

61st Annual Report 2014

Officers and Committee

President:	Jason Butt
Vice-President:	Don Bell
Secretary:	Alice Shanks
Membership Coordinator:	Gillian Giller
Treasurer:	Trevor Blogg
Committee:	Jane Demeter, Melissa Hutchison, Bryony Macmillan, and Dean Pendrigh (Newsletter Editor)

The past year has seen a number of adjustments for the Canterbury Botanical Society with the changing of meeting rooms and uncertainty around availability being an unwelcome one. On a more positive note, we have introduced a botanical photographic competition, which attracted some beautiful images of New Zealand's flora (who said native plants are boring?). The winner was Warren Jowett with a photo of *Myosotis uniflora* from the Hakatere Basin. John Hunt took second and third places with images of *Trichomanes reniforme* and *Metrosideros umbellata*, respectively.

New Zealand lost one of our great botanical stalwarts when Colin Burrows died in January. Colin was a driving force behind the Society's *Journal*, to which he was also a prolific contributor, not to mention his countless contributions to many scientific journals over the years. Needless to say, he will be greatly missed.

I would like to acknowledge the huge contributions of our two outgoing committee officers, with the resignations of both our Treasurer, Trevor Blogg, and Membership Secretary, Gillian Giller. In addition to their enthusiastic involvement over the years in the organisation of trips and speakers, Trevor has done an excellent job keeping the books in order, while Gillian's quietly persistent pursuit of tardy subscribers has helped the Society's bottom line.

The Christchurch Botanic Gardens celebrated its 150th anniversary this year and opened a new Visitor Centre in April. The Canterbury Botanical Society was very pleased to be able to donate an original drawing by Hugh Wilson of *Heliohebe lavaudiana*, the same drawing that graces his book *Plant Life on Banks Peninsula*.

The Senior Bledisloe Trophy was awarded to Joy Talbot for her work on the Society's journals. The Society gave the Student Grant to Sarah Wright, for travel expenses to aid her Masters research into *Pittosporum obcordatum*.

Jason Butt