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NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND PLANT CONSERVATION NETWORK

Please send news items or events to events@nzpcn.org.nz

Postal address: P.O. Box 16-102, Wellington, New Zealand

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Guest editorial

For anyone involved in protecting New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity or interested in protecting the environment it would be easy to feel a bit depressed at present due to the government's proposed changes to the Resource Management Act and due to the further reductions in staffing levels at the DOC. And yet, at the same time, there are plenty of reasons to be excited. First, I find when things get bad it galvanises the opposition, it brings us all together behind collaborative initiatives and makes us work together more effectively than when everything is going well.

One opportunity to galvanise our efforts is the forthcoming Network conference to be held in Auckland in late May. An amazing array of speakers is already confirmed for the conference including award winning scientists—Professor Dave Kelly, Dr Peter Heenan and Dr Mike Wilcox. We are also honoured to have Dame Anne Salmond speaking. Dame Anne is a renowned New Zealand author and Distinguished Professor of Māori Studies and Anthropology and, of course, 2012 New Zealander of the Year.

Other reasons to be excited are some of the initiatives described in this newsletter. The work of Craig McGill to build a national seed bank partnership as part of the Network's agreement with the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew) has the potential to provide one of the most cost effective ways to protect our native flora (albeit *ex-situ* protection). This should not prevent us from seeking *in-situ* measures for all our threatened indigenous plants but is another important conservation tool in our armoury.

The Network's initiative to create a mobile version of our website (sponsored by Auckland Council) promises to increase engagement with our plant information. For those of you with a smart phone, it will mean you have the flora in your hand, which has to be a good thing. We now have over 25,000 plant images on the website thanks to a growing group of photographers and we also have thousands of plant observations being added to our flora distribution database. There is also a proposal to be discussed at the Council meeting to establish an endowment fund to provide on-going sustainable funding for plant conservation action (fencing, weed control, monitoring, restoration, etc.). We are interested to hear your views about this before the meeting on 1 May.

So, if you are feeling a bit depressed at what is happening to our environment, register for the conference and come along to be inspired. Also, please write an article for the newsletter about what you are doing to reverse the decline and continue to record your plant observations. Finally, if you win Lotto, you may care to donate some money to the Network's research trust or plant conservation activities. That would help a lot!

John Sawyer

Network Council Member

E: pterostylis@hotmail.com

PLANT OF THE MONTH – *ICHTHYOSTOMUM PYGMAEUM*



Ichthyostomum pygmaeum and (inset) flower.
Photos: Jeremy Rolfe.

Plant of the month for April is the pygmy tree orchid, *Ichthyostomum pygmaeum*. As the common name suggests, this is a very small orchid that is found in the North, South, Three Kings and Stewart Islands. Its tiny pseudobulbs grow to reach only 3-5 mm diameter; they are coloured bright green to pale green and become deeply furrowed and wrinkled with age. Each pseudobulb produces a single leaf at its top from within a somewhat prominent circular rim. White flowers appear in summer and are similarly tiny, reaching only 1.5 mm across.

Spreading by rhizomes, *I. pygmaeum* can grow to form wide, diffuse mats up to 200 mm diameter. It usually grows as an epiphyte on forest tree trunks and branches, sometimes on fallen logs, and also on rocks and cliff faces. It can be grown fairly easily in cultivation provided it is kept moist during the drier months and kept in semi-shade. It should not be removed from the wild.

You can see the Network fact sheet for *Ichthyostomum pygmaeum* at: www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=1381

Nature's late Ellerslie Flower Show entry

Alice Shanks (alice@caverock.net.nz)



Western Australia has its wildflowers, the Alps the spring bulbs, New England its fall colour and here, in Canterbury, we have the High Country Tarn Gentian Mass Flowering, all the more remarkable for its tight concentric display.

At the eastern end of Lake Heron in the Hakatere Conservation Park, the Department of Conservation has established a short track to a viewing site overlooking a large ephemeral tarn. In response to the receding water, a mass of gentians flower simultaneously, in New Zealand white, filling the large round tarn with a breathtakingly beautiful display. Nature outdoes Ellerslie in this bedding plant display.

Normally, this occurs in December or January but this year the water in the tarns has been high, as the BOTSOC Lake Heron Show Weekend trip discovered when the members went to look at the tarn margin plants and found them submerged; the flowering of *Gentianella corymbifera* subsp. *gracilis* has been delayed till now (March).

Network conference speaker line up continues to grow

Do you have something to say about native plants or their conservation and promotion? If so, please consider speaking at the Network's conference and sharing your knowledge and experience. Follow the instructions in our call for papers (in this newsletter) and send through your abstract to info@nzpcn.org.nz

The following speakers are now confirmed:

Dame Anne Salmond (University of Auckland)	New Zealander of the Year 2012 – Paper title to be confirmed
Dr Peter Heenan (Landcare Research)	Tane Ngahere Lecture: “Discovery and description of the New Zealand flora more than just a name”
Professor Dave Kelly (Canterbury University)	The importance of species interactions for plant conservation
Dr Leon Perrie (Te Papa Tongarewa)	Title to be confirmed
Dr Mike Wilcox (Auckland)	Auckland's remarkable urban forest
Dr Carolyn Lundquist (NIWA)	Can we turn back the clock? Managing mangrove expansion in northern New Zealand
Michael Way (Millennium Seed Bank, UK)	<i>Ex situ</i> conservation in a changing world: the Millennium Seed Bank partnership
Dr John Leathwick (Department of Conservation)	Title to be confirmed
Steve Wagstaff (Landcare Research)	<i>Pachystegia</i> evolution
Philip Grove (Environment Canterbury)	Recovery of a population of the threatened shrub <i>Olearia adenocarpa</i> on Canterbury Regional Council reserve land at Rakaia Island
Dr Ilse Breitwieser (Landcare Research)	Floras & eFlora
Jeremy Rolfe (Department of Conservation)	Update on the NZ Threat Classification System: 2012 review of vascular plants
Cathy Jones (Nelson) and Jan Clayton-Greene (Department of Conservation)	Update on saving an ephemeral wetland and its threatened plants
Dr Dave Glenny (Landcare Research)	Current threats to bryophytes from the coal mining industry
Melissa Hutchison (Wildland Consultants)	Back from the dead: the rediscovery of <i>Pittosporum obcordatum</i> on Banks Peninsula after 170 years of local extinction
Dr Rob Smissen (Landcare Research)	<i>Nothofagus</i> evolution, hybridisation, and genetic variation
Lisa Forester (Northland Regional Council)	Northland Coastal Dune Lakes – rare treasures worth protecting

Five reasons to come to the Network conference

The Network conference is fast approaching with early-bird registration closing soon. Here are five reasons you should enrol now:

1. We already have an amazing line up of speakers, many of whom are world experts in plant conservation, research and advocacy (see article in this newsletter). The programme is one of the most diverse and exciting line-ups we have ever had at a Network conference so come and be inspired.
2. If there was ever a time you need to show your support for New Zealand's native species and ecosystems, it is now! Environmental protection is being eroded through legislative changes and through reduced funding for the Department of Conservation. We need to work together and this is your opportunity.
3. You can help us raise money for plant conservation by attending the charity auction. We have many fantastic items up for auction including signed plant books, threatened plants and botanical trips. All proceeds will go to plant conservation and research.
4. This is your opportunity to learn more about plant conservation but also an opportunity to network with plant conservation activists from throughout the country.
5. This is an opportunity to share your experiences, your research and your ideas for plant conservation for the next 10 years of the Network. See the Call for Papers in this newsletter, send us your abstract and give a presentation at the conference. We want to hear what you have to say.

Charity auction at conference dinner – more items sought?

A charity auction to be held at the Network's conference dinner on Saturday 25 May will raise money for the David Given Threatened Plant Research Trust and for plant conservation projects. Do you have an item that could be auctioned or do you know a potential sponsor that you would be willing to contact to obtain suitable items? These may include plant conservation memorabilia, conservation equipment (hand lens, botanical books, camera, etc.), wine and food, books, plant prints, experiences (such as a trip to an island) or anything else you can think of. Please

contact the Network's conference organising committee if you have suggestions or if you have a suitable item that could be auctioned. We look forward to hearing your ideas (e-mail: info@nzpcn.org.nz).

Students sought to help with conference

Are you a student or unwaged? Do you want to come to the Network conference? Do you want a discount on your registration fee? If you meet any of these criteria, then please contact us quickly because we are looking for a couple of people to help with running the conference, setting up, odd jobs and running errands. If you want to assist, please email the Network as soon as you can: info@nzpcn.org.nz

Call for papers

Oral and poster presentations for each conference symposium are welcome and these should be submitted following the guidelines below. You may choose whether to make an oral and/or poster presentation but review committees for each symposium will decide what is included in the final conference programme. Abstracts should be submitted for both forms of presentation.

Presentations covering other aspects of plant conservation are welcome but preference will be given to those that fit with the conference symposia.

Guidelines for submitting papers and the timetable

Abstract(s) of no more than 300 words should be sent on or before 3 May by email to the Network (info@nzpcn.org.nz).

Oral presentations of contributed papers are limited to 20–30 minutes including discussion.

Abstracts should include the:

- Author name(s) (please indicate who will be presenting)
- Preferred symposium for your talk
- Name of your organisation (if applicable)
- Oral presentation or poster
- Contact details including email address

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by Friday 10 May.

Final abstracts for accepted papers are due by Tuesday 14 May.

Flowering and fruiting of plants in New Zealand

Thousands of flowering and fruiting plants have been observed using the website's phenology recording system (see list below) for sites throughout New Zealand and the world. From the flowering of *Parahebe lyallii* in Southland and *Limosella lineata* at Turakina to the fruiting of *Coprosma spathulata* subsp. *spathulata* in Mangatutu, *Astelia nervosa* in the Upper Caples Valley and *Melicope ternata* at Baring Head. And, of course, there is a record of the first flowering of *Tetragonia tetragonioides* at Alghero (Sardinia). Please keep adding to this online database to help our understanding of native plant distribution and phenology (use the Record an Observation on the right hand side of the species details pages).



1. [*Parahebe lyallii*](#) was seen Flowering at Wairio, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 17/04/2013.
2. [*Ehrharta erecta*](#) was seen Casual Observations at Ken Maunder Park, Auckland, by Nick Goldwater on 15/04/2013.
3. [*Astelia banksii*](#) was seen Flowering at Auckland Botanic Gardens, Auckland, by Bec Stanley on 15/04/2013.
4. [*Limosella lineata*](#) was seen Flowering at Koitiata Beach, Turakina, Rangitikei District, by Colin Ogle on 15/04/2013.
5. [*Isolepis basilaris*](#) was seen Fruiting at Koitiata Beach, Turakina, Rangitikei District, by Colin Ogle on 15/04/2013.
6. [*Astelia banksii*](#) was seen Flowering at Learmonth Avenue, Auckland, by Bec Stanley on 14/04/2013.
7. [*Gentianella amabilis*](#) was seen Flowering at Blue Lake, Garvie Mountains, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 14/04/2013.
8. [*Cordyline australis*](#) was seen Fruiting at Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 14/04/2013.
9. [*Calystegia soldanella*](#) was seen Flowering at Mangawhai Wildlife Reserve, Kaipara, Kaipara District, by John Sawyer on 13/04/2013.
10. [*Ficinia spiralis*](#) was seen Casual Observations at Mangawhai Wildlife Reserve, Kaipara, Kaipara District, by John Sawyer on 13/04/2013.
11. [*Muehlenbeckia complexa*](#) was seen Flowering at Tern Point, Mangawhai, Kaipara District, by John Sawyer on 13/04/2013.
12. [*Coprosma spathulata* subsp. *spathulata*](#) was seen Fruiting at Mangatutu, Waikato District, by Angela Simpson on 13/04/2013.
13. [*Cichorium intybus*](#) was seen Flowering at Lake Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 13/04/2013.
14. [*Eleocharis acuta*](#) was seen Fruiting at Lake Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 13/04/2013.
15. [*Utricularia dichotoma*](#) was seen Flowering at Lake Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 13/04/2013.
16. [*Olearia avicenniifolia*](#) was seen Flowering at Diamond Lake, Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 13/04/2013.
17. [*Muehlenbeckia australis*](#) was seen Flowering at Diamond Lake, Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 13/04/2013.
18. [*Rosa rubiginosa*](#) was seen Fruiting at Diamond Lake, Wanaka, Queenstown-Lakes District by John Barkla, on 13/04/2013.
19. [*Melicope ternata*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City, by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013.
20. [*Muehlenbeckia complexa*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013.
21. [*Melicytus crassifolius*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City, by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013.
22. [*Coprosma propinqua* var. *propinqua*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City, by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013.



23. [*Kunzea ericoides* var. *ericoides*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City, by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013.
24. [*Leptospermum scoparium* var. *scoparium*](#) was seen Fruiting at Baring Head, Lower Hutt City, by Paula Warren on 6/04/2013. 
25. [*Coprosma areolata*](#) was seen Fruiting at Papaitonga Scenic Reserve, Horowhenua District, by Matt Ward on 3/04/2013.
26. [*Scleranthus brockiei*](#) was seen Fruiting at Mid Caples Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 2/04/2013.
27. [*Tetragonia tetragonioides*](#) was seen First flowering at Sardegna, Alghero, Old Town (Break Water), International by Peter de Lange on 2/04/2013.
28. [*Astelia nervosa*](#) was seen Fruiting at Upper Caples Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
29. [*Aristotelia fruticosa*](#) was seen Fruiting at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
30. [*Coprosma cheesemani*](#) was seen Fruiting at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
31. [*Myrsine nummularia*](#) was seen Fruiting at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
32. [*Olearia nummulariifolia*](#) was seen Flowering at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
33. [*Ozothamnus vauvilliersii*](#) was seen Flowering at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
34. [*Lepidothamnus laxifolius*](#) was seen Fruiting at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
35. [*Carpha alpina*](#) was seen Fruiting at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
36. [*Leucogenes grandiceps*](#) was seen Flowering at Steele Creek, Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 1/04/2013.
37. [*Myosotis drucei*](#) was seen Fruiting at Greenstone Valley, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 31/03/2013.
38. [*Coprosma propinqua* var. *propinqua*](#) was seen Fruiting at Beaumont Station, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 31/03/2013.
39. [*Coprosma rugosa*](#) was seen Fruiting at Beaumont Station, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 31/03/2013.
40. [*Nephrolepis flexuosa*](#) was seen Sporangia present at Waimangu Thermal Area, Rotorua District, by Angela Simpson on 31/03/2013.
41. [*Cyclosorus interruptus*](#) was seen Sporangia present at Waimangu Thermal Area, Rotorua District, by Angela Simpson on 31/03/2013.
42. [*Psilotum nudum*](#) was seen Sporangia present at Waimangu Thermal Area, Rotorua District by Angela Simpson on 31/03/2013.
43. [*Coprosma tayloriae*](#) was seen Fruiting at Beaumont Station, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 31/03/2013.
44. [*Griselinia littoralis*](#) was seen Fruiting at Beaumont Station, Southland District, by Jesse Bythell on 31/03/2013.
45. [*Calystegia soldanella*](#) was seen Flowering at Henderson Bay, Far North, Far North District, by John Sawyer on 30/03/2013.
46. [*Pittosporum crassifolium*](#) was seen Fruiting at Henderson Bay, Far North, Far North District, by John Sawyer on 30/03/2013. 
47. [*Corokia cotoneaster*](#) was seen Fruiting at Greenstone Valley car park, Queenstown-Lakes District, by John Barkla on 30/03/2013.
48. [*Coprosma intertexta*](#) was seen Casual Observations at Lewis Pass, Lewis Tops route, Westland District, by Debra Wotton on 29/03/2013.
49. [*Ulex europaeus*](#) was seen Flowering at Waihopo, Far North, Far North District, by John Sawyer on 29/03/2013.
50. [*Solanum mauritianum*](#) was seen Flowering at Waihopo, Forestry Road to 90 Mile Beach, Far North District, by John Sawyer on 29/03/2013.

Seed bank partnership update

Work is continuing behind the scenes to build a national seed bank group or partnership as part of the Network's Memorandum of Collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Millennium Seed Bank) in the UK. The objective of this is *"to work together on mutually beneficial projects focused on the collection, study and conservation of the indigenous flora of New Zealand"*.

This collaborative approach has given renewed impetus to a project to collect and store seed of New Zealand's indigenous flowering plants under conditions (low temperature and moisture) that will maximise the retention of viability of these seeds within storage. This work is being co-ordinated by Craig McGill, Massey University, with assistance from a number of organisations throughout New Zealand including the Margot Forde Germplasm Centre in Palmerston North. The seed banking training course on Thursday 23 May at Auckland Botanic Gardens (run by the Millennium Seed Bank) is part of this work programme and several speakers will be presenting at the Network conference about seed banking and research as part of the symposium on "Defining, understanding and banking our biota".

Mobile website testing

The Network is now building a mobile version of its website that is optimised for smart phones. This has been funded by Auckland Council to aid people who want to access plant information in the field and to improve the user interface for people using the website from their phones.

The Network is seeking five people to help test this mobile website in the next few months. For each volunteer this will involve a few hours of time using a smart phone to access and test the functionality of the mobile version of the website. Please contact the Network if you are willing to help us with this testing (you will need your own smart phone), e-mail: info@nzpcn.org.nz

Proposal for endowment fund for plant conservation

Questions have been raised recently about whether the Plant Conservation Network should establish an endowment fund to sponsor plant conservation action throughout New Zealand. The David Given Threatened Plant Research Trust, established to provide regular funding for threatened plant research, provides a good model for how a fund could be run using interest from a capital fund to pay for research. The continuing decline in support for central government agencies involved in plant conservation and the proposed changes to legislation (such as the Resource Management Act and the Local Government Act) that will affect environmental protection means it is timely to discuss whether such a fund could help provide sustainable support for plant conservation independent of government or other influences. This proposal will be discussed at the forthcoming Network Council meeting to be held in Wellington on Wednesday 1 May. We would be interested in hearing the perspectives of members about this proposal. If you have any thoughts about the Network establishing such a fund please contact the Network at: info@nzpcn.org.nz

In the meantime, donations to many of the Network's activities can be made via the Network website including the David Given Threatened Plant Research Trust see http://nzpcn.org.nz/nzpcn_donations.aspx

National Council meeting in Wellington

The Network's national Council is meeting in Wellington on Wednesday 1 May to discuss the current work programme. If you have any issues or ideas that you would like discussed please let the Network know (info@nzpcn.org.nz). What do we need to do more of? What is working? What isn't? It would be great to hear your ideas so they can be discussed during the meeting.

Network website sails through 25000 images!

The Network has added over 1000 images to its website in the last 6 weeks and now has over 25000 plant photographs and illustrations online. Many of the images plugged gaps in our library taking us ever closer to our goal of a fully illustrated New Zealand vascular flora. Thanks go to a huge number of photographers including Mike Thorsen, Colin Ogle, Rowan Hindmarsh-Walls, Jeremy Rolfe, John Barkla, Jane Gosden, Peter de Lange, Simon Walls, Pat Enright, Geoff Rogers, Thomas Emmitt, Sue Lake, John Sawyer, Graeme Jane and Graeme Lacock.

If you can help plug gaps or if you have great plant images that you are willing for us to use on the website please email us at: info@nzpcn.org.nz.



Two recent additions to the website: (left) *Forstera cristis* by John Barkla; (right) *Rhopalostylis sapida* by Pat Enright.

Applications called for inaugural QEII National Trust Brian Molloy scholarship grant

Students from any New Zealand university are invited to apply for the inaugural Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Brian Molloy scholarship to support a full-time supervised doctoral research degree. Funded by Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, the scholarship has been established in recognition of Dr Molloy's contribution to the Trust and to promote and advance ecological science and conservation in New Zealand.

Trust Chief Executive Mike Jebson said that the scholarship celebrates Dr Molloy's long and remarkable record in conservation and botanical research in New Zealand. "Brian is held in high esteem both in New Zealand and internationally for his in-depth knowledge of New Zealand's native flora and for his unwavering generosity in sharing that knowledge with others. The studies funded by this scholarship will lead to a greater understanding of the core values of Open Space Covenants and their management for the benefit of QEII National Trust and its covenantors in particular, and New Zealand's environment in general," Mr Jebson said.

The scholarship funding covers an allowance of \$30,000 per annum for living expenses, tuition fees and associated student services levies, and a research and travel allowance of \$20,000 per annum to be applied to research costs. Scholarships will be awarded for a tenure of three years (36 months) or until the thesis is submitted (whichever is shorter), with the possibility of an additional 12 months of funding, should it be deemed appropriate by the scholarship selection board.

Further information about the scholarship can be found at: www.openspace.org.nz

Scholarship contact

Dr Elizabeth Heeg, QEII National Trust, 04 471 4190, e-mail: ehheeg@openspace.org.nz

Applications close 14 June 2013 at 5.00 p.m.

New version of native orchid key

Murray Dawson (dawsonm@landcareresearch.co.nz)

We have uploaded a new version of the NZ native orchid key at:
www.landcareresearch.co.nz/resources/identification/plants/native-orchid-key

This key is an interactive tool to allow you to more easily identify native orchids.

What's new?

We have:

- refined the orchid taxa listed and the characters used to identify them;
- added new image collections of native orchids;
- fully captioned the images, including locality information, where available;
- added information pages to explain what each character means;
- created a native orchid project on NatureWatch NZ (<http://naturewatch.org.nz/projects/new-zealand-native-orchids>) and added a “widget” to it on the Landcare Research website (www.landcareresearch.co.nz); and
- the New Zealand Native Orchids website (<http://nativeorchids.co.nz/>) has added links to the key.

Many thanks to those who have contributed their images or helped in other ways; you should have been acknowledged at: www.landcareresearch.co.nz/resources/identification/plants/native-orchid-key/acknowledgements

This project has been funded by the TFBIS (Terrestrial & Freshwater Biodiversity Information System) Programme and is scheduled for completion in May 2013. There is some work still to do, such as filling gaps in image coverage (e.g., fruit and column close-ups), adding images on the explanation pages, and checking some character scoring.

Jeremy Rolfe and the New Zealand Native Orchid Group are co-authors of this key.

If you have never used a Lucid key, we have a help page at www.landcareresearch.co.nz/resources/identification/plants/lucid_help

Please pass this email on to anyone that you think may be interested. Further contributions and feedback are most welcome! Email them to: dawsonm@landcareresearch.co.nz

GSPC Liaison Group meeting

Suzanne Sharrock, GPPC Secretariat (Suzanne.Sharrock@BGCI.ORG)

I am writing to inform you that there is a good possibility that the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Secretariat will be organising a GSPC (Global Strategy for Plant Conservation) Liaison Group meeting on Saturday October 26 in Dunedin, New Zealand. This will be immediately after the 5th Global Botanic Gardens Congress. Once this meeting is confirmed, the CBD Secretariat will issue a call for nominations from both the GPPC (Global Partnership for Plant Conservation) and GSPC National Focal Points. The Liaison Group participants will be chosen from these nominations.

In the meantime, it would be useful to know who from the GPPC is likely to be attending the Botanic Gardens Congress and therefore might be available to participate in the Liaison Group meeting. The main purpose of the Liaison Group meeting will be to advise on the process for carrying out the mid-term review of the GSPC, as well as reviewing the current status of activities being undertaken on GSPC implementation at national, international and target-specific levels.

We will keep you informed regarding plans for the Liaison Group meeting. In the meantime, further information about the 5th Global Botanic Gardens Congress is available at www.5GBGC.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

New Zealand Plant Conservation Network Conference

Auckland: Thursday 23 to Sunday 26 May. Registrations are now open.

Register online: armed with your credit card, click the link: [Registration](#)

Conservation Incorporated – What’s ahead for community-based conservation in New Zealand?

Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust: 25th anniversary conference for citizen-based conservation organisations like the Network. The conference is entitled *Conservation Incorporated*. Its aim is to strengthen and diversify the community base for biodiversity conservation in New Zealand. We will convene *Conservation Incorporated* in Dunedin on 17–18 October 2013. The conference will be preceded on 16 October by applied workshops on fundraising, leadership and predator management. *Conservation Incorporated* will be a strongly applied conference, from which participants will leave better prepared for the future and more aware of their place in the broader conservation landscape.

Venue: the newly refurbished Dunedin Centre, which is conveniently located in the Octagon in the central CBD.

See our website: conference@yeptrust.org.nz for details about conference themes, workshops, events. Earlybird registrations will open on 1 June.

5th Global Botanic Gardens Congress

Dunedin: Sunday 20 to Friday 25 October, 2013.

Proposals for symposia, papers and posters: submit online at www.5GBGC.com

Auckland Botanical Society

Meeting: Wednesday 1 May at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Alison Wesley titled 'Plants of Ecuador. **Venue:** Unitec School of Health Sciences, Gate 4, Building 115, Room 2005.

Contact: Maureen Young, e-mail: youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz

Field trip: Saturday 18 May to Rāvenhorp Scenic Reserve and David Laurie's Bush.

Leader: Jenni Shanks. **Contact:** Maureen Young, e-mail: youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz

Three Streams and Kauri Grove reserves

Tree planting: Saturday 15 June, 10 a.m. – 12 noon; the City Parks department is providing several hundred trees and we look forward to some extra help to plant them. Please bring a spade. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided. **Directions:** 343 Dairy Flat Highway; (1) from Albany Village, go north on Dairy Flat Highway (formerly SH 17) for about 1 km; (2) as you climb the hill, look for two houses on the left and turn in under the wooden entrance sign; (3) the road makes a sharp bend then descends to the parking area.

Contact: Dennis Viehland, e-mail: d.viehland@massey.ac.nz.

Waikato Botanical Society

Field trip: Saturday 4 May to the Raglan Restoration Project.
Meet: 9.00 a.m. at the Countdown Supermarket, Whatawhata Road, Dinsdale, or 10.00 a.m. 456 Wainui Road, Raglan (Peter's place). **Grade:** medium.

Leader: Peter Cave, ph: 027 443 3067 or 07 825 6559, e-mail: petercave@slingshot.co.nz

Field trip: Saturday 11 May for a Threatened Plant collection working bee. Please bring gloves, old clothes and boots for weeding, planting and propagating activities. **Meet:** 10.00 a.m. at Waikato University Gate 8, Hillcrest Rd, outside Science and Engineering main entrance (E-F link stairway).

Contact: Liz Overdyck, ph: 07 825 9743, e-mail: eg3@waikato.ac.nz.

Meeting: Monday 20 May at 5.30 p.m. for a talk by Nick Waipara titled 'Kauri dieback: An emerging biosecurity threat to kauri and the kauri ecosystem'. **Meet:** Environment Centre, 25 Ward Street Hamilton.

Contact: Cynthia Roberts, ph: 07 858 1034, e-mail: croberts@doc.govt.nz

Rotorua Botanical Society

Field trip: Sunday 12 May to the Tarawera Trail to Hot Water Beach, Lake Tarawera. **Meet:** the car park, Rotorua, at 8:30 a.m. **Grade:** medium.

Leader: Chris Bycroft, ph: 07 346 3647 (hm), e-mail: chris.bycroft@wildlands.co.nz; Chris needs to know the probable numbers by Thursday, 2 May, so that boat options to Hot Water Beach can be organised.

Meeting: mid May for the Rotorua Botanical Society Lecture given by Dr Matt Buys titled 'A botanical safari through *iKhapa*, and beyond'. **Venue and time:** to be announced.

Contact: Elizabeth Miller, e-mail: rotorua-botanical-society@gmail.com

Wanganui Museum

Field trip: Saturday 27 April to Dunbar Trust, Mission Road, Westmere. The trip involves some scrambling up and down hill slopes. **Meet:** Police Station at 9.30 a.m., bring lunch.

Leader: Clare Ridler. **Contacts:** Robyn and Colin Ogle, ph: 06 347 8547, e-mail: robcol.ogle@xtra.co.nz

Meeting: Tuesday 7 May at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by **Marc Higgie** titled 'The future of kopi/karaka trees on the Chatham Islands, along with their bark carvings (dendroglyphs)'. **Venue:** Museum's Davis lecture theatre. **Contact:** Clive Higgie, e-mail: clive.nicki@xtra.co.nz.

Field trip: Sunday 2 June for a guided morning tour of some of Wanganui's notable or unusual trees. **Meet:** at 9.30 a.m. in car park of Kowhai Park, by the bunya pine southern (i.e., the Georgetti Road) end of the park.

Leader and contact: Clive Higgie, e-mail: clive.nicki@xtra.co.nz

Wellington Botanical Society

Field trip: Saturday 4 May to Taita Scientific Reserve. **Meet:** at 9.15 a.m. on Eastern Hutt Rd, at picnic area with large totara, north of station underpass.

Co-leaders: Chris Horne, ph: 04 475 7025; Barbara Mitcalfe, ph: 04 475 7149.

Field trip: Saturday 18 May for the Te Marua Bush working bee.
Bring: gloves, kneeler, weed bag, trowel, hand fork, grubber, loppers, pruning saw, jemmy. **Meet:** at 9.30 a.m. at Te Marua Bush (250 m north of Te Marua Store and then left, off SH2 for 50 m, along the road to Te Marua Lakes, Kaitoke Regional Park). If coming by train, phone *a leader* to arrange to be met at Upper Hutt Station; catch 8.05 a.m. train on Hutt line from Wellington Station.

Co-leaders: Glennis Sheppard, ph: 04 526 7450;
Sue Millar, ph: 04 526 7440.

Meeting: Monday 20 May at 7.30 p.m. for the Members' Evening and Auction—share your botanical slides and photographs taken on BotSoc trips, your paintings, drawings and your favourite botanical readings and bring your spare botanical or other natural history books to auction.

Venue: Lecture Theatre M101, Murphy Building ground floor, west side of Kelburn Parade.

Nelson Botanical Society

Meeting: Monday 29 April at 6.00 p.m. for pot luck dinner followed by the AGM and a slide show by Cathy Jones and Don Pittham titled 'The Plants of Arthur's Pass'.

Venue: Jaycee Rooms, Founders Park, Nelson.

Field trip: Sunday 19 May to Archer Track from Penzance towards Elaine Bay, Marlborough Sounds.

Leader: Sally Warren
ph. 03 546 6637.

Canterbury Botanical Society

Meeting: Friday 3 May at 7.30 for a talk by Peter Bellingham, Landcare Research, to be confirmed. **Venue:** Room A5 University of Canterbury.

Contact: Gillian Giller,
ph: 03 313 5315,
e-mail: ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz

Field trip: Saturday May 11 to The Kimberly and Delaney montane forest covenant, Akaroa. Meet: at Halswell Bowling Club at 8.00 a.m. or Little River Station at 8.45 a.m.

Contact: Alice for more information, ph: 03 337 12156.

Meeting: Saturday 8 June at 10.30 a.m. for AGM followed by a talk by Brian Patrick titled 'Butterflies of the South Pacific—a botanical and entomological journey' and then by a shared lunch. **Venue:** St Ninian's Presbyterian Church Hall, corner of Puriri Street and Riccarton Road.

Contact: Gillian Giller,
ph: 03 313 5315,
e-mail: ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz

Otago Botanical Society

Field trip: Saturday 11 May to Ferntree Lodge Gardens, Ferntree Drive, Wakari. **Meet:** 9:00 a.m. at Botany Department Car Park, 464 Great King Street.

Contact: [David Lyttle](mailto:David.Lyttle@otago.ac.nz),
ph: 03 454 5470.

Meeting: Wednesday 15 May at 5.20 p.m. for a talk by David Lyttle titled 'Above the treeline and beyond'. **Venue:** Zoology Benham Building, 346 Great King Street, behind the Zoology car park by the Captain Cook Hotel. Use the main entrance of the Benham Building to get in and go to the Benham Seminar Room, Rm. 215, 2nd floor. Please be prompt as we have to hold the door open.

Contact: [David Lyttle](mailto:David.Lyttle@otago.ac.nz),
ph: 03 454 5470.
