

Book review : Kantvilas, G.; Jarman, S.J. 1999
Lichens of rainforest in Tasmania and south-eastern
Australia. 212 pp. p/back. ABRS Publications, Canberra.
\$A39.95.

A difficulty of providing for the specialist and ardent enthusiast is a common problem for writers of authoritative works in any field. Kantvilas and Jarman have overcome this admirably in their recent book on the macrolichens of Tasmania and South Australia. Descriptions of over 120 species accompanied by 240 excellent colour photographs by B.A. Fuhrer, provide ready assistance to those less familiar with lichen identification.

The Southern Hemisphere has a rich diversity in its lichen flora, with many species shared among the rainforests of Tasmania, New Zealand and South America. This book gives a broad introduction to their distribution, structure, classification and identity and the photographs are often used to highlight the terminology which can be quite daunting for some. A key, glossary and bibliography are also there for those wishing to take their study further. For me, the strength of the book lies in the superb photography, already enabling me to make sense of many of those strange and beautiful plants, the identity of which I have had to ignore through lack of time or (more usually!) expertise. A thoroughly delightful, browsable and usable book!

The Nature guide to New Zealand Native Orchids

Final comment on this wonderful book. Ian St George tells us that a new edition is already on its way so we have decided to wait for it to come to press before ordering. Contact Allison Knight 487 8265, or alli_knight@hotmail.com

Closer ties with other Botanical Societies.

The BSO would like to welcome closer ties with the Canterbury, Nelson and Manawatu Botanical Societies and thank them for their support.