

NEW ZEALAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 126

December 2016



New Zealand Botanical Society

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Secretary/Treasurer: Ewen Cameron
Committee: Bruce Clarkson, Colin Webb, Carol West

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Subscriptions

The 2016 ordinary and institutional subscriptions are \$25 (reduced to \$18 if paid by the due date on the subscription invoice). The 2016 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 March 2017 issue is 25 February 2017.

Please post contributions to:
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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

Myosotis rakiura by Eleanor Burton.

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CONTENTS

News

New Zealand Botanical Society News

Committee for 2016	2
Presentation of the Allan Mere Award for 2016 to John Dawson	2

Regional Botanical Society News

Auckland Botanical Society	3
Rotorua Botanical Society	5
Wanganui Museum Botanical Group	6
Nelson Botanical Society	6
Botanical Society of Otago	8
Other Botanical Societies	8

Announcements

Correction to the September 2016 issue	9
--	---

Notes and Reports

Newly-described species and new names for New Zealand plants	9
--	---

Biography/Bibliography

Biographical Sketch – Dominic Harewood Lascelles Corrigan (1874-1962)	11
---	----

Publications

Publications received	13
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New Zealand Botanical Society News

■ Committee for 2016

Nominations for positions of President, Secretary/Treasurer and three committee members for the New Zealand Botanical Society closed on 20 November 2016.

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 2016.

■ Presentation of the Allan Mere Award for 2016 to John Dawson

On the 13th of October John Dawson was presented the Allan Mere at an afternoon tea organised by the Wellington Botanical Society. The ceremony was attended by veritable who's who of Wellington botanists and ecologists, as well as family and friends. It was held at Otari Wilton's Bush, a fitting location given John has given many talks and tours there over the years. Anthony's korero to the group follows:

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

I'm delighted to be here today to celebrate the achievements of Dr John Dawson and make the 2016 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 voted to award the Allan Mere for 2016 to Dr John Dawson, and it is my pleasure to present this award to John today.

The nomination was made by the Wellington Botanical Society and supported by Katharine Dickinson (Professor of Botany, University of Otago), Phil Garnock-Jones (Emeritus Professor, Victoria University of Wellington and Neill and Barbara Simpson of Queenstown.

The nomination papers outline John's scholarly research on New Zealand and Pacific plants, his decades of University teaching and research supervision, his extensive community outreach and promotion of botanical knowledge, and his acclaimed books on New Zealand plant diversity and ecology.

I am going to read a few extracts from the nomination papers, which give some insights into the range of John's contributions.

"John has a rare ability to engage the public and convey his knowledge, and he has never lost his enthusiasm to share.

"I believe his books are the cornerstone achievement for which he richly deserves this award, especially the magnificent New Zealand's Native Trees (with Rob Lucas), but I want to draw attention also to his primary research on New Zealand *Metrosideros* and *Apiaceae* and *Pacific Myrtaceae*, his

enthusiastic teaching and community outreach, and his generous support of students and visiting researchers.”

“In addition to his scholarship and expertise, John’s personal qualities of calmness, kindness, consideration and generosity have earned him the respect of colleagues, students and the public.”

Before presenting the Mere, I need to let John 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 John, you should make the most of holding it today! 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:

As an academic, John’s research focused on the taxonomy of Apiaceae and Myrtaceae, along with contributions to biogeography and plant growth form research. John exhibited a rare ability to engage the public and convey his knowledge, and wrote eight books on the ecology and identification of New Zealand plants. He inspired many to become amateur or professional botanists.

Congratulations John on your dedication to botany and the significant achievements you’ve made. I have much pleasure in presenting you with the Allan Mere.

Anthony Wright, President, New Zealand Botanical Society



NZBS President Anthony Wright presenting the Allan Mere Award for 2016 to Dr John Dawson.
Photo: Chris Moore

Regional Botanical Society News

■ Auckland Botanical Society

September Meeting

Alison Wesley reported on her botanical trip to the fourth largest island in the world, Madagascar. The relatively late arrival of humans allowed the evolution of many endemic plants and animals

(including lemurs and chameleons) on this fascinating island. Despite the modification of huge areas of the landmass, national parks and reserves have been formed to protect the wildlife, and Alison reported on some of these. Perhaps the most amazing habitat is that of the spiny forests that have adapted to the dry conditions of the west coast. There are seen the “octopus” trees in the Euphorbiaceae growing among the huge trees with swollen bases, most famously the baobabs (*Adonsonia* spp.) Montane rainforests grow on other parts of the island.

September Field Trip

A wet day and a botanical funeral (Alan Esler) kept the numbers low at the Waikumete Cemetery. Rather too early for the flowering show of spring bulbs for which the cemetery is well known, we concentrated instead on some patches of gumland scrub that have been preserved by enthusiasts. It was a chance to get familiar with the native paspalum, *Paspalum orbiculare*, and the interesting *Halocarpus kirkii* was seen on the edge of a gully.

October Meeting

Dan Blanchon, our lichen man, spoke to us about the New Zealand species in the Parmeliaceae, a widespread and common family. The talk took us through those species collected from urban areas as well as from coastal rocks and forest trees, with particular focus on new research into the diversity within the genus *Parmotrema*.

Labour Weekend camp

This camp was based at the Pirongia Forest Park Lodge, but as we had explored Mt Pirongia on a previous camp, on this occasion we climbed Mt Karioi (or part of the way, according to fitness) on the first day. On the following two days we explored a new Native Forest Restoration Trust property, the Ed Hillary Hope Reserve. Two hundred hectares had previously been botanised by Graeme Jane and Gael Donaghy, but we added considerably to their list on Sunday, and on Monday we looked over a 266 hectare hilly section of reverting pasture on the other side of the road.

November Meeting

Catherine Beard gave a thought-provoking presentation on the effect of honeybees in our native ecosystems. What with the pollination services carried out by bees and the growing value to the country of manuka honey, these insects are viewed by the majority of people as a valuable addition to our fauna. However, DOC is seeking a better understanding of how honeybees interact with native flora and fauna and the environmental risks they present, and the challenging issue of beehives on public conservation land.

November Field Trip

Instead of climbing the wet and muddy public track on Mt Tamahunga, we followed trap lines kept open by members of the Tamahunga Trappers team, volunteers who are targeting predators to great effect. Progress was slow as we admired the naturally regenerating understorey. The endemic Tamahunga iris, *Libertia flaccidifolia*, was flowering nicely. There were many large northern rata trees, and on one, growing epiphytically in a clump of *Astelia hastata*, was the only known plant of *Pittosporum kirkii* in the district. It was bearing many green capsules.

November Island Trip

This trip was planned for October, but bad weather was responsible for postponement to November. On a perfect day we reached Otata Island, one of the Noises in the Hauraki Gulf, by means of the Waiheke Ferry and a DOC boat. This privately owned island sets an example for low-impact habitation. A small bach with a few non-invasive exotic plants around it, combined with the eradication of exotic mammals and weeds, leaves pristine northern coastal forest that is seldom seen elsewhere. Pohutukawa was the dominant canopy species, with coastal five-finger, karo and *Coprosma macrocarpa* in the sub-canopy. A ground cover of *Astelia banksii* and *Gahnia lacera* left much room for a variety of ferns. The rocky shoreline harboured many salt-resistant specialist plants.

FUTURE EVENTS

17 December	Christmas picnic/field trip, North Head
18 February	Motutapu Island
1 March	AGM/Stevie Noe, “Nectar yield in Manuka”
18 March	Awhitu

Auckland Botanical Society, PO Box 26391, Epsom, Auckland 1344
President: Ewen Cameron
Secretary: Vijay Soma
aucklandbotanicalsociety@gmail.com

■ Rotorua Botanical Society

East Cape Field Camp - 31 October - 2 November

As usual, a very mixed group with people from as far away as Gisborne and Hamilton assembled at Tim's Batch near Whanarua Bay on Friday afternoon and evening. Saturday Morning we headed to Whitianga Bay where, in the morning, we explored the coastal terrace and steep slopes above. The forest was mainly tall kanuka perhaps 80 or more years old with scattered rimu, tanekaha, tawa and miro of a similar age. The understorey was quite rich and kept us busy helping newbies to identify the plants. Although pig sign was evident the understorey was quite dense from lack of browsing and included much supplejack, abundant *Coprosma spathulata* and kawakawa. As we explored up slope large old pohutukawa and puriri were often evident. On the return to downslope between large slips highlights were *Toronia toru*, *Gleichenia dicarpa* and a good lot of orchids including *Pterostylis trullifolia*, *Corybas macrantha* and *Drymoanthus adversus*.

After lunch we explored the forest between the road and the shore including the coastal cliffs. Here the forest seemed more mature on the terrace with kohekohe, puriri, and karaka. Along the shore large pohutukawa overhung the beach with ngaio (causing unresolved discussion about the adventive Tasmanian ngaio). In shaded places rengarenga clothed the banks with other typical plants such as *Apium prostratum*, *Samolus repens*, iceplant and *Pepperomia urvilleana*. On the beach itself there was a large mass of logs covered with *Calystegia soldanella* and kikuyu and in one spot *Pelargonium inodorum*.

On Sunday we headed north to Papatea Bay to explore coastal cliffs and seek out (unsuccessfully) *Camichaelia williamsii*. The cliffs are dominated by large old pohutukawa bounded by grazed pasture and largely unfenced. On the steepest parts *Gahnia lacera* was prominent with *Libertia grandiflora*, which was in full flower. At scattered places there were the odd tawa, kohekohe, karaka, wharangi and hangehange and in especially protected places whau and kawakawa was abundant. Ferns were uncommon but quite a range was seen including *Arthropteris tenella* and *Adiantum hispidulum*. In drier rocky areas *Pomaderris amoena*, *Cheilanthes distans* and *Pyrrosia elaeagnifolia* were prominent. After lunch under the shade of a grand old pohutukawa we returned along the top of the cliffs through kanuka and pasture picking up a few new species as we peered over the cliff, before returning to the vehicles early for the long journey home.

November - Matakana Is

At Omokoroa we were joined by a contingent from Waikato Botsoc and after two trips of the ferry were finally all on Matakana Is and headed to the northern tip. The first dive through the pines to a willow swamp was soon abandoned but the second provided a population of *Carex fascicularis* and the odd *Cyclosorus interruptus* but none of sought after orchids. Two further stops with little of interest found us at the beach looking out on Bowentown heads. After lunch it was a battle along the shore through numerous fallen pines created by active shore erosion. The first stop was at a small lake which 30 years ago was a turf-lined inlet. The second stop was a large raupo-lined lake but here our orchid search was soon abandoned because of high water levels. Our last wetland visited contained a good population of *Cyclosorus interruptus*, just coming up for the season. On the return to the ferry we stopped briefly at the main ocean beach where a population of *Pimelia villosa* was seen in an area of planted *Carex comans* and shore ribbonwood (out of place in this habitat). Although the showers were only light, so ended a very wet day wading in wetlands.

FUTURE EVENTS

December 4 Lake Hiwiroa, Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park
February 4 Karagahake
March 4 Otawa

President: Paul Cashmore (027) 650 7264 pcashmore@doc.govt.nz
Secretary: Elizabeth Miller (07) 343 5013 rotorua-botanicalsociety@gmail.com

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

■ **Wanganui Museum Botanical Group**

FUTURE EVENTS

December 3 Trip to Paengaroa Scenic Reserve, Mataroa

President: Clive Higgie (06) 342 7857 clive.nicki@xtra.co.nz

Secretary: Robyn Ogle (06) 347 8547 robcol.ogle@xtra.co.nz

■ **Nelson Botanical Society**

August Field Trip: Eves Valley, Snowdens Bush and Faulkners Bush

Our first stop was Eves Valley where there were clusters of totara trees dotted through the landscape, *Lophozonia menziesii* and abundant *Fuscospora solandri*. The first flowers of *Pittosporum eugenioides* were opening and young titoki and tawa in the dense understory. A few *Nestegis montana* were found on the Waimea Plains and seedlings raised and planted at Eves Valley and Faulkners Bush. *Ileostylus micranthus* was spotted growing on *Coprosma rotundifolia*. Rewarding finds were *Myrsine salicina* and *Notogrammitis ciliata* on a small bank. At Snowdens Bush Reserve there is an abundance of *Coprosma areolata* and old titoki. The totara at the bush edge were festooned with *Ileostylus micranthus*. Our find in Snowdens and Faulkners Bush was *Lastreopsis microsora*. At Faulkners Bush we admired the kahikatea and noted *Asplenium hookerianum* var. *hookerianum*, *Coprosma crassifolia*, *Hebe leiophylla*, *Parsonsia heterophylla*, *Meliccytus* "Waipapa", *Polystichum neozelandicum* ssp. *zerophyllum* and *Polystichum vestitum*.



Metrosideros parkinsonii

August Meeting: "Nelson Nature", Leigh Marshall.

Leigh outlined the formation of "Nelson Nature", a partnership with Nelson City Council and DOC which aims to protect, restore and enhance Nelson's natural environment, in keeping with the Council's biodiversity obligations. It is a ten year programme with \$6 million Council funding. Leigh's talk gave us an account of what has been achieved in the first year and what is planned for the second year. The Dun Mountain area is of interest with its ultramafic vegetation. Surrounding the Dun area is the "Wider Halo" which covers the Council water reserves of the Roding and Maitai. Closer to the city is the "Nelson Halo" which has intensive pest control around Brook Sanctuary. The project also covers streams, estuaries and Significant Natural Areas. In the first year of operation in the Dun Mountain area the project has removed over 9000 wilding pines across 135ha. Gorse is recognised as a significant threat to the specialized ultramafic vegetation and 1.7 ha of the Dun Saddle area has been cleared of gorse. Plans for year 2 of the project in the Dun area include continuing control of pines, gorse and Spanish heath and a survey of rare and threatened plants.

September Talk. Plant Ecology in Alaska. Chris Ecroyd

Their trip started with a cruise from Juneau around Admiralty Island, and into Glacier Bay National Park with bush walks focussing on botany. They also went into the Kenai Fjords and Denali National Park. Plants mentioned included: *Chamerion angustifolium*, *Cornus canadensis*, *Castilleja coccinea*, *Boschniakia rossica*, a root parasite, the pretty blue *Aconitum delphiniifolium* and *Campanula rotundifolia*. Berries sampled included: *Ribes triste*, *Rubus spectabilis*, *Vaccinium uliginosum* and *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*. They saw *Pinus contorta*, *Alnus viridis* and *Plantago maritime*, which is edible and a valuable source of nutrition for humans and bears.

October Field Trip: Atua Stream Reserve and Moss Reserve, Riwaka

The track drops into a gully dominated by *Dicksonia squarrosa*, which hosts *Tmesipteris elongata* and *Asplenium polyodon*. It loops under beech forest with *Fuscospora truncata*, *F. solandri* and *Lophozonia menziesii* with clumps of *Peraxilla colensoi*. *Thelymitra longifolia* attracted interest and flowering *Rubus cissoides* was trailing through the understory, which included *Leptecophylla juniperina*, *Leucopogon fasciculatus* and *Myrsine salicina*. Additions to the list included *Astelia solandri* and *Acianthus sinclairii*. We moved to Moss Reserve where the canopy consists of podocarps with tall *Alectryon excelsus* ssp. *excelsus* and *Carpodetus serratus*. We identified *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, *Melicytus micranthus*, *Streblus heterophyllus*, *Melicope simplex* and *Hoheria angustifolia*. *Brachyglottis sciadophila* was scrambling across the forest floor, we admired *Plagianthus regius* ssp. *regius* in flower and found *Tupeia antarctica* on *Carpodetus serratus*.

Labour Weekend Camp at Seddonville, 21– 24 October

Day 1: Charming Creek Walkway

We started at the Ngakawau River end in lush forest of mamaku, wineberry, marble-leaf, kamahi, rimu, mahoe, pigeonwood, pate, kawakawa and *Coprosma grandifolia*. *Metrosideros perforata*, *M. diffusa* and *M. fulgens* were climbing along with kiekie while *M. robusta* soared over the canopy of *Fuscospora truncata*. The lushness of the bush was accentuated by the proliferation of ferns: *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *A. oblongifolium*, *A. polyodon*, *Microsorium scandens*, *M. pustulatum*, *Lastreopsis hispida*, *Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum*, *H. multifidum*, *H. villosum*, *H. flabellifolium*, *H. demissum*, *H. rarum* and *H. pluviatile*. On the banks we spotted *Carmichaelia odorata* along with *Hebe leiophylla* and on steep faces, *Celmisia morganii*. The sandstones supported: mountain beech, *Phyllocladus* aff. *alpinus*, *Libocedrus bidwillii*, rimu, kahikatea, yellow-silver pine, silver pine, and the occasional pink pine. Tussocks of *Gahnia xanthocarpa* and *Astelia grandis* were common in the manuka – *Dracophyllum longifolium* forest along with *Gleichenia dicarpa* and *G. microphylla*, *Neomyrtus pedunculata* and *Coprosma tayloriae*. On the pakihiki-like vegetation *Lycopodiella laterale* was frequent along with *Schizaea australis* and in the water-table were *Lobelia angulata* and the more localised *L. fatiscens*.



Euphrasia wettsteiniana

Day 2: Denniston Plateau and Mt Rochfort

Thirteen of us set off from Seddonville along steep and rugged 'roads' to the summit of Mt. Rochfort. Amongst the fissured sandstone slabs were *Dracophyllum oliveri*, *D. rosmarinifolium* and *D. densum*. Also found were *Pseudopanax linearis*, *Gentianella impressinervia*, *Euphrasia townsonii*, *Brachyglottis* "Rochfort" specific to the coal plateaux and *Celmisia dubia*. Another exciting find was *Pterostylis venosa*. An unusual form of *Pimelea gnidia* had us all stumped for a while. Further down the road we spotted the bright red flowering *Metrosideros parkinsonii* and white flowers of *Epacris pauciflora* and *Celmisia dubia*. Beside a small rivulet, was *Euphrasia wettsteiniana*, a localised endemic.



Epacris pauciflora

Day 3: Mokihinui Valley

We spent a few hours botanising up the Mokihinui Valley. The stony ground on the riverbank supported mats of *Muehlenbeckia axillaris* and *Coriaria arborea*. On rock faces alongside the track were *Euchiton japonicus*, *Stellaria parviflora*, *Epilobium linnaeoides* and *E. pedunculare*. This habitat also supported a patch of *Corybas oblongus*, *Notogrammitis ciliata*, *Hymenophyllum bivalve*, *H. demissum*, *H. dilatatum*, *H. pluviatile*, *Cardiomanes reniforme*, *Lindsaea trichomanoides*, *Astelia solandri* and *A. fragrans*. *Arthropodium candidum* was not in flower but it was nice to see flowering *Olearia rani* and young *Metrosideros robusta*, along with *Metrosideros fulgens*, *M. diffusa* and *M. perforata*. We noted

Griselinia lucida and *Pennantia corymbosa*. The best finds were: *Trichomanes elongatum*, *T. colensoi* and *H. frankliniae*.

FUTURE EVENTS

December 9-11	Weekend Camp Mangarakau
December 18	Mt Arthur
January 15	Mt Murchison
February 19	Mt Starveall
March 19	Moa Park

President: David Grinsted (03) 5424384, davidgrinsted@gmail.com

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■ Botanical Society of Otago

FUTURE EVENTS

10-11 December Fieldtrip to Mavora Lakes Park. Trip leader David Lyttle (03) 454 5470 or email djlyttle@ihug.co.nz

4 February Herbert Forest. Contact John Steel 021 2133 170, email john.steel@otago.ac.nz

22 February Talk: Botanical gems of Stewart Island/Rakiura. Speaker: John Barkla

8 March Talk: Breaking down decomposition. Speaker: Barbara Anderson

Chairman: David Lyttle djlyttle@ihug.co.nz www.otago.ac.nz/botany/bs/

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■ Other Botanical Society Contacts

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Taranaki Botanical Society

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Manawatu Botanical Society

Jill Rapson: Ecology Group, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University, Palmerston North. Ph (06) 350 5799 Ext 7963; G.Rapson@massey.ac.nz

Wellington Botanical Society

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

Canterbury Botanical Society

President: Gillian Giller (03) 313 5315

Secretary: Alice Shanks **Website:** www.canterburybotanicalsociety.org.nz

Wakatipu Botanical Group

Chairman: Neill Simpson (03) 442 2035

Secretary: Lyn Clendon (03) 442 3153

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Correction to the September 2016 issue

The keen eyes of Peter de Lange noticed that the cover illustration of the September issue was incorrectly labelled. Peter writes:

The plant illustrated as *Senecio dunedinensis* is an unnamed entity allied to it which differs chiefly by its dark brown-black to maroon-black, deeply serrated (sometimes weakly lyrate-pinnatifid) leaves. That entity is a widespread basicolous species found in the Eastern South Island from Marlborough south to at least the Ahuriri River headwaters where it is sympatric with *S. dunedinensis*. It is briefly discussed by Murray & de Lange (2013), who report meiotic and mitotic chromosome numbers for it. *Senecio dunedinensis* s.s is a much more uncommon and poorly understood plant of open dry grassland, rubble slopes, rock outcrops and cliff faces (most often in schist country) with fleshy, dull green-brown to brown, silvery-hairy initially sparingly serrated, then finely toothed or even entire leaves - see de Lange (2016) at http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=318.



Senecio sp. by Eleanor Burton

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- de Lange PJ (2016) *Senecio dunedinensis* Fact Sheet. New Zealand Plant Conservation Network http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=318 accessed 14 September 2016) - continuously updated.
- Murray BG, de Lange PJ (2013) Contributions to a chromosome atlas of the New Zealand flora – 40. Miscellaneous counts for 36 families. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 51: 31–60.

NOTES AND REPORTS

■ Newly-described species and new names for New Zealand plants.

Lara Shepherd, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington. Lara.Shepherd@tepapa.govt.nz

Botanists have been busy this year with a number of new plant species described for New Zealand. Te Papa botany curator Carlos Lehnebach and co-authors have described five new species of spider orchids (Lehnebach et al., 2016a). These species were separated from the *Corybas trilobus* aggregate based on analyses of their morphology and genetics. Carlos has also described two new species of potato orchid (*Gastrodia*), increasing the number of New Zealand species in the genus to five (Lehnebach et al., 2016b). Both the *Gastrodia* and *Corybas* articles, which contain identification keys and photos, are open access so are freely available for anyone to download.



Corybas walliae Photo: Carlos Lehnebach



Gastrodia cooperae Photo: Carlos Lehnebach

Mike Thorsen (ERA Ecology NZ Ltd) and Peter de Lange (DOC) have described a new alpine species of sedge, *Carex applanata*, from southern central Otago and northern Southland (Thorsen and de Lange, 2016). The species only occupies a small area but is reasonably common there. A description of *C. applanata* and how to distinguish it from similar species is provided on the NZPCN website (http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=7687).

Leon Perrie and Patrick Brownsey (Te Papa) have described a new spleenwort fern (*Asplenium lepidotum*) looks similar to *A. oblongifolium* and *A. obtusatum* but is restricted to limestone in the northwest South Island. Photos of

the new species and information about how to recognize it are available from Te Papa's blog (<http://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2016/10/17/a-new-species-of-fern-for-new-zealand-asplenium-lepidotum/>).

Patrick and Leon have also recently shown that another spleenwort fern, *A. northlandicum*, has an earlier name, *A. decurrens*, which should be used instead (Brownsey and Perrie, 2016).

Lastly, overseas researchers have shown that the sedge *Isolepis fluitans* is not present in New Zealand and that we actually have *I. lenticularis* (Ito et al., 2015).



Carex applanata Photo: Mike Thorsen

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- Ito Y, Viljoen J-A, Tanaka N, Yano O, Muasya AM (2015) Phylogeny of *Isolepis* (Cyperaceae) revisited: non-monophyletic nature of *I. fluitans* sensu lato and resurrection of *I. lenticularis*. *Plant Systematics and Evolution* 301:1-8. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00606-015-1253-7>



Asplenium lepidotum Photo: Leon Perrie

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BIOGRAPHY / BIBLIOGRAPHY

■ **Biographical Sketch – Dominic Harewood Lascelles Corrigan (1874 – 1962)**

Val Smith, 80 Mill Road, New Plymouth 4310.



Hebe corriganii

The forenames of Dominic Harewood Lascelles Corrigan suggest a fascinating family ancestry. In 1832 his paternal great-grandfather James Corrigan of the 74th Highland Regiment left County Carlow, Ireland, with his wife Alice and their seven children, for Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). There, in 1848, their eldest son Samuel Bradley Corrigan (1820-1903) married Louisa Lascelles (1829-1901), daughter of Thomas Allen Lascelles, private secretary to Lieutenant-Governor Thomas Davy, and later police magistrate. Louisa's grandmother Ellen (Ann) Wainwright had the "honour" of arriving with the first fleet in 1788, transported for seven years from Lancashire, England, at the age of 17 years for stealing items of clothing. Her daughter Mary (Ann) was born on Norfolk Island in 1795, and after the accidental death of her husband Dennis McCarty in 1820, she married Lascelles.

Dominic's father was Cornelius Fookes Corrigan (1852-1902), the second child and elder son of Louisa and Samuel Bradley Corrigan. Cornelius was born in Richmond, Tasmania, grew up in Geelong, Victoria, and by 1868 was working in Dunedin as a bank teller under William Larnach (also from Geelong). On 17 January 1874 in the Otepoti parish, Cornelius married Deborah

Blake, daughter of hotelkeeper Robert Blake (1816-1882) and his wife Julie Minden (1819-1885), who moved from Tasmania to Dunedin around 1864 and later to Thames. In April 1874, in one of his many brushes with the law, Cornelius was sentenced to three years "penal servitude" for cheque forgery. Dominic was born on 17 June 1874 and named after Sir Dominic Corrigan (1802-1880), a first cousin of his grandfather; his sister Beatrice was born in Thames on 10 September 1875. Apparently Deborah lived with her parents there for several years – the children attended school in Thames until

at least 1886. By 1887 Deborah and the children were in Nelson. In December 1889 Dominic was recommended as a probationer at the Bridge Street School and at the end of his first year received special commendation, but resigned in May 1891 to work at the Colonial Bank of New Zealand in Nelson. When the Colonial Bank amalgamated with the Bank of New Zealand in 1895 he was one of the officers transferred. On the certificate of his mother's death in 1894 Dominic was the named informant, although his father was listed as living – Cornelius died in the Australian outback near Broken Hill in 1902.

In February 1910 at St Matthew's Church, Dunedin, Dominic Corrigan married Florence Lucy Leary (née Giesen), widow of Palmerston North chemist Richard Frank Leary and mother of two teenage sons. Florence's parents farmed at Feilding and her mother Margaret, sister-in-law Mary (Polly) Leary and Florence were prominent in the women's suffragette movement in Palmerston North. Dominic and Florence lived at Sea View Road, Remuera, Auckland, and their daughter Lascelles was born in 1911, when her mother was 47. World War 1 took its toll: 21 year-old Ernest Leary died in July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme, and in December that year Florence, with Lascelles, arrived in England. The five-year old went to school at Lewes, they had summer together on the Isle of Wight, and Florence spent time with her twice-wounded elder son Leonard convalescing at Woolwich; she attended his Military Cross investiture and probably his short-lived marriage in Exeter Cathedral. After two years in England mother and daughter left for New Zealand in December 1918.

Moving to Tauranga in November 1918, Dominic Corrigan managed the local branch of the Bank of New Zealand until his retirement in 1929, after 38 years of service at Nelson, Timaru, Lawrence, Gore, Christchurch, Auckland, New Plymouth, Kohukohu (Hokianga) and Tauranga. From their home on Second Avenue the family continued their long-time interests in music, drama, sport and horticulture. In 1930 school inspector and naturalist Harry Carse described *Hebe corriganii* ("McLaren's Falls, near Tauranga (Bay of Plenty). D. Corrigan! B. Sladden!"), also mentioning seedlings, cuttings and notes provided by Sladden. Tragically, on 7 June 1941, Florence Corrigan died while visiting their daughter and grandchild in Kenya – shot (accidentally?) by their son-in-law, retired missionary Vladimir Verbi. Dominic lived on until 1962 and the age of 88, and was survived by his daughter Lascelles Verdi, who died in 2007 at the age of 96, and granddaughters Mary and Florence. Mary Broz (née Verbi) is known to have travelled from London in 1957 to stay with Leonard Leary, and completed a Diploma of Agriculture (Dairying) at Massey University in 1961.

■ ***Hebe corriganii***

A member of New Zealand's largest flowering plants, *Hebe corriganii* occurs in the North Island, from the Hunua Ranges in the north to the northwest Ruahine Range in the south, and between Raukumara Range in the east and Pouakai Range (Taranaki) in the west (but not Ruapehu or Tongariro). It is found mainly in montane and subalpine forest and scrub, an erect branching shrub up to 3 m tall with stout branches. The pairs of dark green gloss leaves are narrow, leathery and sharp-tipped, and sometimes have minutely serrated edges. Other distinguishing features are the obvious leaf bud sinus, and the flowers, white or pale mauve, with corolla tubes longer than the calyces.

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PUBLICATIONS

■ Publications Received

Canterbury Botanical Society (10) October 2016 Upcoming talks and fieldtrips, meeting report on seed dispersal in forest fragments, trip report for Tiromoana Scenic Reserve.

Canterbury Botanical Society (11) November 2016 Upcoming talks and fieldtrips, trip reports for Tawhai Bush and Canterbury Clay Target Club lease land.

Canterbury Botanical Society (12) December 2016 Upcoming talks and fieldtrips, meeting reports on the status of Oceania's wetlands and the untold story of New Zealand's wetlands, trip report for Snowdon Station wetland at Rakaia Gorge.

Wellington Botanical Society newsletter September 2016 Upcoming talks and fieldtrips, publications received, submissions made, slime moulds, trip reports for Warrens' Bush (South Makara), Huntleigh Park, Rimutaka Forest Park and Te Marua Bush workbee.

The New Zealand Native Orchid Journal 142 November 2016 *Bulbophyllum tuberculatum* type locality, new NZ species of *Gastrodia* and *Corybas*, focus stacking, list of NZ orchids and *Corybas* 'Mangahua' and *C.* 'sphagnum'.

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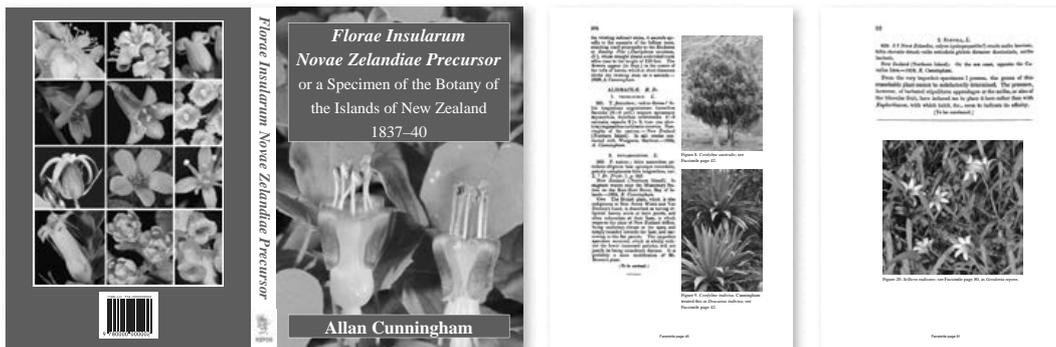
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