



# TRILEPIDEA

Newsletter of the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network

No. 192

November 2019

Deadline for next issue:  
Friday 13 December 2019

## SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO THE NEWSLETTER

Contributions are welcome to the newsletter at any time. The closing date for articles for each issue is approximately the 15th of each month.

Articles may be edited and used in the newsletter and/or on the website news page.

The Network will publish almost any article about plants and plant conservation with a particular focus on the plant life of New Zealand and Oceania.

Please send news items or event information to [events@nzpcn.org.nz](mailto:events@nzpcn.org.nz)

Postal address:  
c/- 160 Wilton Road  
Wilton  
Wellington 6012  
NEW ZEALAND

## PLANT OF THE MONTH, p. 2



*Caladenia atradenia*. Photo: Rowan Hindmarsh-Walls.

## Taxonomy for Plant Conservation – Ruia mai i Rangīātea

A joint conference of the Australasian Systematic Botany Society  
and the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network

24–28 November 2019, Wellington, New Zealand



## Final conference update

Are you getting excited about this year's ASBS-NZPCN Joint Conference in Wellington yet. It's almost upon us and it is going to be a big one, with conference attendees confirmed at 201. Most are from New Zealand and Australia, with a few from USA, the UK and Europe. Here is the latest on what is happening and who has helped make it happen.

- There are quite a few Other Events [<https://systematics.ourplants.org/programme/other-events/>] happening just before, during and after the conference, some science/botany related, some not (check them out!). Make sure you consider these events when planning your travel dates.
- These include the public events detailed in a later article in this newsletter that we have helped co-plan for that week. See the links for details and to register/purchase tickets.
  1. Sunday 24 November, 9 am – 5 pm: Wikipedia workshop [<https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/visit/whats-on/events/wikipedia-edit-thon-endangered-plant-species>] on threatened plants. Free, but you need to register.
  2. Monday 25 November, 6:30 pm: Friends of Te Papa Public lecture [<https://www.friendsoftepapa.org.nz/event/solander-sparrman-and-the-anthropocene/>] : "Solander, Sparrman, and the Anthropocene - Saving "the Environment" on a Planet made Unstable by Humans. Speaker: Prof Sverker Sörlin. Registration and payment required; conference attendees get discounted tickets.
  3. 3) Thursday 28 November, 6:30 pm: Panel discussion on the The politics of collecting plants, from Banks and Solander to today [<https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/visit/whats-on/events/panel-talk-politics-collecting-banks-and-solander-today>]. Registration and payment required; conference attendees get discounted tickets.
  4. 4) Saturday-Sunday 30 November-1 December: Botany for Botanical Illustrators workshop [<https://systematics.ourplants.org/programme/botany-for-botanical-artists/>]. Registration and payment required; spaces are limited.
- Our silent auction [<https://systematics.ourplants.org/programme/silent-auction/auction-items/>] will be run during the first two days of the conference. It will certainly be interesting, potentially a lot of fun, and will hopefully generate a good amount of \$\$ for our research funds.
- And don't forget our three fantastic keynote speakers [<https://systematics.ourplants.org/programme/keynotes/>]:
  - ♦ Hon Eugenie Sage, Minister for Conservation, Minister for Land Information New Zealand and Associate Minister for the Environment

## PLANT OF THE MONTH – *CALADENIA ATRADENIA*

**Rowan Hindmarsh-Walls**

The plant of the month for November is *Caladenia atradenia*, one of more than eight *Caladenia* species endemic to New Zealand. It is quite widespread in distribution, and is found from Northland to the northern South Island. The species lives in open scrub and forest in both lowland and montane areas (to 1000m) and prefers infertile soils such as pumice and clay podzols. It is often found as scattered individual plants rather than in colonies, and is difficult to see due to its small size and short flowering season. Although the species can flower from September to December, it has a short flowering season of about a week. The flowers can be borne singly or in clusters of up to three atop a longish hairy flower spike. The flowers are greenish in colour with maroon hairs on the outside of the tepals, and a midlobe covered in dark maroon calli, which is one of the distinguishing features of the plant. Plants normally have only a single leaf, which is very thin and slightly hairy.



*Caladenia atradenia*, Tukurua, Golden Bay, 3 November 2019. Photos: Rowan Hindmarsh-Walls.

The species is somewhat similar to other *Caladenia* species, some of which can be found growing with *C. atradenia*, but the species is easily distinguished by its tall, very narrow form, its tendency to grow as single, widely scattered plants rather than in colonies, and the two rows of dark maroon laminal calli near the midlobe apex.

*C. atradenia* is endemic to New Zealand, with a current threat ranking of At Risk- Naturally Uncommon, as it is found across most of the northern two thirds of the country, but is quite sparse within this area. Due to difficulties in viewing the species flowering it is possibly a bit more widespread than we think, but is threatened by land development and weed competition across much of its range. It is one of at least 350 species of *Caladenia* found worldwide, with most species being found in Australia. *Caladenia atradenia* is apparently closely allied to the Australian species, *Caladenia iridescens*.

The genus name *Caladenia* means 'beautiful glands' from the greek 'kalos', beautiful, and 'aden', gland. This is in reference to the ornamental character of the lip of the flowers. The species epithet 'atradenia' means 'black gland', referring to distinctive dark laminal calli on the midlobe of the flowers.

You can view the NZPCN website factsheet for *Caladenia atradenia* at: [http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.aspx?ID=322](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=322)

- ◆ Melanie Mark-Shadbolt, Kaihautū Chief Māori Advisor to the Ministry for the Environment, the Director Māori of NZ's Biological Heritage National Science Challenge and CEO of Te Tira Whakamātaki
- ◆ Kevin Thiele, founding Director of Taxonomy Australia, an organisation established to advocate and implement in Australia the recommendations of Discovering biodiversity: A decadal plan for taxonomy and biosystematics in Australia and New Zealand 2018–2027. [<https://www.science.org.au/support/analysis/decadal-plans-science/discovering-biodiversity-decadal-plan-taxonomy>]

## Conference Organising Committee

These are the people who have helped pull everything together to ensure that your conference experience will be one to remember.

Heidi Meudt – Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa – Conference Co-organiser

Rewi Elliot – Otari Native Botanic Garden – Conference Co-organiser

Ainsley Calladine – State Herbarium of South Australia – Webmaster, Logistics & Finances

Bill Campbell – New Zealand Plant Conservation Network – Logistics & Finances

Megan Ireland – Otari Native Botanic Garden – Social Media

Finn Michalak – Otari Native Botanic Garden – Workshops

Anita Benbrook – Wellington City Council – Field trips

Tim Park – Wellington City Council – Field trips

Matt Ward – RESTORE – Silent Auction

Jennifer Tate – Massey University – Scientific Committee

Alex Fergus – Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research – Scientific Committee

Sarah Beadel – Wildland Consultants Ltd – Scientific Committee

Katharina Nargar – Australian Tropical Herbarium – Scientific Committee

Eleanor Burton – Otari Native Botanic Garden – Workshops

Jane Humble – Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust – Workshops

## Conference Programme

In case you missed it—the conference programme is now available to download from the website! Registrants will receive a hard copy of the programme in the conference satchel upon arrival, so there is no need to print it out.

## How to contact us

If you have any questions or think we can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us on [plants2019nz@gmail.com](mailto:plants2019nz@gmail.com)

*Rewi Elliot and Heidi Meudt*

*On behalf of the 2019 Conference Organising Committee <https://systematics.ourplants.org/organising-committee/>*



## Public Events at the 2019 ASBS–NZPCN Joint Conference

In association with the [2019 ASBS–NZPCN Joint Conference](#) *Taxonomy for Plant Conservation – Ruia mai i Rangiatea* and *Te Papa's Tuia – Encounters 250* activities we have three exciting public events happening at Te Papa to bring to your attention.

Visit this link for all event and booking details: <https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/visit/events/public-events-taxonomy-for-plant-conservation-ruia-mai-i-rangiatea-conference>

Please note that these events are all open to the public; you do not need to be a registered delegate of the 2019 ASBS–NZPCN Joint Conference to attend.

### **Solander, Sparrman, and the Anthropocene Saving “the Environment” on a Planet made Unstable by Humans**

Friends of Te Papa lecture by invited speaker Sverker Sörlin, Professor of Environmental History in the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.

**When | Āhea:** Monday 25 November, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

**Where | Ki hea:** Soundings Theatre, Level 2 Te Papa

**Cost | Te utu:** \$15–\$25

### **Panel Talk: The Politics of Collecting – From Banks and Solander to Today**

Hear botanists and researchers discuss the shifting politics of collecting and classifying plants, from both Māori and Pākehā perspectives. Panellists: Leon Perrie, Peter de Lange, Priscilla Wehi, Hēmi Whaanga, Tom Roa. Facilitator: Bronwyn Labrum.

**When | Āhea:** Thursday 28 Nov 2019, 6.30pm–7.45pm

**Where | Ki hea:** Soundings Theatre, Level 2 Te Papa

**Cost | Te utu:** \$10–15

### **Wikipedia Edit-a-thon: Endangered Plant Species**

Help make information about Australasia's endangered plants available on Wikipedia! Learn how to create and improve articles with friendly guidance from experienced Wikipedia editors Mike Dickison, Siobhan Leachman, and others.

**When | Āhea:** Sunday 24 Nov 2019, 9.00am–5.00pm

**Where | Ki hea:** Hinātore | Learning Lab, Level 4, Te Papa

**Cost | Te utu:** Free, but registration is required on the website above.

Book now! And please spread the word to your colleagues and friends, particularly those in the Wellington area. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Rewi Elliot and Heidi Meudt*

*Co-organisers of the 2019 ASBS–NZPCN Joint Conference*

*Website: <https://systematics.ourplants.org/>*

## **Call for applications for the Lucy Cranwell Student Grant for botanical Research for 2020**

Applications are invited for the Lucy Cranwell Grant of \$2,500.00 from the Auckland Botanical Society to assist a student studying for the degree of PhD, MSc, BSc (Hons) or B. Appl. Sci. in any tertiary institution in New Zealand whose thesis project deals with some aspect of New Zealand's flora and vegetation. Priority will be given to projects relevant to the northern half of the North Island. The research project to be supported will be chosen on the basis of appropriateness to the objects of the Society, namely to encourage the study of botany, and to stimulate public interest in the plant life of New Zealand and its preservation, conservation and cultivation. The grant will be administered by the student's supervisor as a contribution to expenses associated with the project. Closing date for applications: 5pm Friday 06 December 2019. A copy of the Application Form and the Rules of the award may be downloaded from the Auckland Botanical Society website under: Lucy Cranwell Fund <https://sites.google.com/site/aucklandbotanicalsociety/>

Contact for enquiries: ABS Secretary Email: [aucklandbotanicalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandbotanicalsociety@gmail.com)



## NZPCN favourite native plant vote 2019 update

Alex Fergus

Firstly, hearty congratulations to that stoic southerner the Hoiho for taking out Forest & Bird's annual Bird of the Year competition, the first seabird to do so. And to segue neatly out of that, thank you to Eugenie Sage, our Minister of Conservation and Land Information (and former Forest & Bird spokesperson) for casting the first vote for a seaweed species in our annual New Zealand Favourite Plant vote. Eugenie's vote went out to rimurapa, Bull Kelp (*Durvillaea antarctica*). As of 19 November, with six days of voting to go, 74 species are on the leaderboard, with Taurepo (*Rhabdothermus solandri*) in the lead.

As you are hopefully aware, online voting began on our website on 25 October and the winner of New Zealand's most prestigious plant-love award will be announced at the joint ASBS-NZPCN conference dinner on 26 November.

In our continued efforts to drum up support for the 2019 vote we have called upon some of our favourite New Zealand Natural History celebrities, and this week we have Graeme Hill, the host of *The Weekend Variety Wireless* on Radio Live, and a known plant lover.

### What's your favourite native plant at the moment?

*Pittosporum pimeleoides* subsp. *majus*

### When did you first encounter this plant?

After an interview about fragrant NZ flowers with Philip Smith of O2 landscapes. He asked if I'd smelled it. I hadn't, at least knowingly, but I sure have now and it's gorgeous with an amazing reach. *Oratia* natives had some. Sadly, very hard to find now.

### Have you seen it in the wild?

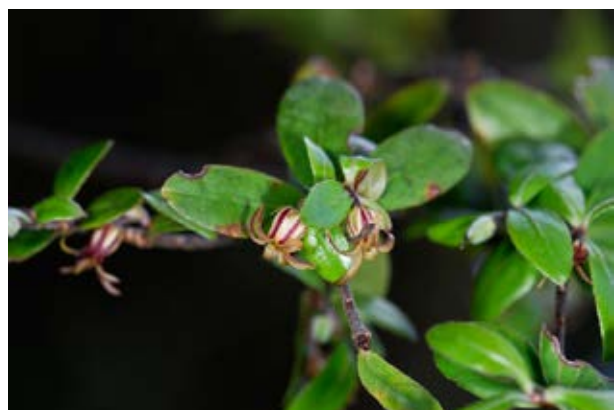
No. *P. pimeleoides* subsp. *majus* is crushingly range restricted. North Cape, Surville cliffs. It's on my wish-list though.

### Do you know if this plant is threatened?

Yes. At risk and only found in that tiny amazing location at the tippy top of NZ where Bartlett's rātā hangs on.

### Why do you love it/what makes it special to you?

I have an abiding affection for fragrant natives. I think they're under appreciated. Night time is the right time. Silly old māhoe, *Cordylines* & *Pittosporum tenuifolium* reek in spring as do our *Olearias*. *Pittosporum pimeleoides* subsp. *majus* is the champ for me though. It flowers in the dead of winter and packs a lovely punch at night. It bursts with hundreds of little red and white striped flowers looking like tiny octopuses, swarming with all sorts of insects attracted to its scent after the sun goes down. I only have one small plant yet it's clearly detectable from about 20 metres away. Its close cousin *P. pimeleoides* subsp. *pimeleoides* is beautifully scented too, but with not quite the same punch. This photo is from you guys (Jeremy Rolfe). I haven't got a snap of its flowers and I can't MAKE it flower in spring!



*Pittosporum pimeleoides* subsp. *majus* photographed flowering in cultivation. Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

## University of Canterbury summer course: Practical Field Botany

Practical Field Botany (BIOL305) is an intensive, short, summer course designed to meet the need for training in the collection, preparation, and identification of botanical specimens.

**Venue:** University of Canterbury - Cass Mountain Research Area, Canterbury

**Dates:** 21–29 January 2020

This course will be of interest to amateur botanists, members of the workforce (e.g. Crown Research Institutes, Department of Conservation, Local and Regional Councils, Botanic Gardens, horticulturists and teachers) and biology students who need to acquire or upgrade taxonomic skills and are interested in field ecology, conservation, biodiversity and biosystematics. The course is targeted at participants with various entry levels: from students with a limited plant knowledge to experienced career professionals.

### Goals of the course

To enable participants to

- become familiar with the plants of the central Canterbury mountains,
- identify and name plants correctly and accurately using online and hard-copy identification keys,
- take and edit scientific-quality plant photos,
- maximise usefulness and minimise environmental impact when collecting specimens,
- prepare high quality voucher specimens of plants,
- use scientific names to access detailed information about New Zealand plants,
- understand the patterns of variation within populations,
- appreciate unique and unusual aspects of the New Zealand flora.

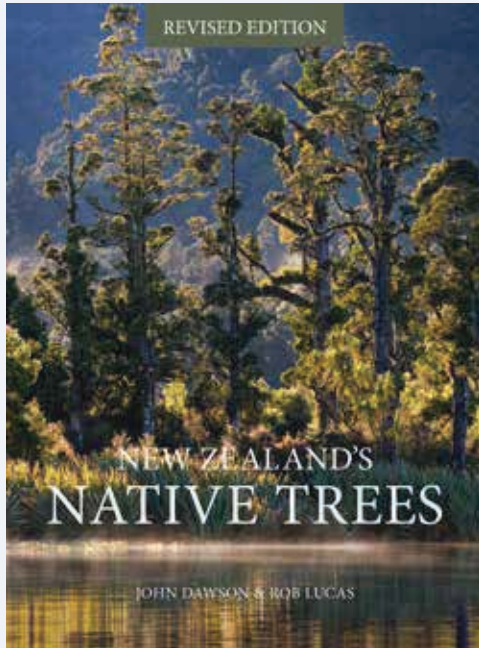
**Enrolment from 1 October 2019**

### More information

Contact Matt Walters ([matt.walters@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:matt.walters@canterbury.ac.nz); 03 369 5211) or Pieter Pelsler ([pieter.pelsler@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:pieter.pelsler@canterbury.ac.nz); 03 369 5228).

<b>Lichens of New Zealand:</b>	
	<b>2019 reprint, with updated names</b> (over 20% of the names have changed!) <b>Still only NZ\$20.00 per copy.</b>
<b>An Introductory Illustrated Guide</b> <i>Allison Knight</i>	<b>To order email John Knight:</b> <a href="mailto:johnknight.otago@icloud.com">johnknight.otago@icloud.com</a>
A5, 56 pp, full colour, laminated cover. NZ\$20	<b>Pay by Internet banking:</b> ANZ Account No: 06-0942-0123071-00. Account name: JG&A Knight Code: <i>LichenG</i>
This introductory guide celebrates the extraordinary diversity of New Zealand lichens with full colour images of over 250 common lichen species, plus a glossary illustrating over 60 useful identifying features. Species are divided into 4 colour-coded ecosystems and displayed in order of the three main growth forms.	Reference: <i>Your name</i>
New Zealand is exceptionally rich in lichens and harbours around 10% of the world's lichen species. They are an important, yet often overlooked, component of every ecosystem from the seashore to the mountaintops and contribute over 2000 taxa to New Zealand's biodiversity—nearly as many species as seed plants.	<b>Postage and packing:</b> 1–2 copies @ \$3; 3–6 copies @ \$5; 7–12 copies @ \$7
	<b>Be sure to include your delivery address</b> For overseas orders email the University Book Shop at Otago: <a href="mailto:enquiries@unibooks.co.nz">enquiries@unibooks.co.nz</a> Proceeds will support John Child Bryophyte and Lichen Workshops and grants.

# Special Offer 20% Discount For NZPCN Members



## *New Zealand's Native Trees*

John Dawson & Rob Lucas

A complete revision of the best-selling, award-winning landmark book on New Zealand's native trees.

**Special price \$104.00**

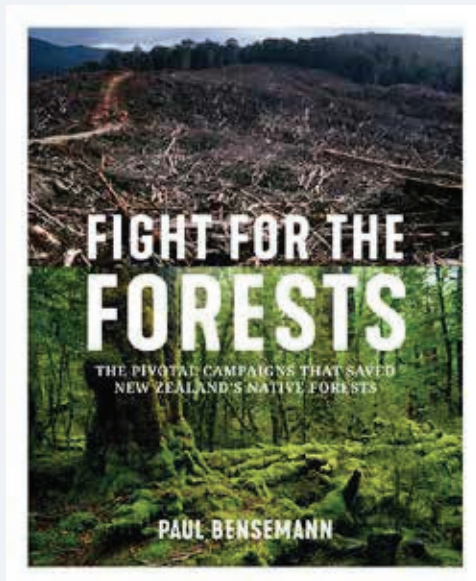
Normally \$130.00

John Dawson & Rob Lucas

310 x 229 mm, 688 pp

Hardback with dustjacket, colour throughout

Published: October 2019



## *Fight for the Forests*

Paul Bensemann

The remarkable and inspiring story of how New Zealand's native forests were saved between 1960 and 2000.

**Special price \$55.99**

Retail \$69.99

Paul Bensemann

265 x 215 mm, 300 pp

Hardback with dustjacket, colour throughout

Published: November 2018

To receive 20% discount and free delivery in NZ, order online at [pottonandburton.co.nz](http://pottonandburton.co.nz) and use the coupon code **NZPCN19** at the shopping cart. Offer ends 20 December 2019.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have events or news that you would like publicised via this newsletter please email the Network ([events@nzpcn.org.nz](mailto:events@nzpcn.org.nz)).

### Auckland Botanical Society

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**Field Trip:** Saturday 14 December to Ti Point, Whangateau. Christmas walk and shared picnic.

**Leader:** Maureen Young, email [youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz).

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### Rotorua Botanical Society

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**Field Trip:** Sunday 1 December to Oruanui/Marotiri podocarp forest remnants, north Taupo (combined with Waikato Botanical Society). **Meet:** 10.00am at the junction of SH 5 and Oruanui Road. **Grade:** Easy.

**Leader:** Mark Smale, email [smalem@landcareresearch.co.nz](mailto:smalem@landcareresearch.co.nz), ph. 027 855 2240.

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### Wellington Botanical Society

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**Summer Camp:** 16–23 January 2020 in the Bay of Islands region to botanise some of Northland's fascinating forests.

**Accommodation:** Lonsdale Park (<http://www.lonsdalepark.org>), between Kaeo and Kerikeri). **Transport:** To be confirmed

**Co-leaders:** Lara Shepherd, email [lara.shepherd@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:lara.shepherd@tepapa.govt.nz) and one other to be confirmed.

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### Nelson Botanical Society

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**Camp:** 13–15 December in the Craigieburn area. Jane Gosden is the camp leader. Please note that the camp accommodation is now fully booked but you can still join the camp if you are able to make your own accommodation arrangements.

**Contact:** Organiser Jane Connor, email [jbconnor@icloud.com](mailto:jbconnor@icloud.com), ph. 021 687 330.

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### Canterbury Botanical Society

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**Meeting:** Monday 2 December at 7.30pm – Speaker Dr Peter Heenan. **Topic:** Conservation and identification of the limestone flora of eastern South Island.

**Venue:** Upper Riccarton Library community meeting room, 71 Main South Road, Riccarton.

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### Botanical Society of Otago

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**Next meeting and field trip:** both in February 2020.

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