibit was titled Plant Talking.

Two members, Eleanor Bissell (Ferndale School) and Geoff Henderson (Rangiora Borough School), were awarded New Zealand Science and Technology Teacher Fellowships to engage in research for a year.

STUDENT SUPPORT

A grant of \$600 was made to Debra Wotton, School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury to assist with travel expenses in her study of the effect of decline in kereru numbers on the dispersal of large-fruited trees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To all the committee and members who have so willingly carried out their tasks this year we thank you.

Bryony Macmillan and Ryan Young
Vice Presidents