

Canterbury Botanical Society (NZ) Inc.

Fifty-third Annual Report 2006

Officers and Committee (2005-2006)

President: Ryan Young
Vice President/s: Bryony Macmillan
Don Bell
Secretary: Margaret Geerkens
Treasurer: Trevor Blogg
Committee: Dean Pendrigh, Judy Bugo, Gillian Giller, Henk Verhoef,
Rachel Payne, Anne Acton-Adams

Monthly Programme (2005-2006)

June 11 2005 AGM Speaker: Bill Sykes "The Pacific element in the Kermadec Islands flora".
No Field Trip.

July 1 Speaker: Joe Cartman. Title: "Travels in British Columbia".
July 2 Field Trip: Trees for Canterbury, Charlesworth Street, Linwood.

August 5 Speaker: Nicholas Head, DoC Botanist. Title: "*Pittosporum patulum*, *Peraxilla tetrapetala* and the effects of the possum on the vegetation". Debra Wotton, our student grant recipient, gave a short report "Seed dispersal and Kereru".
August 6 Field Trip: Botanic Gardens visit, Max Visch.

September 2 Speaker: Prof. J Lovis. Title: "Ferns of the Canterbury Port Hills".
September 3 Field Trip: Visit Paul Michael's Nursery "Fern Factor" at Templeton.

October 7 Speaker: Anita Spencer, DoC Biodiversity Ranger. Title: "Highlights and lowlights of threatened plant work by DOC in the North Canterbury Area".
October 9 Field Trip: Omaha Bush.

November 4 Speaker: David Norton. Title: "Tiromoana Bush".
November 5 Field Trip: Vicinity of Kate Valley.

December 2 Speaker: Hugh Wilson. Title: "Unique Stewart Island".
December 4-11 Camp: Stewart Island.
December 31 – January 7 2006 Alternative Camp: Awakino Ski Field.

January 27 Speaker: Dean Pendrigh. Title: "Southwest Australian Orchids".
January 28 Field trip: Amberley Beach Wetlands.
(Note: This was February's programme due to Waitangi Day Holiday)

March 3 "Show and Tell".
March 4 Field trip: Cancelled

April 7 Speaker: Don Bell for Leicester Kyle. Title: "The Botany of the North Buller Moors".
April 8 Field Trip: QE II covenant on the south side of Mount Grey, near Lake Janet.

May 5 Speaker: Peter Buchanan. Title “New Zealand Iconic Fungi “From Vegetable Caterpillar to Bioblitz Novelty”

May 6 Field trip: Department of Conservation Motukarara Nursery

The Programme:

We had a good range of topics and also great field trips. Two camps, Stewart Island and Awakino Ski Field. Stewart Island involved many varied field trips around the Island. Awakino involved staying at the ski lodge and botanising up on the alpine fields.

Newsletter:

Yet again the Society must show gratitude to John Ward and his effort in producing our monthly newsletter. This also included chasing up reports for the newsletter deadline to advising on editing items. Dean Pendrigh has taken over until John recovers from illness. And now Dean is going a great job. Fiona Lees has the much appreciated task of printing labels for posting newsletters. Bryony Macmillan is also to be commended for mailing out the newsletters. An apology is made to some members who for unknown circumstances have had problems receiving their electronic version of the newsletter.

Publications:

Again the Society must show gratitude and give thanks for the past effort of Peter Wardle (Botanical editor) and Philippa Horn (Technical editor) as journal editors. It is regretted that we now no longer have Peter and Philippa’s services with the Journal due to other commitments. We are grateful that we publish Journal 40 as an Arthur’s Pass National Park Special thanks to Colin Burrows and his research of the area. For the Society to continue with its publication, the point must be stressed that we require an editor or editors for the journal.

Membership:

The membership stands at a total of 167 members, Single memberships 118, Family memberships 38, and Life memberships 11. Thanks to Don Bell Membership co-ordinator for making the membership subscription collection run smoothly. The subscription is to remain the same, no increase.

Projects:

The Society’s Constitution was amended after it was brought to the society’s attention that it was out dated. A draft of the new and improved version of the constitution was tabled at December’s general meeting and unanimously voted in by members. The *Olearia adenocarpa* project continued with the second planting. The hard work of Peter Heenan can not go unrecognised. Once again the Society gained 1st place for “Society or Club” for its display at Gardenz. Thanks to all those involved.

Awards:

Judy Bugo and I were the judges for the Society’s prizes (things of a botanical nature) for the Canterbury-Westland Science Fair on Sunday 21 August. Nathan Jones from Russley School won the Junior Prize with his entry of “Wilding Trees are killing off Canterbury’s High Country”. Hannah Walter from Hagley Community College was the winner of the Senior Prize with her entry of “How thirsty are trees.” Bryony Macmillan was awarded Life membership for her commitment to the Society. Senior recipient for the Bledisloe Award goes to David Rossiter for his work in restoration projects in north Canterbury. The junior recipient is Debra Wotton

for her work as last year's grant recipient. Congratulations to Dr. Peter Wardle for receiving The New Zealand Order of Merit on the Queens Birthday Honours List.

Student Grant:

Richard Pender, an Honours student at Canterbury University, obtained the grant this year. Richard is researching the Evaluation of Taxonomic Status of *Helichrysum intermedium* var. *acutum*.

Acknowledgements:

Daphne and Miles Banks for running supper, Ann McMillan for sales table, and of course all speakers, field trip leaders and camp leaders. Also the committee for all the work involved in the organisation of the Society.

President's Comments:

I must thank the Committee for all their hard work in organising and assisting in the smooth running of the Society, and of course all the members with which this Society would not function. However I cannot over stress the point that we need members to stand for the committee to help the Society and its future prospects. In particular we need an editor or editors for the Journal as it is really unthinkable if we cannot continue to produce a Journal. We are working on the next year's programme and your input would help. I would again like to thank all members during my first term as President.

Ryan Young