



NEW ZEALAND PLANT CONSERVATION NETWORK

E-NEWSLETTER: No 1. September 2003

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

Welcome to the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network

Thank you for your support at the inaugural meeting of the Network in Wellington in August. The energy and enthusiasm on the day was an inspiration and the positive responses we have received from members all over the country tell us that the Network certainly has an important role to play in halting the decline of our native plant life.

We are close to completing the write-up of the workshops, where we discussed options for our future work and in particular how we can implement the new Global Plant Conservation Strategy. A summary report about the workshops will be sent out to you shortly.

If you have any questions about the Network you can contact Council members directly (contact details are listed in the 'Key People' section of the website) or email the Network info@nzpcn.org.nz. If you have not received a receipt for your membership or meeting registration payment then please contact us and we will arrange for that to be sent out.

Help needed with marketing the Network?

We would like to hear from you if you can help with the work of the Network. In particular we are seeking members of the network that have marketing skills as we begin a drive to promote the network and what it intends to achieve. Mike Oates is coordinating this so please contact him directly at derenzy-oates@clear.net.nz

Threatened Plant of the Month



Photo: John Sawyer.

Desmoschoenus spiralis also known as pingao is '**Plant of the Month**' for September. It is a new entry on the national list of threatened and uncommon plant species in New Zealand and falls into the chronically threatened category of '**Gradual decline**'. Check out the photographs and information for this species on the website: http://www.nzpcn.org.nz/nz_threatenedplants/detail.asp?PlantID=169. Definitions for all threat categories are provided on the website glossary.

Website news

Please see the Network's website for information about New Zealand's threatened indigenous plant species, people involved in plant conservation in New Zealand and for plant conservation resources (see www.nzpcn.org.nz).

If you can help provide information or photographs for inclusion on the website or if you have ideas for future developments then please contact us at 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).

Auckland

Saturday 20 September 2003: Auckland Botanical Society Field Trip to Onetangi Reserve, Waiheke Island.

Leader: Peter White. When: Catching 8.15am ferry to Waiheke Island from downtown Auckland. The trip will start at the reserve at 9.30am. Meeting Place: From Matiatia we will catch a bus to the Onetangi Store. From there we will walk up to the entrance to the reserve.

Sun 28 Sept 2003: Auckland Botanical Society Hoteo River Kowhai Cruise.

Cruise the Hoteo River on a chartered fishing boat and see the spectacular kowhai and clematis in flower on the slopes of Mt Auckland. Meet at Hoteo River Wharf on SH 16 approximately 5km N of Glorit at 10.30 am. Cost is \$15 per person. Limited numbers, so bookings essential. Post cheque, payable to Auckland Botanical Society, with names and contact phone number to Sandra Jones, PO Box 60-534, Titirangi, by 24 September. Contact ph: 09 817-6102.

Waikato

15 September: Waikato Botanical Society. Evening talk by Rob McGowan

Speaking on the uses of native plants. Rob will talk about protocols for collecting and using native plants, including information on their medicinal and edible properties. 7:30pm Environment Centre, 25 Ward Street (Upstairs), Hamilton.

Rotorua

Sunday 5 October: Joint Rotorua/Waikato Botanical Society field trip to Maungatautari, Eastern Waikato near Putaruru

Leader: Bruce Clarkson 07 855 9534. Meet: The carpark between the Convention Centre and the Police Station, Fenton Street, Rotorua at 8:45am, Dean property at end of Luck at Last Road 10.00am (see <http://www.maungatrust.org/tracks.htm>). Grade: Medium A visit to this large forested mountain in eastern Waikato which is proposed as another pest-free "sanctuary".

13–14 September: Department of Conservation Volunteer programme. Assisting the Torepatutahi Land Care Trust restoring native vegetation to the Torepatutahi Canyon, near Reporoa

Medium fitness required (one and a half days planting). Accommodation in farm-style accommodation. Bring solid footwear, warm clothes, wet weather gear. Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch provided. Pickup 8.30am 14–16 Scott St, Rotorua. Bookings before 9 September. Contact: Warwick Hesketh, Department of Conservation , Rotorua Lakes Area Office (07) 348 3610; e-mail: whesketh@doc.govt.nz

11–12 October: Department of Conservation Volunteer programme. Clean Up Tauranga Weed Weekend, Karangahake

Time to get wild about the weeds. People power required to get rid of clumps of *Elaeagnus* vine and other weeds. Low to medium fitness required. Bring overnight gear list, ensuring clothes for all eventualities and work gloves if you have them. Bring a lunch for Saturday. Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch provided. Bookings by 6 October 2003. Contact Michelle Elborn Department of Conservation Tauranga Area Office, (07) 578 7677; e-mail melborn@doc.govt.nz

Tongariro

Sunday 9 November 9a.m.–2p.m. Tongariro Natural History Society and Department of Conservation threatened plant collection trip to Kuratau

Collecting seedling of a rare tree *Pittosporum turneri*, tent-pole tree and other associate plants. The seedlings will then be potted and nursed. People are welcome to take them home to do this or they will be looked after at the nursery at the DoC office. Numbers: 16 Contact: Sarah Gibb, executive officer, Ph 07 3869237/ e-mail info@tongariro.org.nz

Wellington

Saturday 4 October: Wellington Botanical Society field trip to Waterfall Road Bush

Walk through 80 ha of private bush with large northern rata, rimu, totara, three species of *Nestegis*, *Mida salicifolia* and a range of ferns and orchids. Meet: Paekakariki station at 9.00 a.m. Catch 8.00 a.m. Saturday train on Paraparaumu line from Wellington. Leader: Pat Enright, 04 498 7924

Saturday 18 October: Wellington Botanical Society field trip: Te Marua workbee, Kaitoke Regional Park

Since 1989 Wellington Botanical Society has undertaken weed control and revegetation work in this matai\totara\maire remnant. Catch 8.05 am train on Hutt Line from Wellington Station. Meet 9am at Upper Hutt Station carpark, or 9.30a.m. at Te Marua Bush, 250 m north of Te Marua Store, and 50m off SH2 along road to Te Marua Lakes. Co-Leaders: Glennis Shepperd 04 526 7450.

Nelson

Sunday 21 September: Nelson Botanical Society field trip: Upper Pelorus Valley

Meet at Nelson Cathedral Steps at 8.00am or at the junction of SH6 and Maungatapu Rd (at the Nelson end of the Pelorus Bridge) at 8.45a.m. Please phone leader if wishing to attend, particularly if meeting the group at Pelorus.° Leader: Cathy Jones ph 03 546 9499.

Monday 22 September: Nelson Botanical Society evening talk about *Aciphylla*

Talk by David Glenny, Landcare Research speaking about “*Aciphylla*, Plants with Attitude”. 7.30p.m., Jaycees Room, Founders Park, Nelson. All welcome.

Sunday 19 October: Nelson Botanical Society fieldtrip to Rawhiti Cave/Dry River, Golden Bay

Meet at Nelson Cathedral Steps at 8.00a.m. or Motupipi Butcher’s corner on the Takaka–Tarakohe road at 10.00a.m. Leader: Shannel Courtney ph 03 546 9922.

October 24-27 October: Nelson Botanical Society Labour Weekend camp at “Moonsilver”, Barrons Flat, Takaka Valley, Golden Bay.

Contact Cathy Jones 03 546 9499.

Canterbury

21–24 October 2003: Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture conference - Greening the City: Bringing Biodiversity Back into the Urban Environment.

Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture conference at Chateau on the Park, Christchurch. Email: d&amoyle@xtra.co.nz or see www.rnzih.org.nz

Southland

9 Sept 2003: Southland Forest and Bird - Slide Talk

Saving the NZ Dotterel - a conservation success story by Phred Dobbins. Learn what has been done over many years to save the dotterels from extinction in a rugged Stewart Island location. Venue Southland Museum, Invercargill 7.30pm. All welcome.

27–28 September 2003: Southland Forest and Bird working bee

Tautuku Lodge and Lenz Reserve in the Catlins. Accommodation free for the weekend. Contact Barbara Boyde (03 2160353)

14 Oct 2003: Slide Talk – Kereru/NZ pigeon, Southland’s 3 year native pigeon project, Ralph Powlesland.

Based in Wellington, Ralph oversees this native bird project and will tell you how you can help too. Venue Southland Museum, Invercargill 7.30p.m. All welcome.

18 October 2003: Southland Forest and Bird Te Rere yellow-eyed penguin reserve

Work day and penguin count. Contact Brian Rance (03 2131161). Web site <http://www.converge.org.nz/fbsth/>

31 October 2003: Southland New Zealand Ecological Restoration Network (NZERN)

Field Day to Invercargill restoration projects. Contact Chris Rance (03 2131161) or Gay Munro (03 2395827).

Every Friday: Southland Community Nursery

Native plant propagation (phone Chris Rance 03 2131161, Thursday evening). 185 Grant Road, Otatara, 9RD, Invercargill. Web site <http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~rances/>

Southland Natural History Field Club

Monthly talks and trips – Contact Lloyd Esler (03 2130404)

Otatara Landcare Group

Field trips in the Otatara area, Bushy Point Restoration project and newsletter. Contact Chris Rance (03 2131161).

Southland QEII National Trust

Field Days to restoration projects. Contact Gay Munro (03 2395827) see web site www.converge.org.nz/ntsth/