



TRILEPIDEA

Newsletter of the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network

No. 139

June 2015

Deadline for next issue:
Thursday 16 July 2015

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

Postal address:
P.O. Box 16102,
Wellington 6242,
NEW ZEALAND

PLANT OF THE MONTH, p. 2



Beilschmiedia tarairi.
Photo: Jeremy Rolfe.

The re-discovery of the presumed extinct *Dysphania pusilla*

Jan Clayton-Greene, Department of Conservation (jclaytongreene@doc.govt.nz),
Shannel Courtney, Department of Conservation (scourtney@doc.govt.nz),
Aalbert Rebergen, Department of Conservation (arebergen@doc.govt.nz),
Nick Head, Department of Conservation (nhead@doc.govt.nz)

Until recently, *Dysphania pusilla*, or pygmy goosefoot, had not been confirmed in the wild for 56 years. Its last confirmed location was on gravel ballast in railway yards in



Dysphania pusilla growing beside the Clarence River.
Photo: Simon Litchwark.

In January this year, during a biological survey in the Bullen Hills area of eastern Molesworth Station, Shannel Courtney and Simon Walls found a large population of pygmy goosefoot in an ephemeral wetland within a large cut off meander or oxbow of the Clarence River. Occurring in both green and brown colour morphs, several thousand plants were growing on the dried fine loess pan of the pond bed. Having previously studied specimens at the Allan Herbarium at Landcare Lincoln (then known as *Chenopodium pusillum*), Shannel suspected this was what they had found. He later confirmed this, after matching collected material to descriptions and keys.



Ephemeral wetland where Shannel and Simon discovered *Dysphania pusilla*. Photo: Shannel Courtney.

The plants are typically prostrate with multiple branches radiating out from a central tap-rooted stock. The leaves, which are crowded along the branches, are orbicular with sinuate margins, semi-succulent with depressed venation and clothed in a mealy scurf, which is typical of many species of the Amaranthaceae. Plant sizes ranged from only a few centimetres to around 20 cm diameter.

PLANT OF THE MONTH – *BEILSCHMIEDIA TARAIRI*



Beilschmiedia tarairi. Photo: John Barkla.

are inconspicuous but the fruit is a plum-like drupe that is purple when ripe. The fruit ripens between March and November and is enjoyed by kereru. However, seed dispersal is becoming rarer because this is the only bird with a gape large enough to swallow the fruit.

The network factsheet for *B. tarairi* can be found at: www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.aspx?ID=1540

Plant of the month is *Beilschmiedia tarairi* (taraire). Taraire is a canopy tree in lowland and lower montane forests of the North Island, most commonly north of Auckland. As it grows north of 38°S latitude, it is a common companion of kauri (*Agathis australis*) and pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*), as well as puriri (*Vitex lucens*).

The dark-green leaves are leathery and waxy with strong venation. Fine reddish-brown hairs densely cover the branchlets, young leaves, leaf stems, and young flower buds. The flowers

In late January, in a remarkable coincidence, Aalbert Rebergen was visiting the Ruataniwha wetlands near Twizel and found a large population (estimated at 5,000 to 10,000 plants) of a “flat, starfish-shaped” dark brown herb growing on the silts and fine gravels of an artificially managed man-made pond/ephemeral wetland that had been drawn down over late spring and summer. Not knowing what they were, he photographed the plants and contacted Peter Johnson and Peter de Lange, following up with live material to Peter de Lange and Peter Heenan the next day. These plants were identified by Peter de Lange as *Dysphania pusilla*. In March and April, *Dysphania pusilla* was found at three other wetlands, all within the Ruataniwha wetland complex. This population of *Dysphania pusilla* is on Conservation land, only five minutes out of Twizel and several visiting botanists have had the pleasure to see the plants at this site.



View of the Ruataniwha wetlands (left) and a close-up of *Dysphania pusilla* there (right). Photos: Aalbert Rebergen.

But the discoveries didn't stop there. Within a month of the original find, Shannel, Simon Litchwark and Jan Clayton-Greene found another sub-population growing on the margins of the Clarence River about 25 km downstream of the first find, in a site that would have been a back water when the river was high. Later in summer, Simon and Jan found another two sites further down the Clarence, again in a back water environment. These sites were up to 60 km downstream of the first location, with scattered individuals in between. The last of this string of finds was by Nicholas Head, who in late

summer discovered a population of pygmy goosefoot in the Heron Basin, mid-Canterbury growing in fine gravels around the margin of a tarn.

The prolonged absence of *D. pusilla* from the radar of generations of botanists followed by its discovery in several locations along the dry eastern South Island all within a short period of time, leads us to speculate that the seed must lie dormant for extended periods and germinates only after a period of conditioning and when the right climatic conditions occur—possibly in this case a wet spring followed by a very dry summer. Being an opportunistic annual, it can grow rapidly and each plant can pump out thousands of seeds. The seed is obviously dispersed by water and its profusion in backwaters may indicate the seed settles out at the same rate as the silt. Hydrologically, all known sites have similar seasonal extremes of wet and dry, but the occurrence of plants on river gravels and silts as well as on the fine loess of ephemeral wetlands demonstrates they will grow on a range of landforms and substrates.

The large population at Ruataniwha is especially puzzling since the wetlands were constructed by Project River Recovery contractors in the late 1990s on a dry river terrace as habitat for kaki/black stilt. The series of ponds are fed with water from nearby natural springs. How did the *D. pusilla* arrive and from where? Here, it would not have arrived by water but most likely by waterfowl.

Regarding the two colour morphs, the Twizel population is 100% brown but the Clarence and Heron Basin plants range from a 50:50 split of green and brown to entirely green at some sites. All sites for *D. pusilla* are characteristically bare with few associates. It is reasonable to assume that it has disappeared from other sites within its former range through direct competition with other more aggressive and taller statured weeds. Although some plants within the Clarence were browsed by rabbits and/or hares, it appears to have been opportunistic rather than targeted browse. These discoveries highlight the importance of our dry country ecosystems and that there is still much to learn about these areas.

Reference

de Lange, PJ; Rolfe, JR; Champion, PD; Courtney, SP; Heenan, PB; Barkla, JW; Cameron, EK; Norton, DA; Hitchmough, RA. 2013: Conservation status of New Zealand indigenous vascular plants, 2012. *New Zealand Threat Classification Series 3*. Department of Conservation, Wellington. 70 p.



Both colour morphs of *Dysphania pusilla* growing side by side at the Clarence oxbow. Photo: Jan Clayton-Greene.

Council Member profiles

Sarah Beadel

Sarah is a Founding Director of Wildland Consultants Ltd, and is a very keen botanist and ecologist who is passionate about working and exploring in the field throughout New Zealand, and overseas whenever she gets the opportunity. Sarah has prepared many ecological restoration plans and has often led or been involved with their implementation. When not botanising, Sarah is establishing a large native garden along with a large, productive vegetable garden that feeds family and friends. Mountain biking provides excellent botanical exploration opportunities in out-of-the-way places. Sarah is currently President of the Network and has served on the committee since 2004. She is passionate about indigenous plants and ecological restoration and is the author of over 500 botanical reports, papers, and articles, including being author or co-author of 17 protected natural area programme survey reports.

Rewi Elliot

After playing in the mud as my dad laboured in the vegetable plot I eventually got interested in the green part of the garden. This led to leaving school early and studying horticulture. Eventually, I found myself at the Wellington Botanic Garden for a few years but feeling the urge to put myself in more debt, I left the gardens to study Environmental Studies. Near the end of my studies, the manager's position at Otari Native Botanic Garden and Wilton's Bush Reserve opened up and I was lucky enough to land it. If you're visiting Wellington come and visit Otari—if you turn up at 1000 a.m. you'll even get a tea or coffee. Currently, Secretary for NZPCN, my contact email is rewi.elliott@wcc.govt.nz.

Conservationists honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours list

Southlanders and Network members Chris and Brian Rance have been recognised in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours for their Services to Conservation. Brian and Mrs Chris Rance have contributed to conservation projects in the Southland area for over 20 years. For many years, they have been the de-facto managers of the Te Rere Reserve, which has a resident population of yellow-eyed penguins. They have organised and led planting and maintenance days and coordinated the annual penguin counts. They both serve on the Te Rere Reserve Advisory Committee and Brian was one of the lead writers of the reserve's management plan. Chris Rance has sourced funds to keep the project running and has organised visits for people to the reserve and educated the public about conservation issues. She is also a representative of the [Southland Ecological Restoration Network](#). Chris and Brian established the [Southland Community Nursery](#) and Education Centre on their property where they grow native plants for local development and educate school groups. They were instrumental in establishing the Otatara Landcare Group and they won the Loder Cup in 2002; New Zealand's premier award for plant conservation.



Brain (left) and Chris Rance (right) with Ruud Kleinpaste (centre), Patron of the Southland Community Nursery and Education Centre, at the opening of the Education Centre in 2013. Photo: Phil Melgren.

Ms Vivienne Carol McLean has also been recognised for services to conservation; she has contributed to conservation for over 15 years. Ms McLean is a founding trustee and has served two terms as Chair of the Kauri 2000 Charitable Trust, established in 1999. She played an integral part in the planning and planting of 40,000 kauri trees at more than 35 sites on the Coromandel Peninsula, most of them recovering from the impacts of historic logging, gold mining or failed farm development. This work has involved organising site preparation and hundreds of planters each year, including the participation of four Coromandel schools. Her more recent achievements include initiating discussions with the Kauri Dieback Programme that have resulted in Kauri 2000 playing an active role in raising public awareness of kauri dieback. More recently, this involvement has led to the formation of the new Coromandel Kauri Dieback Forum, an independent community-based organisation working with the national dieback programme, the Department of Conservation, district and regional councils and local groups to protect kauri around the Peninsula and prevent the spread of the disease. She is Chair of the Forum's management group. Ms McLean has also served as Chair of the local ratepayers' association and Secretary of the reserve management group.

Finally, Terence John Farrell (Terry) was also recognised for services to conservation. Terry Farrell worked for the New Zealand Forest Service for 19 years and then 28 years for the Department of Conservation on the West Coast of the South Island. Terry is an expert in pest control, in particular, tahr management and aerial 1080 projects and has been instrumental in the public's shift in awareness and

acceptance of 1080 in general. In 2014, he managed the government's Battle for our Birds Programme, the Department of Conservation's largest scale aerial 1080 operation ever attempted in New Zealand. This programme drew heavily on work pioneered by his team on the West Coast. Hundreds of people were involved in the operations with Terry providing sound and supportive guidance to staff and managers. With his mix of extensive knowledge and practical experience, dedication, enthusiasm and people skills, he is held in high regard throughout the Department of Conservation. Mr Farrell has been a key player in the research and development of the Department of Conservation's approach, techniques and technology for the minimisation of pest damage to New Zealand forest and alpine environments and their biota.

New Zealand Indigenous Flora Seed Bank (NZIFSB)—Update on Seed Collecting expeditions and visits from Tim Pearce and Stephanie Miles, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Jessica Schnell (J.L.Schnell@massey.ac.nz) and Craig McGill (C.R.McGill@massey.ac.nz)

Visit from Tim Pearce and Stephanie Miles, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (Millennium Seed Bank Partnership)

Tim Pearce (Conservation Partnership Coordinator for Africa) and Stephanie Miles (UK Collections Coordinator) from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Millennium Seed Bank Partnership) visited the seed bank in mid-May. Tim helped Jessica Schnell and Anthea McClelland improve their data management skills using the BRAHMS software. This training will enable the full capacity of the BRAHMS software to be utilised. Stephanie took a one-day course on use of the Faxitron Ultrafocus x-ray system. The course was attended by Denise Hughes, Diane Bell from AsureQuality, and Sarah Galley and will be invaluable in helping everyone to achieve high quality images from the X-ray. Our thanks go to Tim and Stephanie for the time they spent giving support and practical advice to the seed bank.



Tim Pearce, Jess Schnell, Anthea McClelland, Craig McGill and Stephanie Miles standing in front of the new germination cabinets purchased with funding from the New Zealand Lotteries Grants Board. The cabinets are being well used assessing the desiccation sensitivity and/or the quality of recently collected seed.

Taranaki seed collection

In May, one of the seedbank volunteers, Sarah Galley, and Jessica Schnell went on a seed collecting expedition to collect *Leptospermum scoparium* and *Kunzea robusta* in Taranaki. Seed was collected from two populations on Mount Taranaki/Egmont. The family Myrtaceae is one of the target species for collecting because of the threat of myrtle rust (*Puccinia psidii*) spreading to New Zealand. It has most recently (February 2015) been discovered near Burnie in Tasmania. The potential threat from myrtle rust means more collections of Myrtaceae species are planned for later this year and next year.



Sarah Galley using a pole pruner to collect *Kunzea robusta* seed.

Gloxinia seed collection in Wanganui

Early in June, Jessica Schnell joined a team of botanists and volunteers from Whanganui Botanical Society on a seed collecting expedition to the Brunswick area. The primary focus was to collect seed of *Rhabdothamnus solandri*. The intention was to collect seed of other species but *R. solandri* was the only species with mature seed that met the collecting criteria. To reach the *R. solandri* collection site, a steep slope needed to be traversed but the site contained a beautiful patch of bush with many thousands of *R. solandri* plants present along with interesting fungi such as pigs ear (*Gomphus clavatus*). Many thanks to the enthusiastic team of Colin and Robyn Ogle, Mandy Brooke, Esther Williams, Sarah Galley and Anthea McClelland for braving the damp and cold weather to collect seed from this flourishing population of *R. solandri*.



Left: *Rhabdothamnus solandri* in flower. Right: the *Rhabdothamnus solandri* seed collecting team including Colin and Robyn Ogle, Mandy Brooke, Esther Williams, Sarah Galley (minus Anthea). Photos: Anthea McClelland.

Seedbank Volunteers

The collecting season is coming to an end but there are still many collections that need to be processed so we are still on the lookout for seedbank volunteers. If you can spare a few hours to help with cleaning, processing, germination testing seeds (full training is provided), please contact Jessica Schnell by email: J.L.Schnell@massey.ac.nz or by phone: 06 356 9099 ext 83236.

NZPCN Annual Plant Conservation Awards

The prestigious New Zealand Plant Conservation Network Awards are now in their tenth year. We are now calling for nominations for the 2015 awards. The purpose of these awards is to acknowledge outstanding contributions to native plant conservation.

Award categories are:

- Individual
- School
- Council
- Community
- Plant Nursery
- Young Plant Conservationist of the Year (under 18 years at 30 June 2015)

The nomination form is attached to the newsletter and is available from the Network website:

- [Nomination form 2015](#)

We look forward to your nominations; you may make multiple nominations under different categories. Anyone is eligible to make nominations, not just Network members.

The awards will be presented at the [2015 conference dinner](#), Friday 30 October, Otago Museum, Dunedin. Winners will be informed in advance and each will get a pair of complementary tickets to the dinner.

***Leptinella filiformis* found in the Clarence**

Jan Clayton-Greene, Department of Conservation (jclaytongreene@doc.govt.nz) Shannel Courtney, Department of Conservation (scourtney@doc.govt.nz)

Hot on the heels of the rediscovery of *Dysphania pusilla* (see story on page 1), another species, *Leptinella filiformis* (slender button daisy), which was thought to be extinct in the wild, has also been confirmed from the middle reaches of the Clarence River. Once found in both North Canterbury and Marlborough, the last confirmed sighting of slender button daisy was in 1998 in the grounds of one of the hotels at Hanmer Springs. Unfortunately, this site was lost during a redevelopment of the hotel although, fortunately, material had been collected beforehand and grown in cultivation at the Department of Conservation's Motukarara nursery. As a fortuitous consequence of this, many botanists and plant enthusiasts now have in their gardens slender button daisy propagated from the Hanmer plant, but it remained elusive in the wild, despite surveys of historic sites.

In March 2011, while surveying for the then Data Deficient grass *Rytidosperma merum* in a remote area of the Clarence River, Jan found a *Leptinella* she didn't recognise. Pushed for time, a specimen was collected and pressed along with other specimens in a collection book where it languished for a few years. Eventually, Jan enlisted the help of Cathy Jones to review her collected specimens (having completely forgotten about the *Leptinella*). With the limited material available to her, Cathy tentatively identified the unknown *Leptinella* as *L. filiformis*. She then sent the specimen to Peter Heenan, Landcare Research, for confirmation but a request came back from Peter for more material. The remoteness of the *Leptinella* site meant that it would be late summer before it was revisited by Jan, accompanied by Simon Litchwark and Nelson DOC botanist Shannel Courtney. They managed to relocate the site and the slender button daisy without much difficulty due to Jan's prescience of previously taking a GPS log of the site. The dry summer had taken its toll and the plants were brown and wizened-looking but, surprisingly, still very much alive, with evidence of earlier flowering. The temperature in the shade that day was 42° C. Drought and heat stress were definitely contributing to its highly compromised appearance and elicited the tongue-in-cheek response "I came from Nelson for that!" from Shannel. However, after studying the material and by deduction, he also became convinced that the plants were indeed *L. filiformis*. They collected sufficient material to grow on and compare with the cultivated Hanmer plants. Jan was also fortunate enough to be able to return to the site later in summer after significant rainfall to find the population had greened up and was in flower bud. Specimens collected at this time, along with the plants cultivated from the January collection provided enough vegetative and reproductive material for Shannel and Peter to confirm the population as being *L. filiformis*.



Leptinella filiformis before rain (left, photo: Jan Clayton-Greene) and after rain (right, photo: Simon Litchwark).

Other than the landform on which it is growing, the habitat of *L. filiformis* appears to lack any attributes that distinguish it from its surroundings. The population occurs at around 600 m on a broad, gentle ridge of fine, compacted loess behind a flattish knob. Plants grow both in the open and under a very sparse canopy of briar and kanuka. Although there were many herbaceous exotics present, the site was generally free of swarding herbs such as *Hieracium pilosella*, which would have competed for the open ground. Plants were scattered over an area of at least 900 m². Despite searching the surrounding area, no other location was found for it. Given the generalist nature of the habitat, which occurs extensively throughout the Clarence, there is still a high probability of slender button daisy occurring elsewhere here, but surveying for it would be like trying to find a very small needle in a very large haystack.



Jan examining *Leptinella filiformis*.
Photo: Simon Litchwark.

David Given Threatened Plant Research Scholarship—applications are now open

The NZ Plant Conservation Network administers the David Given Threatened Plant Research Scholarship which is offered biennially. The scholarship is now open for applications to fund research that assists the protection and recovery of New Zealand's threatened plant species and threatened communities. Threatened species and communities can be either nationally or regionally threatened. Plant species include vascular and non-vascular plants as well as fungi. Applicants must be New Zealand residents or citizens but the work could involve overseas researchers who collaborate with the principal NZ researcher. Funds available for this year's scholarship are \$7000.

Applications addressing each of the subject areas on the scholarship brochure (see attached to the end of the newsletter) should be emailed (preferred delivery option) to info@nzpcn.co.nz, or posted to the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network, PO Box 16 102, Wellington and marked "David Given Scholarship". **Applications close 30 September 2015.**

This award is named after the late David Given in recognition of his considerable influence on plant conservation in New Zealand and worldwide over his lifetime.

NZPCN 2015 Conference Dunedin 28–30 October

'Nurturing Our Conservation Roots for Generations to Come'

This is the first time the Network has held a conference in Dunedin, home of the country's earliest botanical society and oldest botanic garden. Two days of symposia at Otago Museum will be preceded by a selection of workshops that delegates are invited to attend. Saturday will be devoted to exploring the native plant communities and native gardens in and around Dunedin.

The conference will offer eight symposia themed around celebrating early plant conservation and fostering plant conservation efforts into the future. The symposia themes are:

- Early Plant Conservation in New Zealand
- Unique Southern Flora
- Native Plant Protection—legal issues and opportunities
- Threatened Plant Research
- Grassroots Plant Conservation
- The Next Generation of Plant Conservationists
- Working with Native Plants
- Building Networks and Partnerships

Conference costs, workshop and field trip details are still being finalised and will be announced soon on our website (www.nzpcn.org.nz).

Plant Photography workshop with Mike Thorsen at the NZPCN conference

“How do I get my photos to look better? Do I need expensive gear? Why does my camera take fuzzy pictures? How do I keep track of all my photos? What do ‘f stop’, ‘depth of field’ and ‘macro’ even mean (let alone ‘chimping’ and ‘fixing it in post’)?”

This workshop gives some answers on how you and your camera (whatever camera you use) can get better photos of plants and their environment. We’ll look at some of the basics of plant photography, look at inspirations and the techniques behind different types of photo, and then try our new skills out in the Dunedin Botanical Gardens. Bring your camera (and other gear if you can get it here). This workshop will adapt to the level of skill of each participant and we’ll have a chance to solve some of the problems your photos have been facing.

Mike Thorsen has been photographing plants for 15 years. His photographs regularly appear on the NZPCN website as well as in other websites, magazines and books. He is supported by Canon NZ.



NZPCN 2015 Conference Charity Auction seeks donations

Matt Ward NZPCN Council Member

After a very productive May NZPCN council meeting in Wellington, we have decided to have another auction at the conference this year. This year’s auction will be a silent auction, with all funds raised going towards the NZPCN “David Given Scholarship”(see elsewhere in this newsletter), and the NZPCN “Conservation Endowment Fund”.

We hope to raise as much money as possible and to do that we need your help! If you have anything that may be suitable for auction, or know of someone who may need some persuading to donate something please contact me, Matt, either by e-mail, mattwardward@gmail.com, or ph: 021 189 1062. For example, suitable items might include botanical art, stunning photographic prints or autographed books. We are actively seeking as many items as possible, so hopefully there will be many items on which conference attendees can bid.

To date, we have some autographed books from the Environmental Defence Society, and Catherine Kirby; Cactus Outdoor has also generously donated a daypack for the auction. Another fantastic item is a painting by Marcia Dale (pictured), which she has donated to the auction. This is an amazing piece of art; I asked Marcia to write a short note about it.

“New Zealand has such an array of beautiful and unique plants and yet there are only about ten species which regularly feature in the majority of local artworks. Flax, toetoe, kowhai, cabbage trees and pohutukawa all make for lovely iconic New Zealand artworks, but I’m more inspired by the lesser known of our plant species.



Photo of the *Dracophyllum menziesii* painting by Marcia Dale.

I would like to be able to do delicate water painted botanical illustrations, but it seems I lack both the technique and the patience for such work. In my paintings I am aiming for something dramatic, bright oil based colour set against a black background, the polar opposite of the more traditional demure watercolours.

*My painting of *Dracophyllum menziesii* was inspired by a photograph by Mike Thorsen on the NZPCN website. Sometimes I see a photo and I know immediately that I will have to paint it, at least half the credit of my painting has to go to Mike for capturing this wee Fiordland beauty.”*

Your generosity will help keep our David Given and Endowment Funds growing for the future benefit of native plant conservation, research and study. Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries about anything mentioned above. Thanks very much to our donors thus far...

Accessing newsletters

The hitch with the newsletter link last month highlighted the fact that at least some members are unaware of how to access newsletters at any time. If you place your cursor on ‘Publications’ on the Home page (www.nzpcn.org.nz) and then scroll down to ‘Newsletters’ and click on it you can access all newsletters. The contents of each newsletter are listed under the heading of each month’s newsletter so it is possible to find any topic of interest that may have appeared some time ago.

Call for nominations—Marsh Awards

Marsh Awards for International Plant Conservation and Education in Botanic Gardens BGCi is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the Marsh Awards for International Plant Conservation and Botanic Garden Education sponsored by the Marsh Christian Trust. The Marsh Christian Trust was established in 1981 and runs a portfolio of awards which recognise the contribution of dedicated individuals working in different sectors – to improve the world we live in.

We aim to give the Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation to an early/mid- career individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The prize for this award in 2015 is £1,000.

How to make a nomination

Please nominate using the forms downloadable below. The deadline for nominations is 31 July, 2015. Nominations should be sent to liz.smith@bgci.org.

[Nomination form for Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation](#)

[Nomination form for Marsh Award for Education in Botanic Gardens](#)

How will the award be judged?

Nominations will be judged by a panel comprising two BGCi Board members and one representative from each of five external organisations, including the Marsh Christian Trust. A final shortlist of three will be sent to Brian Marsh and the Trust for the final selection.

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):

National Seed Science Forum

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership: March 2016. The Forum will be held at the Australian PlantBank hosted by the Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan, in collaboration with the Australian Network for Plant Conservation and the Australian Grains Genebank.

The Forum will commence with an evening event on **Monday 14 March**; the main science programme will be presented on **15–16 March 2016**. The Forum will be a rare opportunity to bring together leading botanical and agricultural institutions, seed scientists and conservation and restoration experts to share ideas that showcase the importance of seed science to the future of plant conservation and food security in Australia.

An exciting programme of local and international experts is planned, speaking on seed conservation, storage, preservation and germination. More details on the National Seed Science Forum will be provided in the near future. Invited keynotes and a call for presentations will be announced soon. Please share information on this Forum with your colleagues and through your networks.

Visit the Forum web pages at:

www.seedpartnership.org.au.

Please email:

info@seedpartnership.org.au

to register for Forum announcements.

Auckland Botanical Society

Meeting: Wednesday 1 July at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Robert Hoare. **Venue:** Unitec Room 115-2017.

Contact: Maureen Young, email: youngmaureen@xtra.co.nz.

Field trip: Saturday 18 July for a Plant Families Workshop at the function centre, West Lynn Garden, 73 Parker Ave, New Lynn; lunch supplied.

Leader: Mike Wilcox, email: mike.wilcox@xtra.co.nz.

Meeting: Wednesday 5 August at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Mark Horrocks. **Venue:** Unitec Room 115-2017.

Contact: Ewen Cameron, email: ecameron@akmuseum.org.nz.

Waikato Botanical Society

Meeting: 21 July at 7.00 p.m. for a talk by Dr Peter de Lange, Department of Conservation on *Kunzea ericoides*.

Venue: Lecture Room S.G.01, S Block, University of Waikato (Access to S block is easiest by parking on Hillcrest Road and entering the campus at Gate 8, follow the driveway to its end, and walk between G and A blocks. S Block will be in front of you. S.G.01 is at the far end of the building (near the library building), on the ground floor.

Rotorua Botanical Society

Field trip: Sunday 5 July to Rotoma Scenic Reserve, Manawahae Road, Rotoma. Meet: the car park, Rotorua at 8.30 a.m. or 9.00 a.m. at the corner of Hamilton and Manawahe Roads. Grade: easy.

Leader: John Hobbs,
ph: 07 348 6620;
email: jffhobbs@clear.net.nz.

Wanganui Museum

Meeting: Tuesday 7 July at 6.30 p.m. for a talk by Finn Michalak of Otari Wilton's Bush Reserve. **Venue:** Davis Lecture Theatre.

Contact: Lyneke Onderwater,
email: lyneke@orcon.net.nz.

Wellington Botanical Society

Field trip: Saturday 4 July to Northern Porirua Scenic Reserve.
Meet: 9.30 a.m. near 80 Rangituhi Cres, Elsdon, Porirua.

Leader: Leon Perrie,
ph: 04 381 7261 (wk),
mobile: 027 419 1378.

Meeting: Monday 20 July at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Prof Dave Kelly, University of Canterbury titled 'Is the decline of bird populations threatening native plants, and can we fix it?'

Venue: Lecture Theatre M101, ground floor Murphy Building, west side of Kelburn Parade; enter building off Kelburn Parade about 20 m below pedestrian overbridge.

Field trip: Saturday 1 August to Taparanga Block, Baring Head.
Meet: 9.30 a.m. at car park with large sign at park entrance on Coast Road, c.16 km south of Wainuiomata. Contact Owen if transport required from Wainui bus depot.

Leader: Owen Spearpoint, ph: 027 285 8083 or email: owen.spearpoint@gw.govt.nz.

Nelson Botanical Society

Field Trip: Sunday 21 June to Kokorua Sandspit. **Meet:** 8.00 a.m. at the Church steps. **Register** by Friday 19 June with the leader.

Leader: David Grinsted,
ph: 03 542 4384.

Field trip: Sunday 19 July to Pukatea track. Please register with the leader in case of cancellation and also to record details for the emergency protocol and PLB.

Leader: Elaine Marshall,
ph: 021 256 9073.

Meeting: Monday 20 July for a talk by Rebecca Martin, DOC, Motueka on the Adele Island planting programme

Venue: Jaycee Room Founders Park.

Canterbury Botanical Society

Meeting: Monday 6 July at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Dr Julie Barcelona titled 'Ferns of the Philippines'

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

Field trip: Saturday 11 July to the Botanic Gardens native section and lunch at the café.

Meeting: Monday 3 August at 7.30 p.m. for a talk by Sarah Wright titled 'Research on *Pittosporum obcordatum*'. **Venue:** Upper Riccarton Library community meeting room, 71 Main South Road.

Contact: Alice Shanks
ph: 03 337 1256.

Otago Botanical Society

Meeting: Wednesday 1 July at 5.20 p.m. for a talk by Robert Hofstede visitor to Botany Department and Consultant to International Organisations in Tropical Nature Conservation and Environmental Policy, titled 'Natural History of the North Andean High Mountains: the Most Diverse Alpine Ecosystems on Earth'.

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.

Field trip: Saturday 4 July to Bethunes Gully and Mt Cargill. Meet: at the Botany car park at 9.00 a.m. Bring: lunch, warm clothing, good footwear and parkas.

Contact: David Lyttle,
ph: 03 454 5470;
email: djlyttle@ihug.co.nz.

Field trip: Saturday 1 August to Harbour Cone. Meet: at the Botany Department car park at 9.00 a.m. or at Pukehiki Church at 9.30 a.m.; bring lunch, warm clothing, good footwear and parkas. Rain day: Sunday 2 August.

Contact: David Lyttle,
ph: 03 454 5470,
email: djlyttle@ihug.co.nz or
Moira Parker, ph: 03 478 0214,
mobile 027 328 4443.

Nurturing Our Conservation Roots for Generations to Come

New Zealand Plant Conservation Network Conference



Dunedin: Wednesday 28 – Saturday 31 October 2015

Symposia

Early plant conservation in New Zealand

Looking back at early efforts to conserve our flora.

Unique southern flora

Exploring our unique southern flora and their communities.

Native plant protection

Examining current legal issues and opportunities

Threatened plant research

Recent discoveries and conservation challenges.

Grassroots plant conservation

How communities are making the difference.

The next generation of plant conservationists

Fostering skills and harnessing enthusiasm for future plant conservation.

Working with natives

How we are using and protecting native plants .

Building networks and partnerships

Harnessing the power of collaboration.

Field Trips

Gardens of Dunedin

Visit beautiful gardens and diverse *ex situ* native plant collections around Dunedin City. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

North Otago Coast

See marine wildlife, magnificent views and explore northern Otago's coastal herbfields, dunes and shrublands.

Tussock and Tors of Inland Otago

Travel inland and explore unique plant communities at Sutton Salt Lake and tussock grasslands at Macraes Flat.

The conference programme is yet to be finalised as other events are still being planned – see www.nzpcn.org.nz for more details.





NEW ZEALAND PLANT CONSERVATION NETWORK

Rōpū hononga Koiora Taiao ki Aotearoa

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New Zealand
info@nzpcn.org.nz
www.nzpcn.org.nz

Plant Conservation Awards - 2015

The New Zealand Plant Conservation Network is now accepting nominations for the 2015 awards. The purpose of these awards is to acknowledge outstanding contributions to native plant conservation.

The award categories are:

- Individual** involved in plant conservation
- Plant nursery** involved in plant conservation
- School** plant conservation project
- Community** plant conservation project
- Local authority** protecting native plant life
- Young Plant Conservationist** of the Year (under 18 years on 30 June 2015)

More information about the awards and additional nomination forms are available on the Network website - www.nzpcn.org.nz. You can make multiple nominations under different categories. Anyone is eligible to make nominations, not just Network members. The awards will be presented at the Network **2015 Conference** to be held in **Dunedin on 30 October**. Nominations close on **Monday 29 September 2015**.

NOMINATION FORM

Category (please circle):

Individual *Plant* *Nursery* *School*
Community *Local Authority* *Young Plant Conservationist*

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

Contact details for person, school, nursery, community group or local

authority:

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

