



# TRILEPIDEA

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND PLANT CONSERVATION NETWORK

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

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

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## Network awards for 2011

Octogenarian orchid lover, a radio host, swamp forest restoration, and island restoration in the Hauraki Gulf have all been honoured in the awards announced by the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network (NZPCN) at the weekend.

The awards recognise special people, and projects that have captured the interest of local communities. These individuals and groups are the leading guardians of our country's native plants and ecosystems. They include Wanganui Intermediate School, a Southland plant nursery, a North Island city council, an island eco-sanctuary in the Hauraki Gulf, and dedicated plant enthusiasts and conservationists.

These awards are indicative of the huge effort that is being exerted all around the country by a large number of dedicated individuals, communities, and organisations to protect and enhance our unique native plants.

### Individual

Anne Fraser, former farmer and housewife, is a dedicated orchidologist. She received the Network's individual award for her strong advocacy of a Nationally Threatened spiral sun orchid (*Thelymitra matthewsii*). She developed an interest in this plant in her late 60s and this motivated her to first do a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences at the University of Waikato and then embark on a "little" thesis on *Thelymitra matthewsii* for her M.Sc. Her thesis was completed 10 years after she started, much to her supervisor's amazement and relief. During that time, Anne travelled to Australia, saw *T. matthewsii* there, and argued with sound data that this orchid, long treated in New Zealand as a "vagrant" was not so, but a long time indigenous colonist that was now seriously threatened by loss of habitat and competition from weeds. Her work, published mostly as a series of articles in the Auckland Botanical Society Journal, is the single most detailed and comprehensive study ever done on any orchid species in New Zealand. The work is all the more remarkable because Anne completed it at the age of 80, and has continued her monitoring after completion. She is even seriously considering doing a PhD (if the University will take her!).



Anne Fraser at work in one of her *Thelymitra matthewsii* study plots, September 2008.  
Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

## PLANT OF THE MONTH – *Jovellana sinclairii*



*Jovellana sinclairii*. Photo: John Smith-Dodsworth.

Plant of the month for November is *Jovellana sinclairii*. This is a little beauty for the home garden that deserves to be grown more widely. Also known as New Zealand calceolaria, this small, herbaceous, leafy perennial has white (sometimes yellow-flushed) spotted purple flowers over the summer. In the wild, it can be found from near Hicks Bay in the North Island southwards. It grows in shaded coastal and lower montane stream sides, cliff seepages, or on damp sparsely vegetated ground on forest margins. *Jovellana sinclairii* is easily cultivated by seed and cuttings. It grows best in a moist, semi-shaded spot that never dries out for prolonged periods. The network factsheet for *Jovellana sinclairii* can be found at:

[www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=174](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=174)

### Plant Nursery

Southland Community Nursery, run by Chris and Brian Rance, won the 'Plant Nursery Involved in Plant Conservation' award for its unique approach to the growth, preservation and education of the public about native plant species. The nursery was nominated by three separate individuals. The nursery propagates local seeds and runs workshops through community groups and schools to teach volunteers the skills required to grow their own plants for restoration projects. The native plants grown at the nursery are planted all over Southland, on Council, Crown and privately owned property. The nursery is an invaluable resource for the province, with many schools using the nursery to teach children how to grow and care for native plants. There is a constant presence of long-time volunteers with a comprehensive knowledge base and new volunteers are regularly welcomed.

The nursery property features extensive restoration plantings linking mature kahikatea forest with shrubland and wetland. In addition, the nursery has established a Southland threatened plants garden to conserve and educate the public about threatened species and has developed a website providing information on restoration in Southland. This nursery is truly inspirational, having inspired many individuals, including the establishment of a similar Community Nursery in Bluff.

### School

The 'School Plant Conservation Project' award went to Wanganui Intermediate School, Wanganui, for work in Gordon Park Scenic Reserve. Gordon Park Scenic Reserve is a very important reserve just outside Wanganui. On the river floodplain, it is the last remnant of this kind of swamp forest. While it is very intact, there are some disturbed areas around the margins where weeds, such as long pasture grasses, need replacing with native species. For many years, Wanganui Intermediate School, led by teacher Keith Beautrais and his students, has grown plants at the school for revegetation at the reserve. The plants are grown from seeds collected at the reserve and also from young seedlings removed from the tracks. These plants are later replanted in damaged parts of the reserve by both the current year's students and other volunteers. Colin Ogle, chair of the Friends of Gordon Park Scenic Reserve, said "One area in particular is now looking very well established with karamu shrubs that the WIS students grew, planted and helped release". The school nursery produces good quality plants that are more reliably sourced than can be obtained from local nurseries. Wanganui Intermediate

School students are also involved in establishing class gardens and growing plants in other places including the Wanganui Intermediate School grounds. As well as the Gordon Park Scenic Reserve project, Keith uses his classes each year to research wider conservation issues and write articles that are printed in the 'Wanganui Chronicle'.

### Community Group

The NZPCN's 'Community Plant Conservation Project' award went to the Motuihe Trust for the ecological restoration of Motuihe Island, an island of 179 hectares located in the Hauraki Gulf. The Motuihe Trust established a plant nursery on the island and, since 2003, has successfully planted 337,308 plants. The total number of volunteer days currently stands at over 21,000 with 50 percent of those involving school groups. Weeding, raising plants, planting and maintenance have been the main focus for these community groups. The Trust has assisted DOC, via funding and volunteer personnel for monitoring, in the successful translocation of saddleback, kakariki, little spotted kiwi and shore skink between 2005 and 2009. The latest community group to get involved are the Living Legends who have planted 6,500 plants under the supervision of the Trust. In summary, the Motuihe Trust has outstanding achievements in plant conservation in New Zealand.

### Local Authority

Since the mid 1990s, the Greater Wellington Regional Council has been fully committed to pest animal and plant control and monitoring of indigenous plant communities. The Council's commitment to these goals has been recognised by the Network's Council award for 'Local Authority Protecting Native Plant Life'.



Robyn Smith accepts the local authority award on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council from NZPCN Awards Convenor Sarah Beadel.

The council has worked intensively on pest plant control since 1996 leading to improved vegetation condition. More recently, in 2010, the council helped facilitate the successful campaign to purchase Baring Head, a 284-ha headland near the entrance to Wellington Harbour/Te Whanganui a Tara, and was one of the major contributors of towards the purchase price. The council has gazetted the land as Scenic Reserve, to protect its wide range of native coastal plant communities, landform and cultural/historical features. The property, now part of East Harbour Regional Park, has been the subject of two workshops run by the council for community groups.

### Young Conservationist

The 'Young Plant Conservationist of the Year' award went to Cory Meister, a 17 year old from Island Bay in Wellington. He is a regular and enthusiastic volunteer in several environmental planting and restoration groups. His involvement began when he was nine years old, doing weekend work with the Southern Environmental Association. For five years, he assisted on working days for the Paekawakawa Bush Reserve in Island Bay. For the past three years, Cory has worked alongside one of the Sisters in the gardens at the Home of Compassion in Island Bay. Cory has recently started work as a volunteer in the weekends at the Forest and Bird Society in Highbury.



Cory Meister, Young Plant Conservationist of the Year, with NZPCN Awards Convenor Sarah Beadel.

### **Lifetime achievement award**

John Smith-Dodsworth has been awarded a 'Life Time Achievement' award by the Network for his contribution to conservation over the last 30 years. Over the past 10 years, he has assisted with setting up the Plant Network website. He has provided 3600 images to the site (16% of all the images on the site). In 2007, he was made an honorary member in recognition of his help.

John has also assisted many botanists with images to help with identification and for publications. John's generosity has been amazing and he has contributed to many important publications, including the 2010 *Threatened Plants of New Zealand*. John is the author of several books including the seminal *New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants* (which he co-wrote with Pat Brownsey) and *New Zealand Native Shrubs and Climbers* (1991).

At various times over the last 30 years, John has been heavily involved with several botanical societies including the Rotorua Botanical Society and the Auckland Botanical Society. John has made an amazing contribution to plant conservation, mainly from behind the lens of a camera and through his generosity and willingness to help.

### **Special award**

New Zealand broadcaster and weekend host for Radio Live, Graeme Hill, has been awarded the Network's 'Special Award' for his work in putting conservation into the media through the Radio Live network. He has been an amazing advocate for conservation and has also been a long-time supporter of the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network and the ideas and goals the organisation promotes. He is also currently a member of the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network and is encouraging his listeners to vote for their favourite plant in the NZPCN annual 'favourite plant election' (voting closes December 17). In terms of media coverage, he is second to none and is one of the strongest advocates for plants and conservation in New Zealand.

"Those honoured are leading the way in plant conservation in New Zealand, and set an example to us all to strive for", said President Philippa Crisp. The New Zealand Plant Conservation Network congratulates all award winners.

### **David Given Scholarship award**

The second David Given Scholarship award has been made to Esther Dale, a Masters student at Auckland University. Esther is researching the relationship between Cook's scurvy grass (*Lepidium oleraceum*) and seabird disturbance, guano fertilisation and seed dispersal. Her application fitted the criteria well, the main objective of the scholarship being to assist in the protection and recovery of New Zealand's threatened plant species and communities.

### **Forget the election—the most important vote of the year is here**

It's a Green issue, of National interest, but not Labour intensive; it's the annual election of New Zealand's favourite plant and none of these candidates will be kissing babies to get votes. Voting has begun via the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network's website ([www.nzpcn.org.nz](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz)) to choose New Zealand's premier plant, and to gauge public opinion about what Kiwis love most about their native plants. Past candidates have been chosen for a wide range of reasons including good looks, where they come from or who they associate with. Some have even smelled nice! Previous winners include pohutukawa, Cook's scurvy grass, pingao and willowherb. Last year it was close race between beauty and the beast, with the Chatham Island forget-me-not beating the killer tree nettle in the last few days of voting.

"In a country where we are strongly connected to nature the native plant election is a great way for people to express their love of the flora" says Network President Philippa Crisp. "Surprisingly, iconic plants such as the silver fern rarely feature in the top 10 as people have much closer associations with other native plants, either from the garden, their childhood or their travels around the country" says Crisp.

The favourite plant vote is running at the same time as the general elections and comparisons could be drawn between political candidates and native plant nominees. It is certainly rare to hear New Zealanders waxing as enthusiastically about politicians as these voters are about the plants they nominated:

“[Puriri] . . . has a sense of humour.” Astrid van Meeuwen-Dijkgraaf

“[pohutakawa] . . . lifts my heart to see it in flower, and the rest of the year it provides a reassuring backdrop to everyday life” Fiona Riches

“An iconic species. . . . cabbage trees always bring a smile to my face” Tom Barber

“With more than 2350 different species to choose from—this vote is definitely not a two horse race” says Crisp.

New Zealanders are invited to vote for their favourite native plant via the Plant Conservation Network’s simple online system on [www.nzpcn.org.nz](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz). Voting closes at midday on Saturday 17 December 2011, with the results announced on Monday 19 December. One of the posters is attached to the back of the newsletter—spread it out round your networks in electronic or hard copy form.

For more information see the Network website: [www.nzpcn.org.nz](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz)

## **Network now on Twitter**

The New Zealand Plant Conservation Network is now on Twitter so you can follow us to keep up-to-date with plant conservation stories from around the world.

Follow us @NZPlant

## **President’s Report for 2010 – 2011**

### **Introduction**

The New Zealand Plant Conservation Network (NZPCN) continues to grow in its achievements and popularity and I am proud to again be able to highlight the progress that has been made by the Network this year. The Network plays a very important role in the protection of New Zealand’s native plants and is continually seeking new ways to provide and disseminate information about our indigenous plant species and plant conservation. We have been implementing the first iteration of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation for the past 8 years. A new Global Strategy announced at an international conference this year will provide new targets and goals that can refresh our approach.

New Zealand’s threatened plant species are in serious decline and we need to continue to use all the tools available to help to solve this issue. As mentioned in a recent editorial by John Sawyer, it is technically feasible to solve this decline, but the issues involve education and resources. It has been with great sadness that we have heard of the loss of jobs for technical advisors in the Department of Conservation. It is difficult to replace that knowledge and it can only be hoped that other opportunities to use those skills will eventuate for those staff in the near future.

Legislation to protect threatened plant species on private land remains a priority. Members of the Council met with the Minister of Conservation regarding this legislation and have provided submissions on land tenure reviews in the Mackenzie Basin this year. The Network will remain committed to working on these issues as part of our role to protect New Zealand’s indigenous flora.

The increasing popularity of the NZPCN website shows that interest in New Zealand’s flora is not waning. It is up to the Network to continue to provide information in a way that members and interested parties can use to make a difference to plant conservation.

## Council meetings

Two Council meetings have been held during the year; both in Wellington. The first meeting took place on 22 February, and the second was held today, 11 November 2011.

## Officers

The officers of Council for the last year were as follows:

Philippa Crisp (President)	Rewi Elliot
John Sawyer (Secretary)	Owen Spearpoint
Mike Oates (Treasurer)	Kerry Gillbanks
Sarah Beadel	Jesse Bythell (co-opted)
Susan Wisser	Erik van Eyndhoven (co-opted)
Shannel Courtney	

Our Membership Secretary and Administrator was Eric Scott.

Our two Patrons are Peri Drysdale (Untouched World) and Rob Fenwick (The Living Earth Co.)

## Finances

NZPCN finances are in a good state. There has been an increase in income from membership subscriptions (despite there being a drop in numbers) and from book sales. Enabling visitors to the website to pay by credit card through the internet has been linked to the increase in income. There was also a surplus left over from the 2010 conference. The Network is comfortably covering its costs and has some reserves in place.

## Sponsors

We are indebted to Treescape New Zealand and Phytomed Medicinal Herbs Ltd for their continued sponsorship of the Network. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Royalties are received from the book, *Living with Natives: New Zealanders talk about their love of native plants* by Ian Spellerberg and Michelle Frey. We are very grateful to these authors for their contribution.

## Network Membership (as of November 2011)

Eric Scott has continued to run the administrative aspects of the Network in a very competent and enthusiastic manner. The Network has been rationalising its membership database over the last 12 months to remove people from our database that have not been a member for more than 2 years (which was overstating our membership) and to cater for changes occurring nationwide such as the formation of Auckland Council that led to a reduction in corporate subscriptions. Our new on-line membership system is working well now and members find it easier to subscribe and renew their membership via the internet. Since corporate and NGO members cover multiple people, the total number of individual people who are members of the Network is currently 571.

### NZPCN membership at 1 November 2011

Individual	231
Unwed/Student	79
NGO	22
Corporate	27
Honorary	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>359 (571 individual people)</b>

## **Highlights from the past year**

### ***1. Website management, development and use***

The website continues to grow in popularity with the NZPCN site now receiving 450,000 visits annually, which equates to an incredible 1,200 visits per day. The online library of plant photographs has grown to over 22,500 images, (thanks to more than 250 photographers nationwide) and we receive many requests for the use of those images for educational purposes. The new on-line quiz has proved popular, while the online forum provides an opportunity for members to ask questions, comment on issues and obtain feedback. Flower colour has been added to the Network's flora search engine and the plant species resource links expanded and improved. A plant factsheet PDF maker has provided a new resource for those who wish to print off plant information in a useful and attractive format. There are now more than 3,000 records of flowering and fruiting of native and exotics plants in a phenology system, but we continue to encourage members and others to add to this database to improve our knowledge of these events around the country.

### ***2. Make Your Own Book***

This TFBIS funded project was completed during the year. It is a new initiative in conservation and may well be a world first for online publishing. The system enables website users to select combinations of plant species and create their own personalized books. The information and images from the website can be used in book form for many purposes, e.g., field botanists, gardeners, teachers or students. It is another example of the way in which the Network is leading the way in providing plant information.

### ***3. Marae-based training courses***

A marae-based training course was successfully delivered at Kaipara marae, near Dargaville, by Gecko NZ Trust in October. A second training session is being planned for a wananga in Otara this month and a third marae will host a course early next year. These training courses have been based on the first module: Introduction to New Zealand's plant life. Four modules were planned and two of these have been completed this year. These are "Managing conservation covenants" and "Native plant nursery management and plant cultivation". A fourth module called "Streamside and wetland management" is currently being completed.

### ***4. Global Partnership for Conservation***

We were grateful to receive sponsorship for one of our Council members (John Sawyer) to attend the Global Partnership for Conservation meeting in Missouri, USA in July this year. The Network recently became a member of this international partnership, which aims to bring organizations together to support the worldwide implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. We were representing New Zealand at this meeting and are providing information to the Department of Conservation about the new direction for the Global Strategy.

### ***5 Awards***

The NZPCN awards recognise the remarkable efforts of individuals and groups who are taking a lead role as guardians of our country's native plants. Last year's awards recognized a New Plymouth school (Moturoa School), plant nursery (Native Trees, Ngatki, Northland) and community group (Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Dunedin). The Local Authority award went to Kapiti Coast District Council, while the outstanding individual was Robyn Smith. Colin Ogle of Wanganui and Professor Sir Alan Mark of Dunedin were both given Lifetime Achievement awards for their work protecting native plant life. This year's awards will be made at the NZPCN AGM and Panel Discussion event.

### ***7. Panel Discussion on Biodiversity Offsetting***

We have been lucky to have three excellent speakers agree to present their viewpoints on biodiversity offsetting—a very topical issue in New Zealand. Marie Brown, Susan Walker and Dr Neil Mitchell will present the negative and positive aspects of this approach to dealing with the impacts of development on biodiversity. The talk is titled "Biodiversity Offsetting is good for NZ's plants and animals".

## **9. Vote for New Zealand's favourite plant**

Chatham Island forget-me-not was the winner for 2010–2011, with tree nettle, bamboo rush and Bartlett's rata also in the running. This popular competition provides profile for New Zealand's native plants and is being run again this year (the 9th year of the poll).

## **10. The Newsletter**

Great plant conservation stories continue to be provided to the monthly NZPCN newsletter. We are now up to edition number 95, which is testament to the number of newsworthy stories about plants and conservation and to the efforts of those involved in putting the newsletter together (Eric Scott, Jeremy Rolfe and Rewi Elliot). Please keep those stories rolling in.

## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work and ongoing commitment of our Council and co-opted members. All of the members have taken on important roles to assist the development of the Network. Thanks to Jesse Bythell for the extra tasks she has taken on this year. Finally, I would like to make special acknowledgement of the contribution made to the Network by Treasurer, Mike Oates. Mike is stepping down from Council, but has agreed to continue to be involved "behind the scenes". He has played a major role in NZPCN since being the founding President in 2003 and has helped to shape the path of the Network. He will be missed by the Council.

*Philippa Crisp, October 2011*

## **Global Partnership for Plant Conservation**

As you will be aware, in July this year, a conference of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPC) was held at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis, USA, to discuss GSPC implementation going forwards, together with a meeting of the GSPC Liaison Group, convened by the CBD Secretariat and the GPPC.

At the GPPC Conference, it was proposed that a number of Working Groups be set up to address, in particular, paragraph 10 of Decision X/17 (adoption of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, GSPC) from CBD COP 10. Paragraph 10 calls for the further development of the technical rationales, milestones and indicators for the updated GSPC, as well as the development of the GSPC toolkit, and the organization of regional capacity building workshops, in conjunction with other relevant workshops.

The intention is to establish four Working Groups to address the first four objectives of the GSPC. The fifth objective, being considered cross-cutting, should be addressed by all working groups. A document outlining the proposed operation and terms of reference for these Working Groups can be downloaded from the GPPC website at: [www.plants2020.net/2646/](http://www.plants2020.net/2646/)

The Working Groups are:

Working Group 1 – Objective 1 – Target 1-3 (Plant diversity is well understood, documented and recognised)

Working Group 2 – Objective 2 – Targets 4-10 (Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved)

Working Group 3 – Objective 3 – Targets 11-13 (Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner)

Working Group 4 – Objective 4 – Target 14 (Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and importance to all life on earth is promoted).

It is important that discussions on the Technical Rationales, Milestones and Indicators for the GSPC targets are initiated as soon as possible, as we have to prepare a document for consideration by CBD SBSTTA 16 in May 2012. We therefore need to have a consolidated document taking into the account the views of all the relevant experts, by the end of this year.



## New Zealand plants overseas

On a number of occasions in the past we have featured examples of New Zealand plants in countries overseas. Here are some more examples.



Pohutukawa, State St, Santa Barbara, California



Flax in a housing development, Goleta, California



Pohutukawa by the Santa Barbara marina  
Photos: Eric Scott.



Akeake in a church yard, Madaba, Jordan

We would love to have some more cases of New Zealand plants growing overseas—the more exotic, the better. Send the examples to [info@nzpcn.org.nz](mailto:info@nzpcn.org.nz)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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### Conservation Biology Conference 2011

**Change of venue and dates:** as a result of the 22 February earthquake that damaged much of Christchurch, including the Convention Centre, the ICCB conference 2011 has had to be shifted to Auckland with a consequential change of dates. The conference will now be held 5–9 December 2011 at the Sky City Auckland Convention Centre.

**Information:**

[www.conbio.org/2011](http://www.conbio.org/2011).

We will update it regularly over the next few weeks to bring you the latest information on the venue, accommodations, conference trips, social events, and more.

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### 26th John Child Bryophyte and Lichen Workshop

**Workshop:** Thursday 1 December – Tuesday 6 December, 2011.

**Venue:** Matawai; 70 km north of Gisborne on State Highway 2. Open to all who are interested in bryophytes and/or lichens. Various levels of accommodation available.

**Contact:** Anne Redpath, e-mail:

[wairataforestfarm@farmside.co.nz](mailto:wairataforestfarm@farmside.co.nz)

or Leon Perrie,

e-mail: [leonp@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:leonp@tepapa.govt.nz)

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### Symposium on Phenology

**Symposium:** On Tuesday 6 December, as part of the 19th International Congress of Biometeorology, there will be a symposium on phenology at the University of Auckland. The symposium will feature an array of international speakers.

**Information and detailed**

**programme:** [www.icb2011.com/icb2011/index.cfm?p=welcome](http://www.icb2011.com/icb2011/index.cfm?p=welcome)

**Contact:** Dr Bruce Burns e-mail:

[b.burns@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:b.burns@auckland.ac.nz)

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### Auckland Botanical Society

**Field trip:** Saturday 3 December a trip down the Mahurangi River in the *Jane Gifford* to Scotts Landing.

**Contact:** Maureen Young, e-mail: [youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz)

**Field trip:** Monday 2 – Tuesday 10 January 2012 a South Island camp at Arthur's Pass.

**Contact:** Maureen Young, e-mail: [youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz)

**Field trip:** Friday 27 – Monday 30 January, Anniversary Weekend camp at Mayor Island.

**Contact:** Maureen Young, e-mail: [youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz)

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### Kaipatiki Project

**Nursery Bites Workshops:** every Tuesday in November, 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. Learn how to grow and care for New Zealand plants.

Tuesday 22 November—Wetland & riparian plants

Tuesday 29 November—Plants for birds

**Venue:** Kaipatiki Project Environment Centre, 17 Lauderdale Road, Birkdale, North Shore, Auckland. Bookings essential.

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**More info:** [www.kaipatiki.org.nz](http://www.kaipatiki.org.nz)

## Waikato Botanical Society

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**Meeting:** Monday 12 December at 5.30 p.m. the final meeting is a 'Show and Tell your Botanical Highlights for 2011'. Bring a plate and something to drink.

**Venue:** Environment Centre, Level One, 25 Ward St, Hamilton.

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## Rotorua Botanical Society

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**Field trip:** Saturday 3 December to Paeroa Water Reserve (combined Rotorua and Waikato Botanical Society trip). **Meet:** the car park Rotorua at 8:15 a.m. or at the 'Bottle' in Paeroa at 10.00 a.m. **Grade:** easy.

**Leader:** Graeme Jane,  
ph: 07 570-3123,  
e-mail: [gtjane@clear.net.nz](mailto:gtjane@clear.net.nz)

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## Wanganui Museum Botanical Group

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**Field trip:** Sunday 4 December to Hapuawhenua, Ohakune. **Meet:** Police Station 8.00 a.m. OR at Ohakune riverside park, corner of SH48 & SH49 at 9.30 a.m. **Leader:** Esther Williams.

**Contacts:** Robyn and Colin Ogle,  
ph: 06 347 8547,  
e-mail: [robcol.ogle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robcol.ogle@xtra.co.nz)

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## Wellington Botanical Society

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**Field trip:** Saturday 3 - Sunday 4 December to Aorangi Amble, Palliser Bay. **Meet:** 8 15 a.m. cnr Revans/Waite St, Featherston, or at 9.00 a.m. at Pinnacles car park/camping ground. **Accommodation:** Te Kopi Lodge, cost: \$150 to be shared; cottage sleeps 10 max; tent space available. Dinner: pot luck; bring own breakfast and lunch. Friday overnight stay available at Sunita's bach, Ocean Beach; limited accommodation; phone to book stay.

**Leader:** Pat Enright,  
ph: 04 495 0786(w) 06 308 8278(h). **Wellington contacts:** Sunita Singh, ph: 04 387 9955, mobile: 027 4052 987, Chris Horne, ph: 04 475 7025, mobile: 027 474 9300.

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**Field trip:** Saturday 10 December to Rata walk, Waiwhetu, Lower Hutt.

**Leader:** Dave Holey,  
ph: 04 566 3124.

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**Field trip:** Friday 20 January – Sunday 29 January 2012 Summer Camp to Taranaki. **Accommodation:** based at Vertical Horizons, Everett Rd, Inglewood, 10 km from Inglewood.

**Contact:** booking ESSENTIAL – contact Mick Parsons, ph: 04 972 1148 or 06 273 8078, mobile: 027 249 9663, e-mail: [mtparsons@paradise.net.nz](mailto:mtparsons@paradise.net.nz). Further information will be sent to people indicating they intend going.

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## Nelson Botanical Society

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**Field trip:** Thursday 15 – Monday 19 December a camp at Arthur's Pass. Accommodation: Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre.

**Leader and Contact:** Don Pittham, ph 03 545 1985, if you wish to come, please contact him ASAP.

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## Canterbury Botanical Society

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**Meeting:** Friday 2 December at 7.30 p.m. a talk by Jon Sullivan, Lincoln University, titled 'Are Banks Peninsula forest plants still declining after a century of habitat loss and fragment isolation?'

**Venue:** St Ninian's Church hall.

**Contacts:** Miles and Gillian Giller, ph: 03 313 5315.

**Field trip:** Saturday 10 December to Lavericks Bay, Banks Peninsula (to be confirmed).

**Contacts:** Miles and Gillian Giller, ph: 03 313 5315, e-mail: [ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz)

**Field trip:** Thursday 5 – Thursday 12 January the 2012 Summer Camp at the Catlins. Accommodation: Tautuku Forest Cabins in the Lenz Reserve, cost \$15/night.

**Contact:** Gillian Giller, ph: 03 313 5315, e-mail: [ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:ggillerma1@actrix.gen.nz) for bookings.

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## University of Canterbury

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**University of Canterbury summer course:** 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:** Mountain Biological Field Station at Cass, Canterbury. **Dates:** 17 January – 25 January 2012.

**More information:** [www.biol.canterbury.ac.nz/biol305](http://www.biol.canterbury.ac.nz/biol305) or contact Dr Pieter Pelser, e-mail: [pieter.pelser@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:pieter.pelser@canterbury.ac.nz) ph: 03 364 2987 ext 45605.

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## Botanical Society of Otago

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**Field trip:** Saturday December 3 – Sunday December 4 to Omarama bog pine and other wetland sites. Meet: at 7.00 a.m. at the Botany Department car park, corner of Great King Street and Union Street (West). **Accommodation:** a range of accommodation is available at the Omarama Holiday Park ([www.omaramatop10.co.nz](http://www.omaramatop10.co.nz)); participants are expected to arrange their preferred accommodation.

**Leaders:** Geoff Rogers and John Barkla. **Contact:** Geoff Rogers, ph: 03 454 5732.

**Dinner:** Wednesday 7 December at the Asian Restaurant, 43 Moray Place. Start: 7.00 p.m.

**Contact:** Bill Wilson, ph: 05 477 2282 if you would like to come.

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