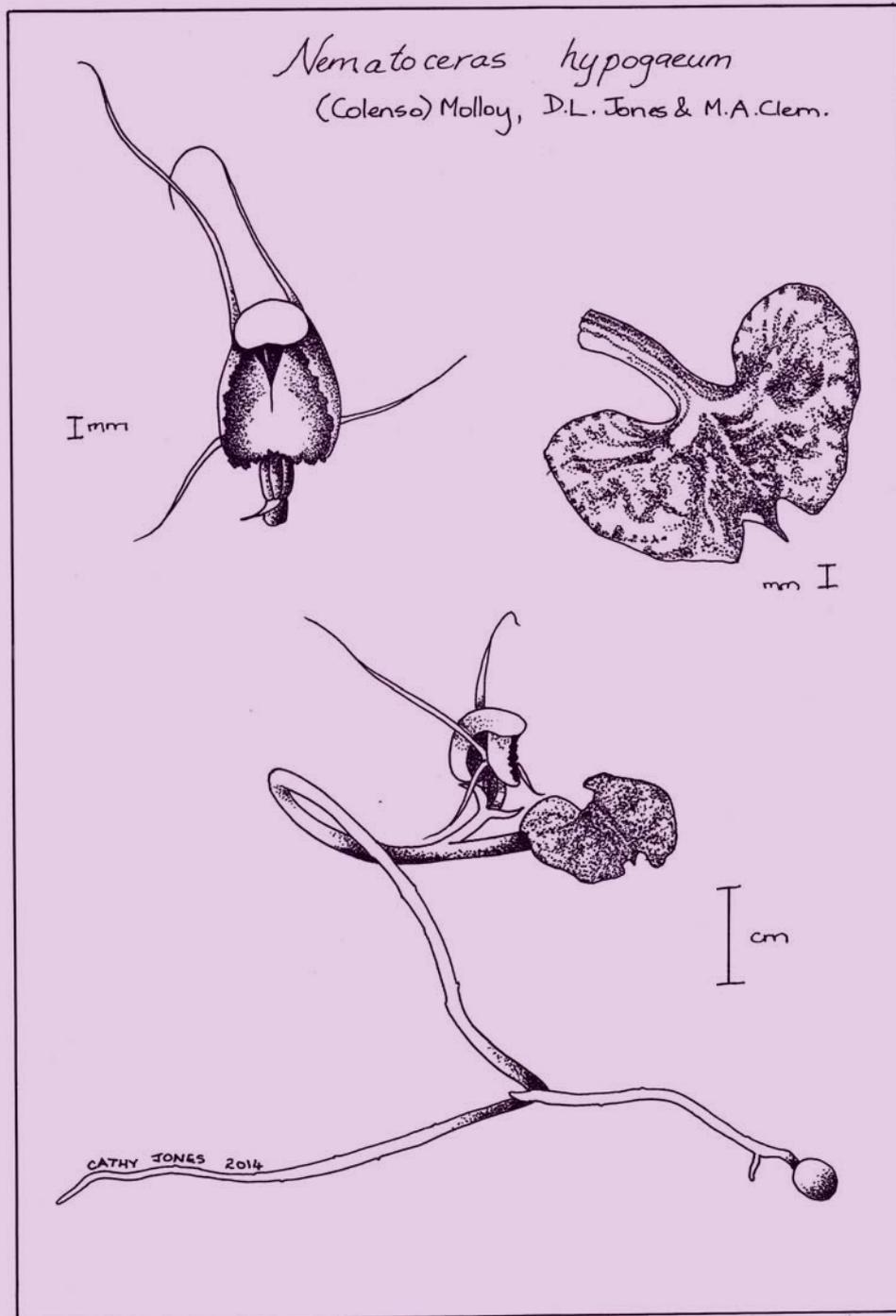


NEW ZEALAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 118

December 2014



New Zealand Botanical Society

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Subscriptions

The 2015 ordinary and institutional subscriptions are \$25 (reduced to \$18 if paid by the due date on the subscription invoice). The 2015 student subscription, available to full-time students, is \$12 (reduced to \$9 if paid by the due date on the subscription invoice).

Back issues of the *Newsletter* are available at \$7.00 each. Since 1986 the Newsletter has appeared quarterly in March, June, September and December.

New subscriptions are always welcome and these, together with back issue orders, should be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer (address above).

Subscriptions are due by 28 February each year for that calendar year. Existing subscribers are sent an invoice with the December *Newsletter* for the next years subscription which offers a reduction if this is paid by the due date. If you are in arrears with your subscription a reminder notice comes attached to each issue of the *Newsletter*.

Deadline for next issue

The deadline for the February 2015 issue is 25 January 2015.

Please post contributions to:
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Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
169 Tory St
Wellington 6021

Send email contributions to editor@nzbotanicalsociety.org.nz. Files are preferably in MS Word, as an open text document (Open Office document with suffix ".odt") or saved as RTF or ASCII. Macintosh files can also be accepted. Graphics can be sent as TIF JPG, or BMP files; please do not embed images into documents. Alternatively photos or line drawings can be posted and will be returned if required. Drawings and photos make an article more readable so please include them if possible.

Cover Illustration.

Nematoceras hypogaeum drawn by Cathy Jones from a specimen collected by Brenda Oldfield and Don Pittham in forest near the Mataki Lodge, Matakitaki on October 26, 2014.

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New Zealand Botanical Society News

■ Committee for 2015

Nominations for positions of President, Secretary/Treasurer and three committee members for the New Zealand Botanical Society closed on 19 November 2014.

The following nominations, equalling the number of positions available, were received and are declared elected: President Anthony Wright, Secretary/Treasurer Ewen Cameron, Committee members Bruce Clarkson, Colin Webb and Carol West.

We are pleased to announce that Lara Shepherd has agreed to continue as editor for 2015.

■ Presentation of Allan Mere Award for 2014 to Dr Brian Molloy

The Allan Mere was presented to Brian Molloy at a special award ceremony at the Canterbury Botanical Society meeting held at the Riccarton Library and Community Centre, Christchurch, at 7.00 pm Friday 7 November 2014. There was a record turnout of family, colleagues past and present, representatives of bodies Brian has and does serve on and Bot Soc members. Canterbury Botanical Society also presented Brian with a gift of a flowering *Leptinella filiformis* plant, which Brian saved from extinction. Following the presentation John Barkla gave an excellent illustrated survey of Otago Plants and Places. The evening wrapped up with a delicious supper provided by members of Bot Soc.

My korero to Brian and the assembled throng follows.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa
Nga mihi nui ki a koutou
Tihei mauriora

Thank you Jason and members of the Canterbury Botanical Society for your warm welcome and for so willingly agreeing to host this presentation of the Allan Mere.

To give a little background to the award, the Allan Mere was donated by Dr Lucy Moore in 1982 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Harry Howard Barton Allan, first Director of Botany Division, DSIR, and author of Volume 1 of the *Flora of New Zealand*. The Allan Mere is awarded annually by the New Zealand Botanical Society from nominations by Regional Botanical Societies or individual members to persons who have made outstanding contributions to botany in New Zealand. The Mere is housed at the Allan Herbarium at Landcare Research, Lincoln.

The NZBS Committee has unanimously voted to award the Allan Mere for 2014 to Dr Brian Peter John Molloy, and it is my pleasure to present this award to Brian tonight. Peter de Lange, Peter Heenan and Brian's late son Michael nominated Brian and I'd like to specially thank Peter de Lange for his behind-the-scenes work to co-ordinate the nomination process. Peter asked that his apologies be recorded as he is currently in Ruawai, Northland, on DOC business.

The nomination was seconded by three other botanical societies (Auckland, Nelson and Canterbury), the Riccarton Bush Trust, the QEII National Trust, the National Biodiversity Network Trust (UK), Landcare Research (Christchurch and Dunedin), the Department of Conservation, the NZ Plant Conservation Network and two individuals (Joshua Salter and Ian St George).

Since Brian is a son of Canterbury and the Canterbury Botanical Society, and to honour him in his 85th year, I am going to read a few extracts from the nomination papers which may give some of you insights into Brian you might not otherwise have known:

The two Peters note that it is their great privilege and honour to put forward this nomination for Brian – a mentor, a respected colleague and a living icon of New Zealand Botany, Ecology and Plan

Conservation. They also made this nomination on behalf of Michael (Richard) Molloy, Brian's beloved son who passed away on 12 April this year at the age of 54, after a long illness. Mike had in early February 2014 asked the two Peters that his father please be nominated for this award, as a show of his son's love, respect and admiration of his father and his father's passion for plants.

Mike never asked for much and bore his long-term illness stoically, but was fully aware of the stress this put on his parents. Following the February 2011 earthquake which left the Molloy family without a home, Brian became principal care-giver for Mike at a time when many people his age are themselves being cared for by their loved ones. Brian as always did this without complaint, attending to his sick son's needs, at, Mike felt, the expense of his beloved plants. This nomination honours Mike's request.

As a conservationist Brian settled many a debate by using his favoured weapon – 'a cuppa' – often brewed at the roadside to the amusement of an aggrieved landowner or distraught botanist. Few would know that he provided the impetus within the QEII Trust to change covenanting styles from haphazard choices or personal whims to ones setting aside key landscapes, ecosystems and threatened plant and animal habitats. Throughout his career Brian followed the sage advice of his colleague and mentor and friend – the late great Eric Godley. Eric simply asked that people do 'Good Botany'. This Brian has done, and this he has strongly encouraged others to do.

Brian has left an enduring legacy in plant conservation. He was the driver behind New Zealand developing a sensible system for classifying uncommon plants – a push that ultimately resulted in the New Zealand Threat Classification System now used by the New Zealand Government.

As a biosystematist Brian has a well practised eye, and has recognised around 80 potentially new taxa, many discovered after his official retirement in 1995. Whilst many of these have yet to be described, Brian's meticulous herbarium specimens and notes provide a solid basis for future investigation.

Brian has never been one to shy away from presenting the hard facts. He has ever been the champion of the high country farmer. His view of sustainable farming and sensible land use has done much to preserve indigenous diversity. He has shifted the thinking of many traditional farmers towards environmental sustainability, and likewise he has shifted the thinking of ardent conservationists to better accommodate multiple landuses that encompass both conservation and productive sector values.

In the field Brian is one of the most knowledgeable, optimistic and entertaining companions one could possibly hope for. He shares his knowledge and experience effortlessly and selflessly. To his everlasting credit, he has always stopped for ice creams – and especially cream buns from Sim's Bakery in Tinwald – as reward for a long day in the field.

Brian has ever been the humanitarian and family man, proud of his wife Barbara and her art work and gardening interests, devoted to his children and his grandchildren. Brian has always cared for others, and in looking outwardly to others has quietly - but sometimes determinedly - avoided his own recognition in botanical circles. It's high time to rectify this, and we're all delighted that Brian has graciously accepted this award.

Before presenting the Mere, I need to let Brian know that one of Lucy Moore's rules was that the Mere be kept safe at the Allan Herbarium, and only 'let out' for the presentation ceremonies. So Brian, you should make the most of holding it this evening! I'm pleased to say that you do get to keep a fine calligraphed certificate marking the award, as well as a bound copy of your nominators' and seconders' letters leading to the award.

Now I'd like to read out the formal citation entered into the Allan Mere Record Book:

Brian has made outstanding contributions to New Zealand Botany over more than six decades. As a mentor, friend, respected colleague, avid field worker and 'living icon' he has explored, researched and published widely across plant taxonomy, ecology and conservation. In fact, he is heralded as the founding father of today's plant conservation movement, which, like Brian, is deeply rooted in scientific research.

Congratulations Brian on your dedication and significant achievements for botany and plant conservation in New Zealand, and I have much pleasure in presenting you with the Allan Mere Award for 2014.

Anthony Wright, President, New Zealand Botanical Society



Regional Botanical Society News

■ **Auckland Botanical Society**

September Meeting, Lucy Cranwell Lecture

Peter Bellingham, whose company has been enjoyed by ABS members on several camps and field trips, was our Lucy Cranwell lecturer for 2014. Peter outlined the natural causes of past disturbances in our largely forested land, then concentrated on the human-induced disturbances of the last 700 years. These began with the introduction of fire and kiore, and escalated with land clearance and the huge suite of introduced plants and animals since European settlement. Peter has studied the effects of disturbance on soil properties, and on the capacity of native forests to respond to the changed conditions.

September Field Trip

The weather forecast was not good, but apart from a strong wind and turbulent seas, which put paid to seaweed studies, the day remained fine. It was disappointing to see that the well-known "tennis courts", an area of low native turf, was being invaded by taller vegetation. We traversed a new part of

the track that has recently been bought by the Auckland Council. A low afternoon tide allowed for an ascent of Taitomo Island.

October Meeting

Nick Goldwater spoke about the Tahitian chestnut for the Plant of the Month. Ewen Cameron then gave a general introduction to the flora of Rarotonga. He concentrated on describing the upland forests, which are in relatively good condition, compared with the modified lowlands.

October Field Trip

Journey's End, on the Okahukura Peninsula, Kaipara Harbour, was the scene of this month's field trip. A foreshore walk started with a view of a small saltmarsh and then a search for *Myrsine divaricata*. Some regenerating coastal forest was then explored.

Lord Howe Island Camp

A party of 20 people had a fabulous week on Lord Howe Island, the second time that ABS has visited this World Heritage Site. Weed and animal pest control is returning the island towards its original state. Rats, the only remaining animal pest, are being considered for eradication in the near future. Even so, the nesting seabirds are spreading all around the coast now that cats, even as pets, are no longer present. The fitter members of the group climbed Mt Gower (875 metres) and marveled at the vegetation of the cool, moist cloud forest.

November Meeting

Elizabeth Walker's Plant of the Month was pingao, *Ficinia spiralis*. The much anticipated revealing of the 10 species now included in *Kunzea* was the subject of Peter de Lange's talk. First he described the detective work needed to track down the type specimen of *K. ericoides* in the Paris herbarium, then outlined the features that delineate the various new species. Aucklanders were rather relieved that we only have two species growing locally.

November Field Trip

The first "real" day of summer was perfect for the boat trip out to the privately owned Motuketekete Island, one of a small chain of islands south-west of Kawau Island. The island has been in the hands of the Vivian family for 110 years. Mice, the only mammalian predators to have invaded the island, have recently been eliminated. A suite of weed plants surround the site of the old homestead. The once farmed slopes are largely covered in a second crop of pines, but the coastal strip is regenerating naturally. It was interesting to compare the small number of coastal species present in the canopy, with the attempts to introduce a multitude of species on islands that are being artificially revegetated.

Forthcoming Activities

6 December Christmas picnic/field trip, Shakespear Regional Park
21 February Waitakere Ranges, a combined trip with the Entomological Society.
4 March AGM

Auckland Botanical Society, PO Box 26391, Epsom, Auckland 1344

President: Ewen Cameron **Secretary:** Vijay Soma aucklandbotanicalsociety@gmail.com

■ **Rotorua Botanical Society**

September Field Trip - White Pine Bush

Cancelled

October Field Trip - Lake Maraetai

A huge group of four assembled at the Mangakino boat ramp and headed off up the lake towards the Whakamaru dam. Across the lake we were treated to a recent project to convert forest to dairy farms which two years ago had stopped at the forest clearance stage, leaving a mass of weeds dominated by stalks of unknown fireweeds from the last summer. On the near side the shore was dominated by pasture, a fringe of low scrub and weeds and a golf course.

Beyond the Mangakino stream the lake reduced to a very narrow deep gorge (over 35 m deep from

the lake surface and 30 to 40 m sheer above the water) which obscured the modified land beyond. The vegetation was dominated by young takekaha and forest with rimu kanuka and kamahi. Radiata pine dominated the cliff tops and sheets of roots were exposed where they had prised the rock face apart. Rimu occasionally appeared to appear out of the cliff and somehow ascend vertically and strands of flower tipped *Dracophyllum strictum* hung down from the ledges. A wide range of seral species also clung to ledges in the cliff including rangiora, fuchsia (in flower and hosting bellbirds), five-finger, mingimingi and prickly mingimingi. Weeds such as barberry, broom and eucalypts were prominent. A few ferns were present near the water but for the most part the rock face was bare and dry with the odd toadflax flowering in the crevices. Near the foot of the dam we turned and drifted down, examining the eastern bank which was damper and shaded. It was little different except for much more *Blechnum vulcanicum* and *B. chambersii* and the odd filmy fern, especially *Hymenopyllum demissum*, *H. multifidum* and *H. rarum*.

The real thrill then began as we entered the Mangakino Stream arm and gorge which was similarly narrow and deeply engorged but the water soon reduced to only 1-2 m deep for over 2 km before it suddenly became too narrow and swift to continue. This area was largely weed free and the faces were dominated by tanekaha and curtains of *Metrosideros perforata* clinging to the cliffs and little else. The first treasure was a ribbonwood (*Plagianthus regius*) in massed full flower and fresh new leaf. Three others were seen later. At one stop at a tanekaha stand a huge straight *Melicytus lanceolatus* in the canopy 15 m tall with a single straight trunk was seen along with *Melicope simplex* and much *Coprosma rhamnoides* under the tanekaha. The a large white flower spotted on the way upstream at the cliff foot, just above the water, and visited on the way down turned out to be *Ourisia macrophylla* in full flower. This was the treasure of the day and a good point to head home.

East Cape Field Camp - 31 October- 2 November

Friday evening the main group met at Tim's Batch, Whanarua Bay. Saturday morning we headed out to Papatea Bay at the mouth of the Raukokere to survey the shore west of the river. The beach was several ranks of piled boulders and river debris and a "dune slack" wetland at the foot of a slightly higher, old beach terrace. The beach had a scattering of small pohutukawa heavily browsed by cattle, tauhinau, patches of *Muehlenbeckia complexa* and *Calystegia solandri* which graded to grass after 300 m as it descended to the wetland. Along this edge tall old pohutukawa sprawled and at the river edge there was an open blackberry filled stand of cabbage trees. The wetland was fringed by blackberry, *Baumea articulata* and *Bolboschoenus medianus*. The centre of the wetland was dominated by raupo with a few small open areas. In places the cattle had pushed the fringes to open water and here *Ludwigia peploides* formed patches. Even on the steep inshore terrace edge there were few native species but a wide range of typical pasture plants and adventives.

After lunch we visited a small area of forest behind Waihou Bay. Here the landowner was concerned about mortality in old rimu in a mixed forest stand on the pasture margin. While examining the trees one of the party found a large patch of *Mazus novaezeelandiae* in a damper area of the stand. The plants were in full flower amongst the grass and otherwise would have been overlooked. We then entered a fenced area of forest to which an attempt had been made to exclude the stock. The forest canopy was mainly tawa but include puriri, kohekohe, rimu, miro, pohutukawa, and tanekaha. The understorey included *Coprosma grandiflora*, *C. arborea* and *C. spathulata*, hangehange and heketara. At first we explored the creek mouth. The gully contained supplejack and kiekie, the odd nikau and flowering whau and soon became quite narrow so we ascended and the followed a ridge track through open kanuka forest. Interesting finds here included *Clematis cunninghamii* and *Libertia grandiflora*, both in flower. After a bush bash back to the vehicles the day was nearly over.

On Sunday we headed to Houpoto Forest and were taken up a logging road to the where the plantation (mostly recently felled) met the native forest. Here we spent the day exploring a 1980's haul track along a ridge high above the Motu River. After a short traverse along the plantation edge (soon to be logged) where we had a good cross-section of the tawa forest we began a descent along the ridge. The main forest contained miro, kohekohe, kamahi, rewarewa, white maire, and mahoe with patches of hard beech. Along the track the vegetation varied from open areas of low manuka or kanuka to areas of tall wineberry, mamaku, mapou and kohuhu to more or less intact forest. *Pterostylis irsoniana* was abundant in the damper areas, especially around mamaku where *Corybas oblongus* was often found in flower an even a late *C. acuminatus* was noted. A highlight was to see the heavily (heavenly) scented *Alseuosmia pusilla* in full flower. Other highlights included toatoa, *Dracophyllum latiflorum*, and frequent *Raukaua anomalus* one of the few divaricating shrubs seen out

this way.

FUTURE EVENTS

December 6-7

Lake Surprise

President: Paul Cashmore (07) 348 4421 pcashmore@doc.govt.nz

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Web Page: www.wildland.co.nz/botanical.htm

■ Wellington Botanical Society

7 June 2014: Korokoro Stream, Belmont Regional Park

This is early-phase regenerating bush with some open grassy areas along the stream. Eleven of us led by Eleanor Burton botanised our way up upstream from the end of Stratton Street to where the track begins to climb to Middle Ridge. A highlight of the trip was a rocky outcrop about two thirds of the way up, with an interesting variety of herbs on it including *Crassula mataikona*, *Leptostigma setulosa* and *Helichrysum filicaule*. Other good specimens found were *Dicksonia fibrosa*, a 2m tall *Olearia solandri* and a large *Astelia fragrans*. There were a few concerning weeds in the area, including *Hypericum androsaemum* (tutsan), *Acacia melanoxylon* (Tasmanian blackwood) and *Selaginella kraussiana*. There is no possum control in the area as evidenced by some browse damage. Noted was a well-established pūriri planted outside the classroom/woolshed near the carpark. There was some concern that this might cause a weed problem.

21 June 2014: Te Mārua Bush workbee

Since the early 1990s BotSoc has been advocating for the plight of Te Mārua Bush, a key native ecosystem of the Upper Hutt area. On this occasion a good turnout of thirteen concentrated on weeding an extended, yet to be planted area, to the north-east. Most effort was weeding out *Hoheria populnea*, (a non-Wellington lacebark species which took hold several years before it became noticed), broom, blackberry and cleaning up rubbish which had blown in, or been thrown in, from the SH2 / Kaitoke Hill Road side.

5 July 2014: Haywards Scenic Reserve

Led by Julia Stace, eighteen of us set off on a five-hour circuit in this reserve on the Eastern Hutt hills. We went up Dry Creek Zigzag Track, to Kōnini Saddle Track, and descended the Ngapunga and Lomaria Tracks to our entry point at the end of Whites Line East. The regenerating bush ranges from areas of broadleaf species such as pukatea, māhoe, kāmahī, some huge old kānuka and mānuka, scattered old podocarps, black and hard beech on the dry ridges to the odd gorse bush. In the creek beds were many young nīkau and some mature ones on the damp hillsides above. Higher up there was plenty of kiekie, some of which was setting fruit. Wonderful sprays of red supplejack berries grew close to the track and we saw *Metrosideros fulgens* in flower.

Some native species, e.g., pūriri, *Hoheria populnea* and many karaka were growing here, out of zone. It was interesting to see the similarity of *Leptopteris hymenophylloides* to the many *Hymenophyllum* filmy ferns in abundance on the Zigzag Track: so named—when small it is hard to distinguish from the filmy ferns. In some sunny spots on the zigzag track, there were many *Acianthus sinclairii* in flower. At about the same size as these tiny orchids was a sprinkling of the delightful, green, butterfly dicotyledons of the beech trees, germinating as a result of this, the first mast year since 2008. We heard fantail, grey warbler, tūī and bellbird and there were pest traps scattered throughout.

Huge 'worm' holes in soft mud on a damp bank, after an e-mail to NatureWatch, were ascertained to be the hatching place of the giant native dragonfly, *Uropetala carovei*, which has a wing span of 125 mm. Several *Metrosideros* vine species, orchids and toadstools indicated that this track would be interesting to botanise at any time of year. From Geoff Park's botanical survey in 1971 to our most recent updated lists by Pat Enright and Chris Hopkins with a couple of additions on this occasion, there is a good record of the succession from gorse to bush on these clay and greywacke hillsides.

2 August 2014: Porirua Scenic Reserve

A forecast of gale northerlies and rain did not deter 17 of us led by Leon Perrie (mostly members, but with a few extras). In any case, we were on the leeward side of a hill and under tallish forest; a little

dark but otherwise good winter botanising. Porirua Scenic Reserve is one of the best forest remnants I've seen in the Wellington area. Admittedly, I may be biased given the lush groundcover is dominated by ferns (particularly *Blechnum filiforme* and *Microsorium scandens*). It reminds me of the northern North Island forests of my formative botanical years. The coastal/lowland influence is strong, with the canopy largely kohekohe. This was fruiting abundantly, as was the nīkau. We climbed the main track, which begins next to Camp Elsdon on Raiha Street. Although steep in places, the track is well-formed and, traversing the side of a gully, provides excellent viewing of the underside of the canopy trees growing in the gully. The track reaches into upland scrub in the south-western corner of the reserve. The 156 hectare Porirua Scenic Reserve is administered by Porirua City Council, most of it well botanised previously. We made few additions: *Hypochaeris radicata* (catsear) and *Iris foetidissima* (stinking iris), along with bellbird and falcon.

Highlights included: one *Raukaua edgerleyi* (raukawa), c. 4 cm d.b.h., epiphytic on *Cyathea smithii* (kātote) and previously noted only from a different part of the reserve; large *Laurelia novae zelandiae* (pukatea); *Ileodictyon cibarium* (common basket fungus); and the fern *Adiantum viridescens*, which is uncommon in the Wellington region. We noted, near the entrance, trackside seedlings of *Prumnopitys taxifolia* (mataī) and *Podocarpus totara* (tōtara), some of which may be planted while others looked self-sown. Seedlings of *Corynocarpus laevigatus* (karaka) were abundant in places, but we did not note any large individuals. We wondered if the poor development of the forest tiers between canopy and groundcover reflected earlier browsing pressure. However, testament to the success of the current pest control were the numerous (and vocal) tūī, abundant kohekohe and nīkau fruit set, and lush groundcover which included carpets of nīkau seedlings in places. We were told pest animal control began in 1996, but more intensive management started in 2001 and continues today targeting possums, rats and mustelids with 214 bait stations and 31 DOC200 traps in the reserve and adjoining privately owned Mill Creek. Self-introductions of kākārīki, whitehead and bellbirds occurred about 2003-04. Rodent and bird monitoring occurs at the site. We're lucky to have this biodiversity treasure on our doorstep. We also now know it makes a good (botanical) port in a winter storm.

President: Richard Herbert. 04 2326828 herbert.r@xtra.co.nz

Secretary: Barbara Clark, 04 233 8202 bj_clark@xtra.co.nz <http://wellingtonbotsoc.org.nz/>

■ Nelson Botanical Society

August Field trip: McKee Memorial Reserve and Potters Bush QEII covenant.

Eleven members met at the McKee Memorial Reserve, Ruby Bay and were soon browsing the bush margin and distinguishing the native ngaio *Myoporum laetum* from the Australian *M. insulare*. Heavily glanded and serrated leaves with black tips on the new leaf shoots are characteristics of *M. laetum*. Morning tea was under tree lucerne supporting *Ileostylus micranthus*. One of the botanical attractions here is the presence of mature trees of *Lophomyrtus obcordata*. The canopy consists of titoki, a few matai and some nikau, karaka, together with silver fern, cabbage trees and marble leaf. The understorey is open and contains *Coprosma robusta*, *Aristotelia serrata*, *Dodonaea viscosa*, *Hedycarya arborea*, *Pittosporum eugeniioides*, *Pseudopanax arboreus* and *Ripogonum scandens*. The reserve hosts all four *Lastreopsis* ferns; *L. velutina*, *L. hispida*, *L. glabella* and *L. microsora*.

After lunch members headed up the road to Potters Bush, an area developed by Chris and Cheryl Potter since 1998. The range of *Coprosma* species included *C. robusta*, *C. lucida*, *C. grandifolia* and *C. repens* and the smaller leaved *C. propinqua*, *C. rhamnoides*, *C. rotundifolia*, *C. acerosa* and *C. tenuicaulis*. Three species of maire were seen; *Nestegis cunninghamii*, *N. lanceolata* and *N. montana*. *Olearia* x *macrodonta*, a hybrid of *O. arborescens* and *O. ilicifolia*, and *O. polita* caused interest. *Tupeia antarctica* has been successfully introduced into this reserve.

August Talk: Chris Ecroyd - Flora of north-west Victoria

Chris and two other Kiwis spent a number of weeks monitoring vegetation for DEPI, the Department of Primary Industries in the sand dune country of north-west Victoria, Australia. At each site they laid out twelve 1 m² vegetation plots. There were very few conifers, mainly *Callitris verrucosa* and only about five species of eucalypts in the area, all mallees. These multi-stemmed 'mallees' included *E. costata* and *E. socialis*, typical of this sand dune country. There were many heaths including *Leucopogon* species and manuka species, a few grevilleas, three banksias and the occasional *Pimelea*, which was very different from ours. A more familiar sight to us was *Drosera aberrans*, which

looks like *D. spatulata*. There were a few orchids and patches of the Australian grass tree, which re-sprouts after fire.

September Talk: Cathy Jones - Alpine Plants.

Cathy Jones showed images of a selection of alpine plants, arranged in families. The photos were mostly taken on the Old Man Range in Otago; in the Arthurs Pass and Mt Cheeseman area of Canterbury; and in the mountains of South Marlborough.

September Field Trip: Inches Forest Weedbusting – 21 September 2014

Ten 'weed warriors' turned up armed with secateurs, gloves and bottles of glyphosate and were all heartened by the progress made with our weed control efforts over the last 6 years. The old man's beard was very sparse on the ground and largely confined to scattered regrowth of underground stems. We made serious inroads in the phalanx of big old shady barberry that lined the Wairoa River and sprayed a large blackberry patch at the far end of the bush as part of a relatively new initiative to deal to bush edge weeds and thereby increase the upriver extent of the bush. It was encouraging to see recruitment of kōwhai, narrow-leaved lacebark, mataī and tōtara along the edges together with all the usual broadleaved species. A patch of what appears to be *Stachys sylvatica*, has been steadily increasing in size over the last few years, and has proved immune to roundup application by the landowner, so we gave it a dose of grazon to see if that does the trick. The special native plants were all inspected and appear to be in good condition although low numbers of climbing groundsel (*Brachyglottis sciadophila*) and *Coprosma obconica* make them vulnerable to loss. *Teucrium* was still semi-dormant but in good numbers while the fierce lancewood plantings were looking healthy.

October Field Trip: Jimmy Lee Creek

Twelve keen individuals started up the Jimmy Lee and after entering the native bush we looked at a variety of *Asplenium* and *Blechnum* species along the streambed under a canopy of *Alectryon excelsus* subsp. *excelsus*, *Kunzea ericoides* var. *ericoides*, *Pennantia corymbosa*, *Fuchsia excorticata* and *Beilschmiedia tawa*. We branched up the true right and had an identification puzzle which proved to be a yew tree. Here we began to see mature matai and further up, on a dry ridge, a dense grove of young matai. We crossed the gully to look at a majestic matai with a girth of 5.25 m. which is probably about 1000 years old. We continued up to a forestry road and a few members scaled a steep bank to find *Fuscospora solandri* and *Rubus cissoides*. Along the road *Olearia rani* was in prolific flower and there were *Cyathea medullaris*, *C. dealbata* and *C. smithii* with its beautiful golden scales, growing in the pine forest. We re-joined the creek track to get to the cars while Chris Ecroyd walked on down the Jimmy Lee to his place. Having just left the group, he spotted *Anogramma leptophylla*, a threatened species and the first Top of the South record of this fern outside Marlborough.

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday-Sunday December 12-14: Camp, Cobb Valley, Kahurangi National Park. Leader Shannel Courtney 03 546 9922

Sunday December 21: Fieldtrip Mt Robert. Leader Sue Hallas 03 545 0294

Sunday January 18: Fieldtrip Rawhiti Cave, Golden Bay. Leader Cathy Jones 03 546 9499

Friday-Monday January 30-February 2: Camp, Arthurs Pass. Leader Cathy Jones 03 546 9499

Sunday February 15: Fieldtrip Red Hills, Mt Richmond Forest Park. Leader David Grinsted 03 542 4384

Sunday March 15: Fieldtrip Otuwhero Wetland, Marahau. Leader Helen Lindsay 03 528 4020

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Treasurer: Uta Purcell 03 545 0280. 60 Marybank Rd, Atawhai, Nelson. mupurcell@xtra.co.nz

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Secretary: Allison Knight, P O Box 6214, Dunedin North. bs@otago.ac.nz

NOTES AND REPORTS

- **Churchill Babington's (Cambridge) letters to William Nylander (Paris) on New Zealand lichens, 1853-1860**

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The Rev. Churchill Babington MA, DD, FLS (1821-1889), was a mid-Victorian lichenologist who wrote the essay on New Zealand lichens for Joseph Hooker's *Flora Novae Zealandiae*, (Babington 1855a), in what was the first "attempt" at a New Zealand lichen flora. He was described by Joseph Hooker as "... a learned man and most sagacious Lichenist". Babington [not to be confused with his cousin, Charles Cardale Babington (1808-1895), Professor of Botany at Cambridge] was born at Roelcliffe, Leicestershire, the only son of the rector of Thringstone and his wife. He entered St John's College Cambridge University in 1839 with a great love of nature, which quickly manifested itself as an absorbing interest in, and knowledge of, lichens. Babington was an able scholar, graduating BA in 1834, being 7th in the classical tripos and a Senior Optime in Mathematics. He went on to be President of the Cambridge Union in 1845, and in 1846 he graduated M.A., was elected a Fellow of St John's College and was ordained, gaining the Hulsean Prize for an essay "Christianity in relation to the abolition of slavery". From a Lectureship in Theology at Cambridge he was chosen Disney Professor of Archaeology there in 1865 (Galloway 1991).

Babington began work on New Zealand lichens early in 1852, with Joseph Hooker making available his collections from the Bay of Islands and Campbell Island, supplemented by the unpublished collections of Banks, Solander, and Menzies from the British Museum, and specimens sent by New Zealand collectors, largely Lyall and Colenso (Galloway 1985a: xviii-xix). Babington, who based his arrangement of taxa on Acharius (1814), Fries (1831) and Schaerer (1850), completed his account towards the end of 1854, expressing in his introduction warm thanks to Camille Montagne in Paris for his help. This drew a withering riposte from Joseph Hooker:

"...Here is a proof at last of the Lichens. I see little or nothing to alter in it, except that I would venture to suggest a query as to the propriety of the calling of old Montagne a consummate cryptogamist. In France they pooh-pooh him consummately! And though he has a wonderful power of work I should doubt the results being of a very enduring kind. He has made no one great step in the science – and only added heaps of good and bad genera to the science with very little judgement and discrimination in a great proportion of cases. So at least it is with his Algae, Fungi, Hepaticae and Mosses; in none of which departments can he be called more

than an industrious compiler and diligent explorer. I would suggest “industrious” instead of consummate, as all such expressions will be narrowly criticized at home and abroad. I like your introductory remarks extremely, and if ever I had seen any half so sensible, true, and philosophical from Montagne’s pen, I should be better pleased with him, but his ideas are contracted to a degree...” Babington compromised and Montagne was dubbed “indefatigable” (Galloway 1985b: 210).

As seen from the letters below, Babington was introduced to the Finnish Lichenologist William Nylander (1822-1899) by his friend the English lichenologist William Leighton with whom Nylander was then in regular correspondence. Nylander by the late 1850’s was firmly established in Paris as the world’s leading lichenologist, so Babington was keen to make contact with him while he was in the midst of producing his essay on New Zealand lichens for Joseph Hooker. At that time, lichenologists were using microscopic characters, especially of spores, to separate taxa, something that Babington was innately suspicious of since he did not use a microscope and was averse to this new aspect of systematics. In the introduction to his essay he makes his views plain:

“... The sporidia of Lichens have of late occupied the attention of several distinguished botanists, both at home and abroad, and their researches seem in many cases to have produced good fruit; the different forms of these microscopic organs sometimes serving to distinguish allied species. In this department the names of Eschweiler, Montagne, Fée, Flotow, De Notaris, Leighton, Massalongo, and Nylander are to be mentioned with special commendation. I shall perhaps incur some reproach for not having dwelt more upon these microscopical characters in the remarks than I have done, although it will be seen that they are not neglected in the figures, and that they are also occasionally alluded to in my remarks and descriptions. It is perhaps presumptuous to offer an opinion on a subject with which I am not so familiar as the above-named authors are; but it appears clear that the employment of microscopic characters must be very cautiously introduced: it is certain that the forms of these organs vary considerably in the same species, even in in the same specimen, as any one may convince himself by a little experience, or even by examining our plates; and I must own that I scarcely think that the examinations at present made are sufficiently extensive to enable a very accurate judgment to be formed as to how far supposed distinctions of this kind can be advantageously employed...” (Babington 1855b: 268).

Babington was a year older than Nylander, and a distinguished amateur in lichenology with a good position as a Cambridge don and a College Fellow, and comfortably able to indulge his pursuit of lichenology in between his “real” work of Theology and Archaeology. Nylander, in comparison, struggled all his life to make a living as a professional lichenologist, without the support of an academic institution (Galloway 2014:11). At the start of their correspondence Babington was wrestling with New Zealand lichens and at its end he had published on both New Zealand (Babington 1855b) and Tasmanian (Babington & Mitten 1859) taxa. In between these two last milestones in Babington’s lichenological career, he sent Nylander specimens and a coloured copy of his New Zealand essay. Nylander later made major contributions to New Zealand lichenology with publications on the collections of William Lauder Lindsay (Nylander 1866) from Otago, and those of Charles Knight (Nylander 1888) from North Island localities (Galloway 2014a).

The Letters

(1) “...St John’s College, Cambridge. 8 October 1853

My Dear Sir,

Our friend Mr Leighton¹ has just sent me your note, and I hasten to reply to it. I assure you that it will give me very great pleasure to have the honour of being one of your botanical correspondents and as I shall have occasion to look over some duplicate lichens from the Antarctic regions very soon I will endeavour to select some for you: the greater part of these duplicates however are already distributed I am sorry to say.

Of late I have been very much engaged in the study of the Greek orators², but shall soon return to my botanical occupations. Pray give my kind regards to Dr Montagne³ when you see him: he has been an exceedingly good friend to me and I have just received some valuable tracts from his pen.

Believe me my dear sir,

Yours faithfully

C. Babington...”

(2) “...St John’s College, Cambridge. 15 July 1854

My Dear Sir,

Our mutual friend Mr Leighton sent me some time ago some pamphlets of yours on the Swedish lichens⁴, and on a new classification of the European lichens⁵. These have arrived safe, and I have read them with much pleasure and you will see that I have alluded to them in my account of the Lichens of New Zealand⁶ in Dr Hooker's Flora.

I hope before very long to make up for you a good packet of Lichens of N. Zealand, but as I am much occupied at present it may be some little time before they are ready. The lichens of that region are very numerous and have occasioned me a great deal of trouble, and I have not executed my task at all to my own satisfaction: my account is almost ready for the press and I shall send you a copy of it with pleasure when it is printed.

Mr Leighton mentioned to me that you had not heard from me that your packet of lichens which you sent me last year had arrived: they arrived quite safe and I have to offer you my best thanks for not for them: but I feel certain that I had mentioned to you that I had received them in a note which I enclosed in a packet of Antarctic lichens, which I sent to you in November or Dec. last and which I trust you have received. I saw the bookseller in London Mr Pamplin⁷ to whom I consigned them soon afterwards. I fear that I named them rather hastily as I was much occupied at the time.

Pray believe me.

Very truly yours

Churchill Babington..."

(3) "...St John's College, Cambridge. 15 February 1855

Dear Sir,

About a week ago I sent to the care of Mr Baird bookseller Regent Street, London, a parcel to Dr Montagne containing two coloured copies of that part of Dr Hooker's Flora of N. Zealand which contains the Lichens. One of these copies is for you, and I have requested Dr Montagne to transmit it to you, when he receives it. It is only just published. In no very long time I shall hope to make up for you a packet of specimens of N. Zealand lichens but a theological work at which I am engaged in editing is now passing through the Press⁸ which will engage my attention for some little time. It is a work long supposed to be lost. I enclose you a prospectus of it which I shall be most obliged to leave in the hands of any bookseller likely to take an interest in it.

Pray believe me

Very dear Sir

Very truly yours

Churchill Babington..."

(4) "...St John's College, Cambridge. 31 January 1860

Dear Sir,

I am indeed very busy at this time, but I have found leisure enough to look out for you all that you have desired. Your views about the Nephromas are, I think, exactly the same as those I intended to express to you: I hardly think *N. lyallii* is the same as *N. plumbeum* Mont! I have mislaid my specimen from Juan Fernandez but I am certain that it was a very different looking plant. All my collection of *Stictae* is in the hands of Van den Bosch⁹ who has had them for years: I hope his monograph will soon appear.

If you have discovered any more characters for distinguishing them I congratulate you with all my heart for they almost drove me mad, when I was engaged on the New Zealand Flora.

I hope in the course of the New Zealand summer to resume my botanical studies a little, which have been a good deal intermittent and to make up a packet of exotic lichens for you.

Pray believe me

Ever truly yours

Churchill Babington..."

(5) "...St John's College, Cambridge. 2 March 1860

Dear Sir,

My absence from Cambridge must be my apology for not sooner answering your note.

Mr Van den Bosch has my *Stictae* and *S. Montagnei* among them, you have my permission to ask him to send you a piece of *S. Montagnei*. As far as I can remember the plant you sent is the same, but I may be mistaken, especially as your plant is barren. I enclose fragment of *P. moniliformis* in the *Flora Tasmaniae*¹⁰. I have alluded to the affinity with *P. colpodes* to which you very properly called attention.

I send a fragment of a beautiful *Parmelia* from N. Zealand which I think I have seen figured in some book (of Montagne?) but which I do not remember to have met with before and know not what it is.

Many thanks for the brochure about Chaucer it interests me very much.

Yours very truly

Churchill Babington...”

In 1866, Babington resigned his St John's College Fellowship in Cambridge and accepted the Rectorship of Cockfield in Suffolk, the living being in the gift of St John's College since 1708. St Peter's Church Cockfield, in the deanery of Lavenham, dates from the 14th and 15th centuries and is a handsome building set off by a large, square flint tower. Here Babington was to have a particularly happy and productive Rectorship for nearly 23 years. In Suffolk he took a lively interest in conchology building up an extensive collection of British and exotic shells, and his knowledge of regional ornithology resulted in publication of his very thorough *Birds of Suffolk* (Babington 1886), although it was an intellectual effort that cost him dearly in terms of health. Although Babington's leisure time in Suffolk was devoted to shells and birds, he still kept up with lichenology through the published literature, and even made new lichen correspondents abroad such as the American Edward Tuckerman (Galloway 2014b).

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the Archives staff of the University Library (Kansallis Kirjasto, Helsinki) and to my good friend Dr Orvo Vitikainen (Botanical Museum, Finnish Museum of Natural History, University of Helsinki) for help with accessing the Babington correspondence of William Nylander.

Notes

- 1 Leighton, William Allport (1805-1889). English lichenologist (see Galloway 2013: 17, note 20).
- 2 Babington (1850, 1853).
- 3 Montagne, Jean Pierre François, Camille (commonly known as Camille Montagne) (1784-1866). French cryptogamist who worked at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris making important contributions to algology, bryology, lichenology, mycology and flowering plants. He wrote the account of lichens (Montagne 1845) collected on Dumont D'Urville's second Astrolabe expedition of 1837-1840 (Galloway 2000).
- 4 Nylander (1853).
- 5 Nylander (1854).
- 6 Babington (1855b: 268). In his essay on New Zealand lichens, Babington alludes to Nylander's recent work as follows: "...The arrangement here followed is substantially that of Fries. The latest classification of the European Lichens (in outline) is by Dr. Nylander, in the second volume of the 'Mémoires de la Société des Sciences Naturelles de Cherbourg' (1854): he makes a larger number of subdivisions and genera than appears necessary or advisable; but there can be no question about the ability with which the work is drawn up. Unfortunately both this and other tracts have come to hand since the following account was written, so that less use is made of them than probably might otherwise have been desirable..." (Babington 1855b: 268).
- 7 Pamplin, William (1806-1899). Botanist, botanical publisher, bookseller and agent for the exchange and distribution of seeds, plants and herbarium specimens. In 1854 he bought the journal *The Phytologist*, and took over the Soho book-selling business of John Hunneman. His papers are held in the Archives of the University of Wales at Bangor (Tully 1999).
- 8 Babington (1855a).
- 9 van den Bosch, Roelof Benjamin (1810-1862). Dutch botanist; studied medicine at the University of Leiden 1828-1837, obtaining an MD for a thesis on the influence of music on medicine. Although practising medicine as a profession he was much interested in botany, especially of plant collections from Indonesia, and became an expert in both mosses and ferns of that region. He was a founding member of the Royal Botanical Society of the Netherlands (KNBV) in 1845, published a highly regarded introduction to the flora of Batavia, and collaborated with several botanical colleagues including Montagne in Paris. In lichens he had a particular interest in the genus *Sticta* and worked towards a monograph of this genus, receiving New Zealand material from Babington. The monograph was alas never published. His collections are held at Leiden.
- 10 *Flora Tasmaniae* was the third part of Joseph Hooker's *Botany of the Antarctic Voyage*, Published in two volumes [the two earlier accounts of *Flora Antarctic* (1844-1847) and *Flora Novae Zeelandiae* (1852-1855) both comprised Parts I and II rather than being designated Vols]; Vol. I dealing with dicotyledons appeared serially between 24 October 1855 and 1 December 1857; and Vol. II containing monocotyledons, and lower plants (ferns, lycopods, mosses, hepatics, fungi, algae and lichens) appeared between 3 May 1858 and 29 December 1859. The title page of Vol. II has the publication date of 1860. Babington's footnote to the essay states: "...The following Lichens are for the most part found in New Zealand as well as in

Tasmania. Reference is accordingly made to the New Zealand Flora for the synonymy under the species here enumerated, when the plant occurs there also. In that work various remarks on the species, especially on the geographical distribution, will be found, which will not be repeated in this enumeration. The crustaceous Lichens are described by Mr Mitten. – C.B.” (Babington & Mitten 1859: 343). In the account Babington described as new *Sticta cetrarioides* (Babington & Mitten 1859: 346, Tab. CXCIX, B), a later synonym of the lichen *Heterodea muelleri* now classified as *Cladia muelleri* (Parnmen & Lumbsch 2012).

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- **Charles Knight's account of his bringing the *Lord Glenelg* safely to Adelaide from King George's Sound, 1841.**

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Several biographical accounts have alluded to Charles Knight's successful navigation of the barque *Lord Glenelg* (368 tons) as the ship's surgeon, during the latter part of the voyage that brought Captain (later Sir) George Grey and his wife from London to South Australia (Scholefield 1940: 471; Galloway 1990: 229; 1998: 38; 2013: 3). The *Lord Glenelg*, under the command of Captain Orr, left Gravesend on 3 January 1841 with passengers and cargo of general merchandise, the voyage to Port Adelaide taking four months^{1, 2}. Two days later, on 12 May 1841, Knight wrote to his stepfather, Thomas Godfrey, in Hawkhurst Kent, of the dramatic turn of the final part of his voyage from London to Adelaide (from King George's Sound to Port Adelaide), and of his confident hopes for the future. A future that was to be inextricably linked with the political rise of Sir George Grey both in South Australia and then in New Zealand where Knight was to contribute much to the growth of the New Zealand Civil Service, of which he was to become such a prominent official. Knight's complete letter is transcribed here³.

"...Adelaide, 12 May 1841
My Dear Father,

It is impossible to express the mixed feelings with which I sit down to write to my dear friends at Hawkhurst⁴; one's mind is filled with so many doubts, for how can I tell whether you are well or ill, in trouble or prosperity – I trust in Providence that you are in good health and happiness, and I hope you do not forget me. I know that you will be delighted to hear that so far I have done well, and that Capt. Grey and his lady are most kind to me. Capt. Grey wrote me a very complimentary note in which he expressed how much he was indebted to my kindness and attention to Mrs. Grey – I have every reason to believe I am in high favour with him, and that he will take advantage of the first opportunity to assist me – I have been two days in Adelaide: I am delighted with the country and full of hopes, with little however to justify them – The climate is so invigorating that one hopes with only a shilling in one's pocket: and pleased when we know not why – But all colonial matters shall be left to a future day. At present I will give you a brief outline of the extraordinary proceedings on board the *Lord Glenelg* with the History of my singular metamorphosis from Surgeon into Captain of that vessel and how I navigated her from King George's Sound to this port in perfect safety. – My last letter informed you of my safe passage of the Line and the mutinous state of the crew – Soon after that our Captain became a most shocking drunkard and was at last perfectly incapable of taking charge of the vessel, so that the safety of the vessel and our lives were endangered by his drunkenness and gross misconduct. He frequently made use of violent threats to the crew and passengers and was even guilty of personal violence towards them – one day he declared "the ship might sink and be damned" and immediately pushed violently and purposely against his Excellency Captain Grey and myself as we were standing on the Quarter deck. – His drunken madness he ordered Mr Whichelo, the chief mate off work and put Nathan Weir on the sailors, in his place, although this fellow had been most violent and mutinous and had been put in irons and twice confined on board during the voyage. On the 22nd of March all the men were imprisoned in the fore-castle with hatches down – This was done in the night time; when I came on deck I saw only the boys, the mate and the Captain on deck; the last was quite drunk – I saw him fall down on deck and helped up by some one, but I turned aside that I might not annoy Capn Orr by witnessing his intoxicated state – He kept the men under hatches for two days, when I wrote him an official note (- I remembered old crow's story that the surgeon was the second officer of the ship) in which I informed him that the health of the men who were imprisoned in the fore-castle was likely to be injured by longer confinement – on this note he was induced to set the men at liberty and amused himself day after day by throwing Heavers and Belaying Pins at the crew and officers, and carried on sail in a most frightful manner. He remained intoxicated for nearly a

fortnight; alarming us by his insane conduct and even in his drunken dreams roaring and bellowing and so as to prevent any sleeping near him- On the 5th of April Mr Whichelo, the mate requested me to take the time of the chronometers while he observed the altitude of the sun – While doing this the Captain compelled me to desist, and dubbed the observed altitude from the slate, and refused Mr Whichelo the use of the chronometers. The Captain went to bed without any observation of the sun and thus at a time when our proximity to St. Pauls⁵ rendered it almost imperative to know the ship's true position – We were afraid too that he would neglect the winding up of the chronometers – We now learned that the Steward had frequently wound up the chronometers – when awake the Captain was usually “skylarking” with the cook and steward. On the 7th the Captain was as drunk as ever – He fell down near the wheel and was immediately fast asleep, he was dragged into the carpenter's berth – His Excellency Capt'n Grey sent for me to witness the Captain's situation and say whether I thought him in a state of apoplexy. He was only exceedingly drunk. I took an observation on the sun without the Captain seeing me, and according to my observation we were to sight St. Paul's Island at ½ past three o'clock – We did so not a little to my gratification! The steward raised up the Captain to see the land – The Captain in his drunken jocularity asked for a heaver to fling at it: but when on deck he did not know where to look for land – Indeed according to his accounts we were 900 miles from the island – When opposite the island the mate and I took observations by my watch, and we went below to compare my watch with the Chronometers, when the Captain rushed below and swore he would take the life of the person who attempted to pass into his cabin to observe the Chronometers. As it was absolutely necessary for our future safety to know the time of the chronometers, and as the mate and Governor Grey were present to protect me in case of violence, I requested Capt'n Orr to allow me to pass into his cabin for the purpose of comparing my watch with the ships chronometer, which he then permitted. The next day being a calm he went with the boys in the boat to shoot petrel; he was quite drunk and fell overboard; he was now almost imbecile: ordered the halfhour glass to be flung overboard, and was so intensely drunk as to fall helpless on deck – He invited one of the sailors to take champagne with him on deck. His drunkenness became so outrageous that the mate declared the ship in danger; he was sure we were near land, but how near it was impossible to say without he could get command of the chronometers: - the mate accordingly applied to me for my certificate as to his Captain's competency to take charge of the vessel, and I declared him wholly incompetent – In consequence of my certificate all the men were called aft, and the mate took command of the ship, and declared his intention of running to the nearest port. Capt'n Orr was ordered to hold no communication with the men, and if he obeyed this order he was not to be placed under personal restraint. In the evening he would persist in talking with the man at the wheel, and when requested to walk forward of the round house and keep himself quiet, he defied Mr Whichelo and avowed his intention of calling on the men to protect and assist him. He was then forced below after great resistance on his part and frequent appeals to the men – A padlock was placed on his cabin, leaving the cabin door open door open for two or three inches for the free admission of air. On the 23rd of April the day after Mt Whichelo took command we were all suddenly roused up out of our beds by the cry of “land”: the ship was quickly put about, and when we had time to look about us, we found we had narrowly escaped shipwreck on Point D'Entrecas⁶.

A few leagues to the Eastward of the Lewin⁷ on the 25th we came to anchor in King George's Sound Western Australia within 300 miles of William⁸: Where I heard excellent accounts of William and forwarded him letters – The Sound is a beautiful Harbor [sic]; the town of Albany however is not a prosperous place; the Colony was formed previous to the Swan, and has not been a prosperous one – The country around is exceedingly barren, and from what I could see the place was wholly supported by Government offices, a few soldiers and a few whalers who pretty regularly visit the place. The people of the place have generally speaking been well off – Sir G. Spencer formerly lived here; his Lady and family are still residents and Mrs Grey is her daughter – They gave me many pressing invitations and having heard that I proposed returning by the Sound to the Swan, Lady Spencer particularly requested my visiting her on the occasion – She has a very beautiful garden and gathered me a handful of roses – English roses as she assured me – Albany I found a shameful scandalous place; everybody knows your business better than you do yourself; and according to their own accounts there is not an honest man or woman in the town. Here Captain Orr gave up the vessel to me – After eating all the fresh provisions in the place; getting tired of kangaroo soup, and quite familiar with the natives, we bade adieu to our kind host and put to sea again. – Our voyage to Adelaide was now everything that one could desire; The Governor and the passengers had the most perfect confidence in their new Captain (hem!) the weather was delightful and we made Kangaroo Island in splendid style; our ship's head pointing right up the channel. When the morning's sun shewed us the high cliffs of that Island. The next day we anchored at Holdfast Bay – We have

however been detained not less than 8 days at anchor in the open bay, in consequence of there being an insufficiency of water on the bar of the river. We shall if the wind will allow us, be at the New Port of Adelaide by the evening.

The Governor has been on shore four [? days] and [? his] commission was read the next day after landing. It was a rainy day and few persons were present. We found the Colony in a state of high excitement. Gawler⁹ is a great favourite, for all the acts of his which have been complained of in England are those which the Colonists regard as most advantageous to themselves. The many thousands he has spent beyond the yearly sum he was instructed to use have been so much thrown into the pockets of the people here, and any such extravagance is lauded to the sky and the Governor who practices it is little less than an angel – the recall of Governor Gawler is therefore a most unpopular measure, and Captain Grey will at first experience the ill effects of it: they will visit upon him here all the odium of the unpopular Acts which he may be commissioned to enforce and it may be a month or two before they will admit the influence of Captain Grey's quiet and gentlemanly manner, or have an opportunity of judging of his cleverness and the extent of his knowledge of all Colonial affairs – I have called on him twice since his sojourn at the Government House, and received many acknowledgements of his being much indebted to me both in my capacity of surgeon and Captain! William Knight is doing well; is highly respected and everybody says will eventually be a rich man – I leave off here with prayer for your health and happiness, and with the comfort of knowing that my conduct on the voyage has been such as to command the warmest praise of all on board and of the agents here at Adelaide, and that you will derive some pleasure from this assurance. Give my love to Thomas, Betsy, Louisa, Mrs Smith and little Fanny – Tell Mr Upperton that I have seen his friend Tapley: he looks very colonia! rough unwashed and all the polish of Hawkhurst rubbed off him – but making money, kind hearted and very obliging to me – he lives in a house which occasionally needs the aid of a boat to maintain its communication with the adjoining dwellings, and last Sunday the neighbourhood church was in a similar predicament – the water rising during service and the congregation escaping in boats.-

I am dear father,
Your very affectionate son
CHARLES KNIGHT..."

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to the late Dr Michael E. Hoare (1941-1996) and to Mr Jim Traue (former National Librarian) for their helpfulness in sourcing Knight-related correspondence at the Turnbull Library.

Notes

- 1 "The South Australian Society and Captain Grey". *Southern Australian*, 14 May 1841, p.158. trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/6245493
- 2 "Arrival of His Excellency Captain Grey". *Southern Australian*, May 14 1841, p.158. trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/6245493
- 3 Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. "Fitzgerald, J.E. 1878. McLean Papers. MS Papers 32, folder 381. Correspondence of James, Michael and Philip Prendergast and Charles Knight. (Typed copy). 4 November 1878. I first examined this copy at the old ATL on the Terrace in 1970, and had a photocopy made of the typed version of Knight's letter in 1983. The original is held in the Sir James Prendergast (1826-1921) Papers: MS-1791, Correspondence of James, Michael and Philip Prendergast and Charles Knight. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/23229860>
- 4 Hawkhurst, village in the constituency of Tunbridge Wells in Kent. Thomas Godfrey, Knight's stepfather was the owner of the *Queen's Head* Inn in Hawkhurst. A contemporary account of the village at the time of Charles Knight's letter (1841) states "...Hawkhurst is a neat genteel and thriving village, in the parish of its name, lathe of Scray and hundred of Barnfield (the parish extending into Henhurst hundred, County of Sussex), is situated on the main road from London to Rye, 48 miles SE of the former and 15 NNW from the latter. The village is divided into parts; in the more modern, named Highgate, are the principal shops and two chief inns; on a hill about half a mile to the south, is the other part, where stands the church. The views from either of these divisions are pleasant, the situation is healthful, and it is the residence of a number of respectable families; the parish is extensive, irrigated by several small streams, and well cultivated and wooded. The church, dedicated to St Lawrence is a neat substantial erection of some antiquity, with a low square tower, clad by time with moss; the rectorial tithes belong to Christ's College Oxford, but the benefice is the property (if he claim it) of the oldest

bachelor or the next in succession. There are several charitable institutions here; the principal is a school founded by Sir Thomas DUNK, in 1723 for the education of twenty boys (thirty is the present number); with six almshouses for three poor men and three poor women. Courts lets and baron, under the Earl of Winchelsea, who is the Lord of the Manor, are held here in May; and a small fair, for pedlery is annually holden on the 10th August. At the last census the population of the parish amounted to 2,428 persons...”

- 5 Île Saint-Paul, an uninhabited island 3000 km SE of Réunion, in the southern Indian Ocean. The remains of a volcanic cone and an important breeding ground for fur seals and seabirds.
- 6 Point d'Entrecasteaux, named after the French Admiral, Antoine Raymond Joseph de Bruni d'Entrecasteaux (1737-1793) in 1792, who discovered it while searching for the La Pérouse Expedition.
- 7 Cape Leeuwin. Western Australia, is the most southwestern mainland point of Australia.
- 8 Charles Knight's brother, William Henry Knight (1802-1881).
- 9 Lt-Col. George Gawler (1795-1869), second Governor of South Australia (17 October 1838 – 15 May 1841). When the *Lord Glenelg* arrived at Port Adelaide on 19 May 1841, Captain George Grey carried with him an important dispatch for Governor Gawler from the Colonial Office in London. The dispatch informed Gawler that, as he had drawn bills in excess of the authority vested in him, the Colonial Office had recalled him, and that Grey was appointed to succeed him. See also: "Removal of His Excellency Governor Gawler". *Southern Australian*, May 14 1841, p.158. trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/6245493

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■ NZ's natives as weeds abroad – additional notes and observations

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My article 'New Zealand's natives as weeds abroad' (*New Zealand Botanical Society Newsletter*, September 2014, No. 117, pp. 11–22) generated much interest and feedback.

A slightly longer version was published in the *New Zealand Garden Journal* (2014, Vol. 17, No. 1, pp. 10–24), and the *Weekend Gardener* magazine has adapted the content for a quarterly special edition on weeds (December 2014).

In the *New Zealand Botanical Society Newsletter* version (p. 21, Acknowledgements) several of the image credits were made for the longer article and not the NZBS Newsletter.

Several botanists provided further corrections and observations of New Zealand native plants in other countries:

Bryony MacMillan questioned the presence of *Acaena novae-zelandiae* on Hawai'i (stated on p. 12 of my article). A Wikipedia page (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acaena_novae-zelandiae; accessed June 2014) seemed to indicate that this species may be on Hawai'i. I contacted Hawaiian weed experts Forest Starr and Kim Starr and they confirmed that *A. novae-zelandiae* is not known to be present on that island archipelago. The sole native species, *Acaena exigua*, is now presumed extinct in Hawai'i.

When writing my article, I was mindful that New Zealand native *Cardamine* have weedy tendencies and (like *Epilobium*, the creeping willow-herbs) are contaminants of potted plants and the nursery industry. Sure enough, there are records of the New Zealand endemic *Cardamine corymbosa* (New Zealand bittercress) as a nursery weed in North America, Europe and elsewhere. Phil Garnock-Jones informed me that he wrote an article entitled 'New Zealand bitter-cress. *Cardamine corymbosa*' for the *BSBI News* (September 1993, No. 64, p. 16) and there are other references to this species in the BSBI archive (the newsletter of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland; <http://archive.bsbi.org.uk/>). Phil also mentioned to me that there are some New Zealand hebes sparingly naturalised (*Veronica speciosa* in Hawai'i; *V. elliptica*, *V. salicifolia* and *V. speciosa* in *Flora Europaea*).

Rhys Gardner wrote to me questioning a record I found referring to feral pigs eating and dispersing karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*) seed. Rhys asked if pigs are immune to the neurotoxin present in the fresh seed kernels. According to an Invasive Species Compendium factsheet (www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/59069) "Mammals which ingest karaka are cattle, pigs, and deer (Motooka et al., 2003; Mitcalfe, 2004; Klinac, 2007). These appear to cause no adverse effects, so dispersal by these agents is possible, although karaka kernels probably do not survive passage through a mammalian digestive tract." Rhys also recalled that the *New flora of the British Isles* (2nd ed, by Clive Stace) referred to the Australian and New Zealand indigenous fern *Phymatosorus diversifolius* (now known as *Microsorium pustulatum*) as being naturalised "on shady walls and damp places in wood" in the SW of Ireland (County Kerry) and on the Scilly and Guernsey Isles.

In my article, I wrote that *Hydrocotyle moschata* (the hairy pennywort) is an uncommon weed in the south coast of California. In 1990 (*Watsonia* 18, p. 93–94), Colin Webb documented three New Zealand hydrocotyles that have naturalised in the UK: *Hydrocotyle moschata*, *H. moschata* 'small-leaved variant', and *H. novae-zeelandiae* var. *montana*.

Bill Sykes alerted me to an article that he wrote in the *Gardeners Chronicle Gardening Illustrated* (7 & 14 October, 1961) on 'Observations on plants at Tresco', of the Scilly Isles west of Land's End, Cornwall. In the second part of his article (p. 299), Bill wrote that *Muehlenbeckia complexa* and *Phormium tenax* had both naturalised at Tresco, which adds to the locations that I referred to for these species.

Peter de Lange emailed me notes on New Zealand species that he observed naturalised in Europe during his stay centred in Sardinia in 2013.

He observed two New Zealand endemic creeping willow-herbs: *Epilobium melanocaulon* wild in a riverbed at Mayrhofen, Austria, and *E. nummularifolium* naturalised in Alghero, Sardinia. He observed that the New Zealand endemic *Pittosporum crassifolium* is also wild around Porto Conte and in Alghero, Sardinia, where it and the East Asian species *P. tobira* are now a common part of the local coastal scrub.

Peter comments that *Cordyline australis* is also naturalising around Sardinia, where it's commonly cultivated and now spreading in places like Alghero and along the Cala Gonone coast.

In my article I stated that *Tetragonia tetragonioides* (New Zealand spinach) was naturalised in many parts of the world. Peter de Lange commonly saw it in the Mediterranean region including many beaches in Sardinia.

Peter makes some interesting observations of ngaio (*Myoporum*). He saw New Zealand ngaio (*M. laetum*) in Spain, Italy and Sardinia but he considers that most specimens he found wild there are of the mainland Victorian race of Australian *M. insulare*, and hybrids with it and *M. laetum*. According to Peter, such hybrids probably also include Californian and Hawaiian records of *Myoporum*. Similarly, Peter de Lange comments that in Australia, *M. laetum* is naturalised in Tasmania and Victoria (at Apollo Bay), with hybrid swarms there involving the native *M. insulare*.

In Sardinia Peter de Lange also observed *Coprosma repens* and *Metrosideros excelsa* naturalising. He found *Metrosideros kermadecensis* growing but not (yet) spreading. Peter found karaka naturalising in the Mediterranean area of Nice in France, and becoming troublesome there.

Peter has also observed whau (*Entelea arborescens*) naturalising in the grounds of Melbourne Zoo, Victoria, when he visited in July 2011.

During the writing of my article, I remained aware that research on this subject is rather open-ended. Weed distribution records, including those derived from our native species overseas, are seldom (if ever) complete. I only considered vascular (so-called 'higher') plants, and because of the degree of overlapping information, chose to compile a relatively modest reference and website list. My thanks to the correspondents named above for contributing their additional knowledge of our natives as weeds on distant shores.

BIOGRAPHY / BIBLIOGRAPHY

■ Biographical Sketch – Edward Phillips Turner (1865-1937)

Val Smith, 80 Mill Road, New Plymouth 4310.

Born in England, Edward Phillips Turner grew up in Tasmania, and in 1884, when 19 years old, settled in New Zealand. He trained as a surveyor, and worked in several parts of this country as well as in Tasmania and New South Wales. On 28 July 1892, at St Mark's Church, Remuera, Auckland, he married Irene Ada Pirie, the youngest daughter of Major James Pirie and his wife Minna née Carey, who had immigrated with their four children to New Zealand from Guernsey in 1879. Edward and Irene's only child, Rolland, was born in 1902

In 1894 Edward Phillips Turner joined the Department of Lands and Survey and during the next twelve years undertook surveys, mainly in the Rotorua, Tarawera and Waikato regions. He was appointed Inspector of Scenic Reserves in 1907, and travelled the length of the country, gaining a good knowledge of the vegetation and landscape. The original release of Australian possums had been made at Riverton, Southland, in 1858, with the idea of starting a skin trade. In the early 1900s, while Cockayne, Smith and Kirk were supporting further release for commercial reasons, Turner recognised the damage done to large areas of



Brachyglottis turneri

forest by possums and questioned the wisdom of further liberation. In 1908, with Leonard Cockayne, he surveyed the central volcanic region and made recommendations for the boundaries of Tongariro National Park. During the following years he was responsible for delimiting scenic reserves on the Mokau and Whanganui Rivers and along the main trunk railway. He was appointed permanent head and secretary of the newly established Forestry Department in 1919, and from 1928 until his retirement in 1931, was Director of Forestry.

Edward Phillips Turner published numerous works on botany and forestry, the most important of which was *The Trees of New Zealand*, written collaboratively with Cockayne. The first edition appeared in 1928, the fourth (seventh printing) in 1958. He was a member of many professional

societies and conservation organisations, and in his final years advocated the establishment of a bureau to administer national parks, pressing for a balance between protection and recreation. This objective was legislated into the 1952 National Parks Act ... to preserve parks in their natural state, and so that the public “may receive in full measure the inspiration, enjoyment, recreation and other benefit that may be derived from mountains, forests, sounds, lakes and rivers.” In the winter of 1937, irked by a trifling foot injury that interfered with a planned botanical expedition, he died suddenly from blood-poisoning.

Brachyglottis turneri, a rare cliff-dwelling daisy recorded in several isolated areas in Taranaki, was described by Thomas Cheeseman in 1910 as *Senecio turneri*, with the words, “I have much pleasure in dedicating it to its zealous discoverer, who has done excellent botanical work in the interior of the North Island in late years.” *Pittosporum turneri*, from the Waimarino plateau, was described by Donald Petrie in 1925. *Alseuosmia turneri* is a recently described species found locally in forest from the western slopes of Mt Ruapehu to the Waikato River. The specific epithet was chosen by Rhys Gardner in 1977 “to commemorate the association of E Phillips Turner with the flora of the above locality”.

Brachyglottis turneri

Asteraceae

Brachyglottis (from the Greek *brachys* 'short'; *glotta* 'tongue' – 'short tongue', describing the short ray florets) is found only in New Zealand, and its 24 species of small trees, shrubs, herbs and a scrambling climber occur in a variety of habitats. The genus was created in 1775 by the Forsters for rangiora (*B. repanda*); its other members were historically included with the genus *Senecio*. *Brachyglottis turneri* is a distinctive herb up to 2 metres tall, with long, widely curved and pointed leaves, long leaf stalks and clusters of bright yellow flowers in summer. It has been recorded in several isolated Taranaki localities, usually growing on the upper faces of wet cliffs (with seepages), often with the sedge *Machaerina sinclairii* (tūhara), or overhanging streams and rivers.

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PUBLICATIONS

■ **Publications Received**

Auckland Botanical Society Newsletter 69 (1) 2014 Lucy Cranwell memorial lecture – botanising in the Miocene, honorary life member award to Mike Wilcox, fieldtrip reports, vegetation reports of Matukureia Swamp and Lake Tangonge, wild sea beet, annual mercury, *Eragrostis multicaulis*, tawapou, titan arum.

Wellington Botanical Society Newsletter September 2014 Upcoming fieldtrips and meetings, President's report, trip reports including Korokoro Stream, Te Marua Bush, Haywards Scenic Reserve, Porirua Scenic Reserve.

Canterbury Botanical Society Newsletter October 2014 Upcoming fieldtrips and meetings, meeting report: transitional vegetation community patterns in a post-fire landscape at Cass, fieldtrip report of visit to two North Canterbury plantings.

Canterbury Botanical Society Newsletter November 2014 Upcoming fieldtrips and meetings, trip reports for Kaitorete Spit and West Melton rifle range.

Canterbury Botanical Society Newsletter December 2014 Upcoming fieldtrips and meetings, Allan Mere presentation, trip reports for Eyrewell kanuka remnants and Geraldine gardens.

The New Zealand Orchid Journal November 2014 Orchid conservation, *Pterostylis rubella*, Australian orchid conservation, *Thelymitra puchella* with red column arms, *Prasophyllum* "debile", *Pterostylis banksia*, *P. australis*, P. "Bluff".

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