

Canterbury Botanical Society (NZ) Inc.

Fifty-fourth Annual Report 2007

Officers and Committee (2006-2007)

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, Anne Acton-Adams

Monthly Programme (2006-2007)

June 11 2006 AGM Speaker: Prof. Ian Spellerberg. Title: "Lupins and Macrocarpas: candidates for additions to the New Zealand Flora"
No Field Trip.

July 1 Speaker: Sue Scheele. Title: "Maori uses for plants"

July 2 Field Trip: Riccarton Bush.

August 4 Speaker: Shannel Courtney of Nelson DOC. Title: "Alpine Plants of Nelson and Marlborough Mountains"

August 5 Field Trip: Addington Bush.

September 1 Speaker: Peter Heenan. Title: "Exciting Changes in Botany"

September 2 Field Trip: French Farm Covenant belonging to Jan Cook and David Brailsford.

October 6 Speaker: Colin Burrows. Title: "Seed Germination"

October 7 Field Trip: Ahuriri Summit Bush.

November 3 Speaker: Philip Grove. Title: "Botany of Environmental Canterbury Reserves" Richard Pender our grant recipient gave a short presentation on "Taxonomic evaluation of *Helichrysum intermedium* var. *acutum*".

November 17-19 Field Trip: Spring Camp at Gunn's Camp South Canterbury.

December 1 Speaker: Patrick Brownsey of Te Papa Museum. Title: "Pteridology in Turmoil" A Century of Change in Fern Systematics. To mark the centenary of the Great Exhibition, which the Mona Vale Fernery is a remaining part of.

December 2 Field Trip: Peel Forest.

January 1 New Years Weekend Camp at Nelson Lakes.

February 2 Speaker: Ryan Young. Title: "Wengen in the Swiss Alps"

February 9-11 Camp Hinewai.

March 2 Speaker: Peter Wardle. Title: “Origins of the New Zealand Flora – Trying to Keep Up to Date”

March 3 Field trip: Mt Mason.

April 13 Speaker: Show and Tell.

April 14 Field Trip: Hillside Okuku.

May 4 Speaker: Geoff Henderson Title: “Exotic Skills or Native Talent? Fleshy fruit Dispersal in Canterbury”

May 5-6 Field trip: Camp Conway Flats

The Programme:

Yet again a fantastic year full of good topics and field trips. Four camps in the past year, what a great effort. Gunn’s Camp South Canterbury (spring), Nelson Lakes around the New Years period (Early Summer), Hinewai (summer) and Conway Flat (autumn). There was some inclement weather on the early camp, but a great range of areas in which to botanise, they all were all enjoyed by those who attended. If you have an idea for a talk, field trip or camp please contact the committee.

Newsletter:

Dean Pendrigh has done a fantastic job and has developed the newsletter somewhat. Well done Dean. Fiona Lees yet again has been busy printing labels for the posting of newsletters. Bryony Macmillan is also to be commended for mailing out the newsletters. Again our newsletter is available to members to post items of interest. Please don’t be afraid to use it.

Publications: We have not produced a Journal this year, but are about to release a special edition on Arthur’s Pass National Park, with thanks to Colin Burrows. We are still considering our options for editor. But please if you have material for our journal you are urged to forward it to myself or a member of the committee.

Membership: Our membership to date stands at 170 in total with 117 single memberships, 35 family, 11 life members, 4 NGO and 3 Student members. Many thanks to Gillian Giller, our membership co-ordinator, who has also developed the roll to run efficiently.

Projects: Pteridophytes/Ferns were our only project of the year to coincide with the Centenary of the Great Exhibition of 1906 held in Hagley Park. This was run by Brian Molloy and Patrick Brownsey and utilized The Fernery at Mona Vale. A public talk was given by Patrick (the foremost authority on ferns in New Zealand), and Brian led a field trip to Peel Forest where people who attended were aided by his book “Ferns of Peel Forest”.

Awards: Canterbury Westland Science & Technology Fair. Results for the judging by the Society on exhibits of a botanical nature. Junior (Year 7 & 8) prizes went to first, Kitty Hadley year 7 from Cobham Intermediate School. Her project title was ‘Natural Dyes’ which involved using different plant species’ extracts to dye wool. Second equal went to Aaron Calder year 7 from St. Josephs School. His project title was ‘Detergent and pond life’ which involved using water plants to absorb detergents that could enter drain systems. Second equal Courtney Anngow from Halswell Primary School. Her project title was ‘Seed Certification’ and involved seed germination and germination rates. First Prize in the senior category (Year 9-13) went to Caitlin Cowan year 9 of Marian College. Her project title was ‘Can my favourite plant grow at the beach?’ and involved testing ‘Pansy’ -*Viola x wittrockiana* and ‘Tree Lupin’ - *Lupinus arborea* for salt tolerance. Judged by Ryan Young, Pat Morris and Judy Bugo. Junior recipient

of the Bledisloe award is Richard Pender for his work as last year's grant recipient. The senior award was not awarded this year.

Student Grant: Still being deliberated by Student Grants sub-committee.

Acknowledgements: Daphne and Miles Banks for running supper yet again, Ann McMillan for sales table, all of course speakers and field trip leaders and camp leaders. Margaret Geerkens for her commitment as secretary and Trevor Blogg for his work as Treasurer. Don Bell and Bryony Macmillan for their input also. The committee for all the work involved in the organisation of the Society.

President's Comments: Again the society must be commended for its efforts. We must continue to encourage the botanical pursuits. After all we are aiming to encourage and foster greater relations and learn more within the society and botanically. It has been my pleasure to stand as President for the society in the past year. Again I would like to thank all members of the society.

Ryan Young