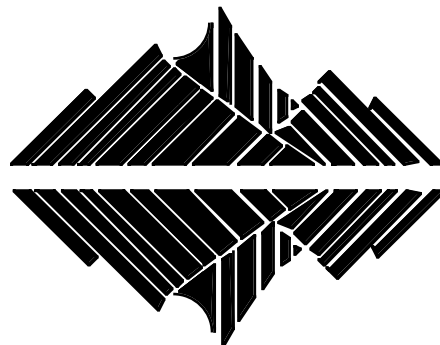


# Ecological Society Newsletter

No. 101, March 2002

Published by the New Zealand Ecological Society (Inc.),  
P.O. Box 25-178, Christchurch



## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Welcome to 2002 and to a year in which, for the first time in 50 years, the New Zealand Ecological Society will not be meeting on New Zealand soil for its annual conference. Instead we are off to Cairns in December to join with the Australian Ecological Society for our second joint meeting. The first, in Dunedin in 1998, was extremely successful with both societies benefiting from the exchange of ideas and scholarship. There *are* implications for the society financially for the society, and for our student members who will possibly lose an opportunity to present their first paper at a national conference. However, the meeting in Cairns offers other benefits and opportunities and the NZES council hopes that all members will get in behind the conference and put up a good kiwi show!

This issue of the newsletter features the first of a new section that I hope will become a regular feature. *Hot Science* is aimed at raising the awareness amongst our members of the considerable body of ecology that New Zealanders publish overseas. I hope that members will support this section by flooding me with summaries of recent their recent international publications. See page X for details and page X for the first of our summaries.

The newsletter always benefits from members views and I would encourage you all to consider whether there is something you would like to add to the next issue—I would welcome your submission.

Alastair Robertson  
*Ecology Group, Institute of Natural Resources  
Massey University  
Private Bag 11222  
Palmerston North  
Ph: 06 350 5799 ext 7965  
E-mail: [A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz)*

## CALL FOR EXPERTISE FOR WEB DEVELOPMENT

James Ross, who has been our Web Master for the last couple of years has resigned due to other commitments. The NZES council believe that the web is likely to become a very important part of NZES and there are several challenges pending for web development such as the possibility of hosting electronic archive of the *NZJE*. This may require institutional and member access through user name and password and/or IP registration. To further develop the capabilities and sophistication of our webpage, we may need to get professional hosting and design which will likely be expensive for the society. In the meantime, the council would be very interested in hearing from any of its members that have web master and design expertise. We can

### INSIDE:

J.S. Watson Conservation Trust .....	2
Conference 2002 .....	2
Buzz Groups .....	2
Conference 2001 T-shirts for sale .....	2
New Section: Hot science! .....	3
Hot science .....	3
Submissions .....	5
Kakapo on Campbell Island? .....	5
Royal Society reviews code of ethics .....	6
Proposed Australasian/South Pacific Section of Society for Conservation Biology .....	6
Perspectives on the journal, response to Gábor Lövei .....	7
Do we need accreditation for ecologists? .....	8
Upcoming meetings .....	10
Positions available .....	13
News from Council .....	13
Ecolsoc e-mail list server and web page .....	14

probably update and maintain our pages in their existing form from within the current expertise available but further development of the page is probably beyond the capability of the present council members and our page host – Landcare Research. Members who have some skills and would like to help, can contact the council through our secretary.

## J.S. WATSON CONSERVATION TRUST

This trust is administered by Forest and Bird. Applications are invited from individuals or conservation groups for financial assistance for conservation projects over the 2002/2003 year. The criteria for assistance are:

- the conservation of plants and animals and natural features of New Zealand;
- the advancement of knowledge in these matters by way of research, literary contribution, essay or articles, or other effort;
- general education of the public to give them an understanding and love of the world in which they live.

Approximately \$20,000 is available for distribution. Individual applications should be limited to a maximum of \$4,000.

For further details and application forms write to:  
J S Watson Trust  
Forest and Bird  
PO Box 631  
Wellington  
website: <http://www.forest-bird.org.nz/>  
Applications close 31 July 2002.

## CONFERENCE 2002

The 2002 annual meeting of the New Zealand Ecological Society will be held jointly with the Ecological Society of Australia from **2-6 December**, at the Cairns Convention Centre in far north Queensland. It will feature a mix of special symposia and open forum sessions, a postgraduate **students' day** on **Sunday 1 December** at James Cook University Cairns Campus organised by Prof Mark Westoby, and optional excursions to the Great Barrier Reef, lowland rainforests and the Atherton tablelands.

The deadline for abstracts and early bird registration is 27 August (check the next issue of this newsletter for more details, or the ESA website: <http://life.csu.edu.au/esa/esa2002.html> which should be running by early May).

Symposia are still being finalised, but the range of submissions includes: Frugivory; Exotic ant invasions; Healthy savanna landscapes; Amphibian

declines; Weed risk assessment; Restoration of ecosystems; Linear infrastructure impacts on wildlife; Tree kangaroos; Vegetation mapping; Climate change; Global plant conservation strategy; Human ecology; Ecotourism impacts in marine environments; Managing threatened fauna; Ecosystem services; Macroecology of wet tropics rainforests

## BUZZ GROUPS

**So your supervisor hasn't got the cash to send you to Cairns. Why not go to an EcoSoc Student Conference 2002?** North Island students interested in attending an informal, motivating and entertaining 3 day conference please e-mail Dianne Brunton, Ecology Lab, University of Auckland:

[d.brunton@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.brunton@auckland.ac.nz). Time and place to be confirmed but likely to be late June 2002 somewhere central (the Volcanic Plateau).

South Island students should e-mail Richard Duncan, Ecology and Entomology Group, Lincoln University: [duncanr@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:duncanr@lincoln.ac.nz). Time and place to be confirmed but also likely to be late June 2002.

## CONFERENCE 2001 T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

We have some T-shirts left from the last conference that we are hoping to sell for \$22 (including postage). The T-shirts feature the large logo shown on the back and a smaller logo on the front shoulder.



The following size/colour combinations are available. First in, first served. Please indicate a first choice and second choice. We will try to match either your first or second choices but if demand exceeds supply, we will have to return your cheque, so be quick!

Size	tan	green	grey	yellow
S	2			
M		2	1	
L		3		
XL		1		1

Please make cheques payable to the New Zealand Ecological Society and send to Dave Kelly, PAMS dept, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch.

## NEW SECTION: HOT SCIENCE!

This is a new section that I plan to include in each issue. The intention is to:

**Maintain as a growing list, a summary of every important internationally published article, book, and book chapter on New Zealand ecology.**

The aim is to raise awareness within the society of work published internationally by New Zealand ecologists. This is not to suggest that internationally published papers are inherently better than locally published efforts—of course the *New Zealand Journal of Ecology* and other New Zealand based journals contain lots of great papers on New Zealand ecology and natural history—but there is also a respectable number of articles that appear in offshore journals and often, some of our best ecology appears in them. It's sometimes hard to know what has been published unless you keep a regular check.

To start the ball rolling, I have asked some of our council members to provide short summaries of recent papers that they have published in internationally since 2000. For future issues of the newsletter, *I invite all New Zealand ecologists to contribute similar summaries for all their ecologically based items published overseas*. It would be great if this series could be more or less comprehensive and cover all items published that fit this description. Don't be modest—lets try to make this section complete by getting *all* the items that are out there.

### Rules

#### *Items to be included*

1. Three kinds of items will be included
  - a. Papers in internationally-published peer-reviewed journals
  - b. Book chapters in edited scientific books (preferably peer-reviewed)
  - c. Scientific books
2. The item must be published offshore and must have been published since and including 2000.
3. The item must have been published, not "in press" (we can hold over any articles not yet published until the next newsletter).
4. The item must be primarily ecological and must make at least some reference to the New Zealand biota (native or naturalised).

#### *What will be listed*

5. A full citation (see examples below)
6. A short summary (not the published abstract) **restricted to 100 words or less** (any more than this and I will send it back for editing).

### How to submit

7. Send the items to the newsletter editor in one of

the three following ways (in order of preference):

- a. E-mail attached rich text format (.rtf), word perfect (.wpd), or (preferably) as Microsoft Word (.doc) document to:  
[A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz)
- b. On floppy disk. Post to Alastair Robertson, Newsletter editor, New Zealand Ecological Society, Ecology Group, Massey University, Private Bag 11222, Palmerston North.
- c. On paper. Post to above address.

## HOT SCIENCE

**Cullen, L.E.; Stewart, G.H.; Duncan, R.P.; Palmer, J.G. (2001): Disturbance and climate warming influences on New Zealand *Nothofagus* treeline population dynamics. *Journal of Ecology* 89: 1061-1071.**

This paper uses forest stand history reconstruction to infer the relative roles of climate warming and disturbance on the population dynamics of silver beech-dominated treelines in north Westland. Tree recruitment over the last 300 years has been episodic in response to small, localised disturbances, while climate warming over the last 50 years has had no influence on recruitment. Any influence of climate warming may be masked by the overwhelming importance of disturbance in driving treeline population dynamics in these forests.

**Duncan, R.P.; Young, J.R. (2000): Determinants of plant extinction and rarity 145 years after European settlement of Auckland, New Zealand. *Ecology* 81: 3048-3061.**

A remarkable record of local plant extinctions that have occurred due to urban expansion in the Auckland area exist from vegetation surveys published in 1871 by Thomas Kirk and in 1991 by Alan Esler. This paper analyses this historical record and identifies factors predisposing certain species to rarity or extinction.

**Jeffries, Darryl S. & Brunton, Dianne H. (2001): Attracting endangered species to 'safe' habitats: responses to fairy terns of decoys. *Animal Conservation* 4: 301-305.**

The New Zealand fairy tern is considered an endangered subspecies. The aims of this study were to quantify fairy tern responses to decoys and sound recordings, and determine the viability of this technique for re-establishing fairy terns in protected habitat. Sixteen decoy trials were conducted at Papakanui Spit (36°06' S, 174°36' E). The decoys were effective in attracting fairy terns to a specific area, with >80% of landing episodes occurring in the decoy plots. The effectiveness of attracting terns to a

specific site has potential as a safe and efficient means of trapping adults away from the nest.

**Kelly, Dave, Harrison, Andrea L., Lee, William G., Payton, Ian J., Wilson, Peter R. & Schauber, Eric M. (2000): Predator satiation and extreme mast seeding in 11 species of *Chionochloa* (Poaceae). *Oikos* 90: 477-488.**

This paper presents 16 long datasets on mast seeding in 11 *Chionochloa* species from Nelson Lakes to Takahe Valley and shows that there is high synchrony within and among species, driven by a common climate cue (warm temperatures in January-February the year before). *Chionochloa crassiuscula* from Takahe Valley (CV=3.02) is the most variable masting dataset worldwide and NZ species (including *Nothofagus*) make up 8 of the global top 20. Seed predation data from Takahe Valley suggest that the extreme masting arises because a cecidomyiid seed predator is exceptionally hard to satiate.

**Kelly, Dave, Hart, Deirdre E. & Allen, Robert B. (2001): Evaluating the wind-pollination benefits of mast seeding. *Ecology* 82: 117-126.**

A model for when plants gain pollination benefits from mast seeding shows that the greatest benefits go to species with low pollination success at the long term mean flowering effort. Tests of this model in *Chionochloa*, *Nothofagus*, *Dacrydium* and *Betula alleghaniensis* show a range of benefits from trivial in *Chionochloa* to very strong in *N. solandri*. This suggests that the pronounced masting seen in *Nothofagus* is attributable to pollination efficiencies. The model also explains the stronger masting seen at higher elevations, and predicts that habitat fragmentation could disrupt mast seeding benefits to pollination.

**Kelly, Dave; Ladley, Jenny J; Robertson, Alastair W; Norton, David A (2000): Limited forest fragmentation improves reproduction in the declining New Zealand mistletoe *Peraxilla tetrapetala* (Loranthaceae). In: *Genetics, demography and viability of fragmented populations*. (Eds: Young, AG; Clarke, GM), Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 241-252.**

A study of *P. tetrapetala* at Lake Ohau showed that mistletoes on the edges of forest fragments had higher pollination rates, and lower flower predation by a native moth (*Zelleria* sp.), than plants in intact forest. Dispersal was not affected by edge position. This suggests that reproduction is enhanced on edges because pollinators (principally bellbirds and native bees) favour edge plants. This effect is consistent with the higher mistletoe densities observed on edges, and could partially compensate for habitat loss in maintenance of mistletoe populations.

**McGlone, M.S.; Duncan, R.P.; Heenan, P.B. (2001): Endemism, species selection and the origin and distribution of the vascular plant flora of New Zealand. *Journal of Biogeography* 28: 199-216.**

This paper evaluates competing views on the origin and distribution of New Zealand's vascular plant flora, concluding that ecological traits such as species dispersal capabilities and habitat requirements have played a key role in the formation of the flora and in shaping the geographic patterns of disjunction and endemism within New Zealand.

**Sessions, Laura A. & Kelly, Dave (2001): Heterogeneity in vertebrate and invertebrate herbivory and its consequences for New Zealand mistletoes. *Austral Ecology* 26: 571-581.**

A major difference between vertebrate and invertebrate herbivores is that vertebrate damage is more unevenly distributed. Data on leaf losses by *Peraxilla colensoi*, *P. tetrapetala* and *Alepis flavida* at three sites show that the overall mean losses to possums and insects are similar, but possum damage is more patchy among branches within a plant, among plants, and among sites. This could mean that the unlucky plants attacked by vertebrate herbivores are more likely to die, whereas insects remove a constant small amount from all plants which may cause less harm. Possums also preferred *Alepis* to *Peraxilla* spp.

**Standish, Rachel J.; Robertson, Alastair W.; & Williams, Peter A. (2001): The impact of an invasive weed *Tradescantia fluminensis* on native forest regeneration. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 38: 1253-1263.**

A major effect of *Tradescantia* in forest is the suppression of seedlings. Data from two Manawatu/Horowhenua forest remnants showed that *Tradescantia* biomass reaches a maximum at edges and under canopy gaps. In these areas, *Tradescantia* biomass becomes so thick that very little light penetrates to the soil and almost all woody seedlings are suppressed. In shadier spots, the *Tradescantia* is not as thick, more light reaches the forest floor and more shade tolerant seedlings like kohekohe establish. These results suggest that imposing shade by establishing a subcanopy through planting may allow the natural regeneration cycle to be partly restored.

**Wells, A.; Duncan, R.P.; Stewart, G.H. (2001): Forest dynamics in Westland, New Zealand: the importance of large, infrequent earthquake-induced disturbance. *Journal of Ecology* 89: 1006-1018.**

A reconstruction of forest disturbance history in a Westland catchment over the last 700 years reveals

that, during this period, the catchment was affected by four massive episodes of landslipping and flooding, with up to 50% of the forested area of the catchment destroyed in a single episode. These episodes dominate the disturbance regime and were triggered by earthquakes, the three largest (dated c. 1460, 1620 and 1717 AD) caused by the last three major movements of the Alpine Fault. Much of the present forest structure in Westland reflects the impact of these major earthquakes.

**Williams, J. A. and C. J. West 2(000): Environmental weeds in Australia and New Zealand: issues and approaches to management. *Austral Ecology* 25: 425-444.**

This keynote paper presented at the inaugural joint conference of NZES and ESA in Dunedin 1998 contains information on the state of environmental weed management in Australia and New Zealand. It is the first paper in a special issue of *Austral Ecology* in which the papers and some posters presented in the symposium session are published.

## SUBMISSIONS

### Biosecurity Strategy

NZES is grateful to Peter Bellingham who at short notice contacted several other members and fired off a NZES submission in rapid time. Thanks to all involved. We are hoping to put our recent submissions on our website soon. Keep a lookout there.

### National Policy Statement on Biodiversity on Private Land

Richard Duncan is keeping an eye on this one. Contact him with offers of help.

### Sustainable Development Strategy

Our plans to hold a workshop to work on an updated statement on sustainability have been complicated by the Ministry of the Environment's plans to hold a conference midyear on sustainable development. We may combine forces but the timetable is tight. Bruce Burns, Kath Dickinson, and John Craig are key people from NZES. Contact them for further information or if you want to get involved.

## MISSING SUBMISSION

Congratulations to Susan Wiser and Rowan Buxton for compiling the list of submissions that the Society has made over the decades. Thanks for printing it in the Society's one hundredth newsletter as it certainly makes impressive reading! In the interests of accuracy I need to point out that one submission is missing from the list. In the 1970s the Society made a submission to the Royal Commission on the

Generation of Nuclear Power. I may not have the Commission's name quite right, but I can remember fronting up to it for questioning in Christchurch with Les Batcheler for company. Who can supply the year?

With this addition it is interesting to tally the decade totals as a rough index of submission activity. My totals are:

Decade	No. of Submissions
1950s	5
1960s	5
1970s	22
1980s	22
1990s	33

Wren Green

*EcoLogic Conservation Consultants*  
[wrengreen@paradise.net.nz](mailto:wrengreen@paradise.net.nz)

## KAKAPO ON CAMPBELL ISLAND?

*Editor's Note – Recently, NZES was contacted by Paul Jansen, Team Leader of the National Kakapo Team of the Department of Conservation who was seeking opinion on a proposal to translocate kakapo to Campbell Island. At the time, DOC was after a quick response so our president contacted a few members of our society for their opinions. However, the council felt it worthwhile to notify NZES members of this proposal through the newsletter, in case people wanted to express their views to Paul directly. The letter asked for comment by 21/1/02 but I understand that Paul is still interested in hearing from people. I have extracted the substance of the letter and the executive summary of the proposal and they are reproduced below.*

### Trial Translocation of Kakapo to Campbell Island - Draft Proposal

Enclosed is the draft proposal for the trial translocation of six kakapo to Campbell Island. The proposal will be sent to Southland Conservancy for approval. In accordance with the Department's translocation standard operating procedure, it outlines:

- The reasons for the translocation
- Consistency with Departmental policy
- The effects the translocation is likely to have on Campbell Island and kakapo
- Actions to prevent or mitigate adverse effects
- The transfer plan
- Post-translocation follow-up.

We would like to do this translocation with the support of iwi and interested parties. To that end, we are seeking your views on this proposal. Please send your responses to me. If you have any questions please contact Don Merton or Paul Jansen on 04 471 0726.

### Executive Summary

This proposal seeks approval from the Southland Conservator and concurrence of the Regional

General Manager Southern Region to transfer six male kakapo from Pearl Island to Campbell Island for a trial period of 5-10 years.

The translocation is to test the ability of kakapo to attain breeding condition on subantarctic islands. In particular it is to test whether kakapo will breed in response to mast flowering of the snow tussock (*Chionochloa antarctica*).

This transfer will not result in the establishment of a kakapo population on Campbell Island. Only males will be transferred and they will be removed from the island at the end of a trial period of 5-10 years. A separate transfer proposal would need to be approved if an attempt was to be made to establish a kakapo population on Campbell Island.

The transfer is consistent with the vision of the Kakapo Recovery Plan 1996 - 2005, and has the support of the Kakapo Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee.

The transfer is consistent with the policies set out in the Conservation Management Strategy for the Subantarctic Islands (DOC 1998).

The transfer will have no adverse effect on the population from which the birds are taken because the birds to be transferred are not part of the breeding population.

Kakapo face no new significant threats on Campbell Island, and their survivorship is likely to be high.

Kakapo are very unlikely to have significant effects on the flora and fauna of Campbell Island.

Some ethical issues associated with the transfer of kakapo to Campbell Island are presented.

Tangata Whenua of the source and release areas are Ngai Tahu. Consultation is on-going at present.

Paul Jansen  
Team Leader  
National Kakapo Team  
Science and Technical Centre  
PO. Box 10-420,  
65 Victoria Street, Wellington, New Zealand  
Telephone 04-471 0726, Fax 04-471 3279

## ROYAL SOCIETY REVIEWS CODE OF ETHICS

### Editor's Note

I note that in a recent issue of *Science Alert*, the Royal Society is currently reviewing the code of ethics. This is of significance to NZES as the society recently adopted the Royal Societies code as official NZES policy (see newsletter no. 98 for details). The statement in *Science Alert* states:

The Society is currently reviewing the Code of Professional Standards and Ethics and is

pleased to announce that the revised draft is now on-line at [http://www.rsnz.org/directory/ethics\\_draft.php](http://www.rsnz.org/directory/ethics_draft.php) and available for public comment. Constituent, Regional Constituent and Affiliate organisations are encouraged to run workshops to discuss the draft. Please forward any comments to [ceo@rsnz.org](mailto:ceo@rsnz.org).

Interested NZES members should consult the website and make comments to NZES council. We can discuss these at the next council meeting.

## PROPOSED AUSTRALASIAN/ SOUTH PACIFIC SECTION OF SOCIETY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

The discipline of conservation biology is widely practised under various guises throughout this region, but is not well served by relevant professional societies. That is all now set to change with the proposed formation of an Australasian/South Pacific section of the Society of Conservation Biology (SCB).

SCB was formed in USA in 1987 with the vision of becoming an international society for conservation biology professionals. Its highly respected international journal *Conservation Biology* fulfils one part of the international mission of SCB. Nevertheless, the membership of SCB and the main focus of its other activities has remained largely North American. This has been of increasing concern to the Society, which now wishes to maximise the international impact of the science and practice of conservation biology.

The Board of Governors of SCB has approved a process to form several international sections, including one for Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands. A section requires the participation of at least 100 SCB members who wish to join the section and vote to elect a set of officers. Accordingly, an interim steering committee of interested members was formed at the SCB meeting in Hawaii in July 2001 to establish a fully constituted section for Australasian/South Pacific (Interim steering committee: John Craig, NZ, Karen Firestone, Aust., Dick Frankham, Aust., David Given, NZ, Meg Montgomery, Aust., David Norton, NZ, Angie Penn, Aust., Denis Saunders, Aust., & Suzette Stephens, USA/PNG). The interim steering committee has proposed a set of objectives that aim to provide the vision for the Australasian section and has established a timetable for its launch at the SCB meeting in 2002.

For voting purposes each SCB member can choose only one section in which to vote. This

would not necessarily be the one in which they reside e.g. a Swede working in Australia can be a member of the Australasian/South Pacific section or a New Zealander working in France could be part of the European section.

### Objectives (DRAFT)

- to promote and communicate excellent conservation biology science and practice throughout Australasian/South Pacific;
- to serve as a regional contact network between conservation biologists, conservation agencies and conservation NGOs;
- to encourage interdisciplinary approaches to conservation issues in Australasian/South Pacific;
- to advocate the inclusion of science into Australasian/South Pacific biodiversity policy, decision-making and management; and,
- to contribute to the international activities of SCB.

### Timetable

#### *Immediate action*

Non-members of SCB will first need to join the Society under one of the available options that offer the benefit either of the scientific journal *Conservation Biology*, or the practitioners' journal *Conservation Biology in Practice*. Reduced rates of membership are offered to students and to people coming from the World Bank's list of low and middle income countries. For details of how to join SCB, see: <http://conbio.net/SCB/Information/Membership/>

When completing the membership form, potential members are asked to indicate to the SCB office whether they wish to join the Australasian/South Pacific section. Existing SCB members can also indicate their section preference when renewing their membership. Existing and new members will be pleased to note that no extra membership dues will arise for becoming a voting member of the Australasian/South Pacific section.

#### *Early 2002*

Nominations will be sought to form a committee of the Australasian/South Pacific section, with elections to the committee then being held among voting members of the proposed Australasian/South Pacific section. The interim steering committee has proposed that the section should be established initially with a committee of eight voting members, with no more than six representatives from Australia and New Zealand.

#### *Mid 2002*

The committee then develops a constitution and elects its officers.

#### *Late 2002*

The Australasian/South Pacific section will then be launched at either the Annual SCB Meeting in Canterbury, U.K. and/or the combined Australian and New Zealand Ecological Societies meeting in Cairns. The officers and committee of the Australasian/South Pacific section will solicit members' ideas and wishes for a developing an ongoing programme of activities throughout the region.

The details of SCB and the annual meetings can be found at: <http://conbio.net/scb/>

The interim steering committee looks forward to your active participation in establishing a flourishing programme of activities for the Australasian section and your contribution to the international affairs of the SCB. Those people interested in the possibility of joining the Australasian/South Pacific section of SCB, but not yet prepared to commit, are encouraged to attend the Annual SCB Meeting as non-members and see for themselves the potential both of the SCB and its Australasian/South Pacific section, or come to the launch of the section at the combined ecological societies meeting in Cairns.

For further information contact John Craig ([j.craig@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.craig@auckland.ac.nz)) or David Norton ([d.norton@fore.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:d.norton@fore.canterbury.ac.nz)).

## PERSPECTIVES ON THE JOURNAL, RESPONSE TO GÁBOR LÖVEI

In the December 2001 issue of the Newsletter, the previous Editor of the *New Zealand Journal of Ecology* (NZJE), Gábor Lövei, makes a number of interesting points in response to my article published in the May 2001 newsletter about the future of NZJE. While I appreciate the candor of his comments and welcome a spectrum of points of view on this issue, what is less helpful is his misquotation of several points made in my own article. This serves to unfairly misrepresent my position on several important issues. Had Lövei more correctly represented my position, then the difference between our respective points of views on this issue would appear much smaller than is the impression given in his response.

It is unfortunate that Lövei places the phrase "no need to consider change, continue to send us manuscripts and cite NZJE wherever possible" within quotation marks in relation to my article, because this gives the incorrect impression that this is a direct quotation from my article. Nowhere did I claim that there is no need to consider change; indeed the journal has implemented several changes and will continue to do so as the need arises. It is also unfair

for Lövei to imply that I offer these “simplistic” suggestions as the sole advice for maintaining the journal; this advice was targeted at the readership of this newsletter, most of whom are not in a position to influence international subscription rates but can help the journal in other ways. Further, the second paragraph of Lövei’s response contains quotations from my article which are presented entirely out of context; the “more critical evaluation” which he believes is needed, and the main points which he believes need to be considered in such an evaluation, are actually already stated explicitly in my article. Also, I do not explicitly claim that the decision by Blackwell’s to change the name of the *Australian Journal of Ecology* to *Austral Ecology* was specifically aimed at our journal, at least in the manner claimed by Lövei. Nor do I brand “all” non-primary journals as ones that “have minimal impact”.

Finally, Lövei claims that splitting the Editor’s job into two (Scientific Editor, and Technical Editor) will make the journal more costly to produce. This claim is not correct; the editorial staff of the journal all kindly provide their services to the journal entirely free of charge.

David Wardle  
Scientific Editor, NZJE  
[WardleD@landcare.cri.nz](mailto:WardleD@landcare.cri.nz)

## DO WE NEED ACREDITATION FOR ECOLOGISTS?

*Editor’s note: The following letter was sent to NZES council for comment. It raises again the question of whether the society should consider establishing a certification procedure for ecologists. This nut has been kicking around the society for a few years now and somehow never gets beyond the possibility stage—perhaps it is time to get serious.*

Dear Sir,

In light of the recent influx in vegetation clearance resource consent applications in the Buller District, here at the Buller District Council we are now requiring ecologist reports to be carried out on those applications that are deemed to be controlled or discretionary activities under our operative plan.

It is important from a legal perspective that those who carry out these assessments have the credibility to do so, so here at the planning department we are trying to determine who can be called an expert ecologist.

I am seeking advise from various sources to help in this determination process and would appreciate your opinion on who or what an ecologist is. The end result of this consultation will be the formulation of criteria for the purpose of assessing people who wish to be on our list of experts. This

list will then be given to the applicant to choose who will produce their ecological assessment.

I would appreciate your response, with your definition of who or at what stage someone may be deemed to be called an expert ecologist.

A suggestion discussed by council, was to consider how other societies were proceeding with certification. The Ecological Society of America (ESA) has been accrediting ecologists for some years now. The procedure is outlined at their website: <http://esa.sdsc.edu/certguide.htm> and reproduced below. The system seems quite simple though assumes that to qualify, everyone must start with a degree which contains at least some ecology. The different levels are attained by higher degrees Or by work experience. If NZES was to adopt a similar system of certification by a panel, would we want to allow people without an appropriate degree? There are some field ecologists who have no tertiary training. Should there be a way of certifying them?

Meanwhile, several people from Lincoln University, have contacted NZES outlining an intention of working “towards the establishment of an organization of environmental (management) professionals in New Zealand”. They state that

- There are environmental professionals who do not professionally identify with any of the existing professional organisations (institutes and associations);
- Although existing organisations often open their membership doors to a broad range of environmental professionals, they appear to cater more specifically for the interests and needs of particular groups of professionals (often as reflected in the name of the organisation);
- There is, at present, no organisation that specifically aims to provide a ‘home’ to those whose interest and expertise lies in resource/environmental management as a ‘transdisciplinary’ activity;
- There is reason for concern about the professional practices of some environmental management “professionals” who operate in the vacuum created by the absence of a professional body.

Perhaps this is talking about something separate but perhaps not. NZES is going to need to decide what it wants to do in this area soon—let’s hear your views.

### **The Ecological Society of America Certification Program Guidelines and Requirements**

#### *Defining a Standard*

Since the 1960s, ecologists have been actively involved in setting environmental policy and influencing decision-making in our society. Private environmental companies, public environmental and natural resource agencies, and applied re-



search laboratories offer major employment opportunities for ecologists. Academic ecologists not only teach the students who often fill those positions but also often provide teaching or testimony on ecological matters.

The professional certification program of the Ecological Society of America, begun in 1981, recognizes ecologists who seek to incorporate ecological principles in decision-making, who meet a minimum set of standards in education and experience, and who adhere to high ethical standards. Every year since then, it has become clearer that a formal identification of minimum standards for ecologists is needed and that society needs, welcomes, and now recognizes the ESA Certification Program as a means of identifying well-trained, competent, and reliable professionals. Certification is now recognized and used in Minnesota as a requirement for those carrying out wetland delineations in the state. Several major consulting firms strongly encourage their ecologists to seek certification as a means of professional development and promotion. Formal certification has been important for many ecologists involved in expert witness testimony in courts and in Congress. The most important reasons for supporting certification of ecologists is simple - certification will define the standards and formally identify the profession.

#### *Goal and Function*

The goal of certification is to foster the incorporation of ecological principles in the decision-making process of the Society. To meet this goal, the Ecological Society of America recognizes individuals whose education, training, and experience meet the established standards of the Society.

The ESA certification program provides ready access to professional ecologists for advice and technical guidance on public policy and regulatory issues facing society.

Though certification does not guarantee the competence of individuals to address specific matters, the Society attests that certified members have met minimum education and experience requirement for various certification levels. Each certified member also acknowledges adherence to the ESA Code of Ethics.

#### *Objectives*

1. To serve the needs of ecologists who wish to establish and validate their professional credentials.
2. To guide biologists, government agencies, courts, and the public in defining minimum standards of education and experience for professional ecologists, and to encourage all practicing ecologists to meet such standards.

3. To create and maintain public confidence in the advice and opinions of Certified Ecologists as well as educated and experienced professionals who have pledged to uphold the Code of Ethics of the Ecological Society of America and to act in the best interest of the public.
4. To assist the public in identifying ecologists by establishing a procedure for critical peer evaluation based upon defined minimum education, experience, and ethical requirements.

#### *Requirements for Eligibility*

Candidates must hold a bachelor's degree which includes the equivalent of at least 30 semester hours of biological science with at least 9 semester hours of ecology, and at least 12 semester hours of physical and mathematical science. Undergraduate requirements may be met in graduate programs but should be documented. Graduate degrees must include an introduction to three major areas of ecological inquiry: populations, communities and ecosystems.

#### *Levels of Certification*

##### 1. Associate Ecologist

Successful completion of a bachelor's or higher degree in ecology or a related science from an accredited college or university, and at least one year of post-graduate professional experience gained in the performance of research or development of methods demonstrating technical competence in the current application of ecological principles and/or theory to decision making.

##### 2. Ecologist

- a. Successful completion of a master's or higher degree in ecology or a related science from an accredited college or university, and at least two years of full-time equivalent professional experience after degree, OR
- b. at least 5 years of professional experience in addition to the education requirement for Associate Ecologist.

In addition to experience required for Associate Ecologist, demonstration of ability to perform professional work in ecology such as independent studies, complex data analyses, and formulation and testing of hypotheses must follow completion of the master's degree or the degree level used to qualify for Ecologist's level.

##### 3. Senior Ecologist

- a. Successful completion of a doctoral degree in ecology or a related science from an accredited college or university, and at least five years of professional experience, OR
- b. at least 10 years professional experience in addition to the education requirement for Ecologist.

Additional experience necessary to qualify at this level includes: a) demonstration, in work output, of thorough knowledge of the literature, scientific principles and theories of ecology, b) demonstration of written original contributions or original interpretation of ecological information, and c) demonstration of technical or organizational competence as evidenced by supervision of projects. Experience must follow completion of the degree level used to qualify for Ecologist.

An applicant who does not qualify under the above criteria may submit a statement to the Board of Professional Certification explaining why and how the intent of the education and experience requirements is satisfied.

#### *Ethics and Professional Conduct*

Certified Ecologists shall conduct their activities in accordance with the *Code of Ethics of the Ecological Society of America* and with the highest standards of professional conduct and personal honor. Those who subscribe to the Code of Ethics are eligible for certification, provided they meet minimum education and experience requirements.

#### *Appeals Procedure*

A decision of the Board of Professional Certification to deny certification may be appealed in writing to the ESA Governing Board. Details of the procedure are available upon request.

#### *Disciplinary Procedure*

The Board of Professional Certification, with approval of the Professional Ethics Committee, shall have the authority to censure a certificant, to suspend certification for a stated period, or to revoke certification on the finding that an individual has willfully violated the Code of Ethics or misrepresented the facts at the time of certification. Such a finding may be reached by concluding that an allegation of improper department is true.

Such an allegation may be presented to the Board in writing, by any member of the Ecological Society of America. Anonymous allegations will not be entertained. Anyone named a party to such proceeding shall be informed in a timely manner of the evidence brought forward and be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations. The Board will forward all material to the Professional Ethics Committee. After review of the case by the Committee and the board, the Board will render a written decision informing the certified ecologist, the individual who initiated the allegation, and the Governing Board. Any such action of the Board may be appealed to the Governing Board, whose decision will be final.

#### *Application Procedure*

An Application for Certification may be obtained from the Ecological Society of America, Board of Professional Certification. Applications must be completed in their entirety and should include two letters of recommendation, three references, a current resume and the application fee. All applications must be received by February 1. Certification will be confirmed or denied within three months of the deadline date unless the Board advises the applicant that additional time is needed for review. After five years, all certified ecologists will be asked to apply for recertification. An application for recertification can be obtained by contacting ESA. Recertification at a higher level than previously certified requires the submission of a new Application for Certification.

#### *Application Fees*

	Member	Non-Member
Associate Ecologist	\$75	\$150
Ecologist	\$125	\$250
Senior Ecologist	\$125	\$250

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### **The Soil Quality and Sustainable Land Management Conference, Massey University, Palmerston North**

3-5 April 2002

Organisers: Landcare Research and Crop & Food in association with the New Zealand Association of Resource Management.

Conference sessions will focus on soil quality indicators, soil assessment tools, uptake of research for policy and management, sustainable land management techniques, environmental monitoring systems, and use of the Internet as a communication medium and information source.

A more detailed conference programme and registration form is on <http://www.landcare.cri.nz/conferences/>

For more information, contact Kate Hope, tel (06) 350 6157, ([K.H.Hope@massey.ac.nz](mailto:K.H.Hope@massey.ac.nz))

### **Entomological Society Conference, Otago Museum, Dunedin.**

3-6 April 2002

<http://www.rsnz.govt.nz/clan/ento/conf1.htm>

### **Antarctic Conference 2002, University of Auckland**

23-24 April 2002

<http://www.antarcticanz.govt.nz>

## Workshop on programme MARK, Victoria University, Wellington

1-3 July 2002

Organisers: Shirley Pledger and Richard Barker

Program MARK, developed by Gary White of Colorado State University, has revolutionized mark-recapture analysis in recent years. Using MARK, scientists and managers are able to carry out sophisticated analyses of their MARK recapture data using a powerful model fitting and model selection framework.

The aim of the workshop is to provide quantitative biologists and statisticians with training in the use of MARK to analyse data. We will also provide some background needed to understand the main analyses performed by Program MARK. The workshop format will be a mix of lectures and computer laboratory exercises.

Further details can be obtained from the workshop website: <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/~rbarker/Workshop/>

## Biosecurity Symposium

and

### New Zealand Plant Protection Society 55th Annual Conference and Biosecurity Symposium, Centra Hotel, Rotorua

12-15 August 2002

<http://www.hortnet.co.nz/publications/nzpps/conferen.htm>

### New Zealand Ecological Society & Australian Ecological Society Joint meeting, Cairns Convention Centre, Queensland

2-6 December 2002

See page 2 for details.

### Workshop on Matrix Population Models, Centre for Applications of Statistics and Mathematics, University of Otago, Dunedin

4-6 December 2002

and

### SEEM4. Fourth Conference on Statistics in Ecology and Environmental Monitoring - Population Dynamics: The Interface Between Models and Data, Centre for Applications of Statistics and Mathematics, University of Otago, Dunedin

9-13 December, 2002

Web page: <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/SEEM4/>

Email enquiries: [igoodwin@maths.otago.ac.nz](mailto:igoodwin@maths.otago.ac.nz)

The purpose of the conference is to bring together ecologists, statisticians, fisheries scientists and modellers in order to discuss common issues in

the modelling of population dynamics. Our hope is that ecologists and other scientists can benefit from insight that statisticians can provide on the latest techniques in parameter estimation, and that statisticians can better understand the needs of ecologists by becoming familiar with the types of population dynamics models that are currently being used.

#### Invited Speakers

Three leading researchers in this area have agreed to give invited talks, and to lead an end-of-conference forum:

- Hal Caswell (Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, USA)
- Jean-Dominique Lebreton (Head of the Department of Population Biology, Centre for Functional and Evolutionary Ecology, CNRS, Montpellier, France)
- Byron Morgan (Professor of Applied Statistics, University of Kent, UK)

Hal Caswell is well known for his work on population matrix models, and a second edition of his landmark book, *Matrix Population Models: Construction, Analysis, and Interpretation*, has recently been published by Sinauer Associates, Massachusetts, USA. (<http://science.who.edu/labs/mathecology/hcaswell/>)

Jean-Dominique Lebreton is famous for his work on both mark-recapture methods and population dynamics. He brings a breadth of knowledge to the conference that is rare, in that he is an experienced practitioner in both biometry and population modelling. (<http://www.cefe.cnrs-mop.fr/wwwbiom/permanents/biom-lebreton.htm>)

Byron Morgan is an internationally renowned applied statistician. Recently his interest in statistical ecology has led him and his co-workers to develop new statistical methodology for evaluating animal population dynamics, which he will present at the conference. (<http://www.ukc.ac.uk/ims/statistics/people/B.J.T.Morgan/web.html>)

#### Pre-Conference Workshop

Hal Caswell and Jean-Dominique Lebreton have kindly agreed to run a 2.5-day workshop on matrix population models prior to the conference (4-6 December). The number of participants will be restricted to 20. The workshop is aimed primarily at quantitative ecologists and population biologists, either in fundamental or applied research. The material presented is of interest both in animal and plant population dynamics, and useful both for research and management aspects. At the end of the workshop, participants should be able to build and run basic matrix models using available software, to address questions on population dynamics using such models, and to have a clear view of the generaliza-

tions that are available and relevant to their research.

Participants are expected to have a general interest in quantitative approaches, familiarity with basic mechanisms in population dynamics (life cycle, fecundity and mortality/survival processes), knowledge of basic calculus and matrix algebra, and some acquaintance with general statistical procedures, in particular generalized linear models.

The workshop content will be a balance between modelling approaches per se and estimation procedures/models use in practice, and will include the following topics: Matrix model formulation; From life cycle to matrix; Linear and nonlinear models; Deterministic and stochastic models; Linear models (transient analysis, asymptotic analysis, eigenvalues, eigenvectors); Sensitivity analysis; Matrix models for classical life tables; Estimation from transition frequency data; Stochastic models; Density-dependent models; Estimation from mark-recapture and other kinds of individual history data.

#### **Southern Connections IV**

*No longer being held in Bariloche, Argentina in January 2003. Shifted to South Africa in 2004.*

More details to be posted in future newsletters when they come to hand.

#### **3rd International Wildlife Management Congress, University of Canterbury, Christchurch**

*1-5 December 2003*

Organisers: The Wildlife Society (USA), Landcare Research (New Zealand), Australasian Wildlife Management Society, Ngai Tahu, and the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

Website: [www.conference.canterbury.nz/wildlife2003](http://www.conference.canterbury.nz/wildlife2003)

*Call for symposium and workshop proposals (Deadline 31 May 2002)*

Proposals for symposia and workshops are invited for the 3rd International Wildlife Management Congress. Symposia and workshops should be technical in nature and focus on topics of wildlife science, management, education, or policy within the broad theme of "Ki te raki ki te tonga – Ki uta ki tai ("from the north to the south – from mountains to sea"). A more detailed list of possible topic areas can be found at the above website.

**Symposia** comprise a series of presentations that address aspects of a single topic. Symposia usually are a half day; however, requests for a full day may be considered depending upon the available space.

**Workshops** provide training on a specific skill, technique, or process and may involve one or more instructors. They are intended to emphasize learning

through participation, discussion, and "hands-on" activities. For this reason, workshop organizers must specify an upper limit on attendance. A lower limit also is required if a special registration fee is charged. Workshops may request a half or full day.

Workshops may charge a special registration fee upon approval of Congress organizers. Fees typically are to cover the expense of workbooks, materials, special equipment, and instructors from outside of the wildlife profession. Workshop organizers who are requesting a special registration fee must submit a budget with a detailed estimate of expenses, projected income from outside sponsors, and a proposed registration fee. The Congress organizers will add a handling fee onto the proposed registration fee.

#### *Session Scheduling*

Symposia and workshops are scheduled to run concurrently with contributed paper and poster sessions.

#### *Responsibilities of Session Organizer*

Organizers are responsible for coordinating with the Program Committee Chairs, planning their sessions, selecting instructors or presenters, soliciting abstracts from all presenters (symposia only), collating and submitting abstracts to the Program Committee Chairs, communicating with all instructors or presenters, moderating their sessions, and meeting all deadlines. Guidelines for preparing and submitting abstracts will be provided at the time of proposal acceptance. Final session agenda and abstracts will be due by 28 February 2003.

Please note that the Congress does not pay registration fees, travel expenses, or honoraria for symposium or workshop organizers or presenters. Organizers may seek outside sponsors for these expenses, if necessary. A limited number of travel grants are expected to be available for developing-country and indigenous professionals.

#### *Proposal Requirements*

All proposals must include a *cover page* with the following information: (1) session type (symposium or workshop), (2) preferred session length (half or full day), (3) session title (nine words maximum), (4) organizer(s) name, affiliation, city, state/province (if applicable), country, (5) sponsor(s) (institution/group sponsoring the session, if any), and (6) contact information for the person responsible for the session (name, address, telephone, fax, and e-mail). The *body of the proposal* should begin on a new page and should include: (7) a statement of purpose and (8) a detailed description of the session including a list of proposed topics and speakers. The body of the proposal may not exceed four pages.

Workshop proposals must include the following additional information on the *cover page*: (9) workshop registration fee, if needed, (10) minimum attendance (required only if a workshop registration fee is to be charged), and (11) maximum attendance (required for all workshops). Workshops that propose to charge a registration fee must attach: (12) a budget.

#### *Proposal Submission*

E-mail a Word (preferred) or RTF (Rich Text Format) file of the proposal by 31 May 2002 to [wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz).

Subject line: The e-mail subject line should read: 3IWMC Symposium (or Workshop) Proposal.

Attachment: The email attachment should be named as per the following example: 3IWMC workshop (or symposium) proposal (author's name).doc(or RTF).

Hard copy: Also, please forward one hard copy to: 3rd International Wildlife Management Congress, Conference Office, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand or fax +64 3 364 2057.

Proposals received after the deadline date will be considered only if space is available. A notice of receipt will be sent by email. If you do not receive notification of receipt within 7 days or have any questions about proposal submission, please contact the Conference Office on +64 3 364 2915 or [wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz).

#### *Proposal Evaluation and Notice of Decision*

Proposals will be judged on timeliness of the subject, importance to the profession and/or contribution to science, and the overall quality of the written proposal. Applicants will be notified whether their proposals have been accepted or not by 31 July 2002.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

### **PhD Scholarship/Post-Doctoral Fellowship: Weed Ecology**

The Hellaby Indigenous Grasslands Research Trust calls for expressions of interest in a three-year PhD or a two-year Post-doctoral research programme into the invasion ecology of the tussock hawkweed, *Hieracium lepidulum*. The project is aimed at understanding the ecological impacts of the relatively recent explosion of this exotic species in a wide range of indigenous plant communities and habitats, including montane-subalpine beech forests, shrublands, tussock grasslands and high-alpine communities, particularly in the mid- to high-rainfall regions of Canterbury and Otago, South Island, New Zealand.

The species appears to represent a very serious threat to the integrity and conservation values of a wide range of indigenous ecosystems, and the productivity of tussock land ecosystems, particularly at higher elevations.

The study should aim to trace the spread of the species in the South Island through historical records. It should also describe the reproductive biology and ecological aspects of competition and soil nutrient interaction with a series of indigenous species throughout representative sectors of its geographic and altitudinal ranges, in relation to its historical pattern of spread. The study should aim at recommendations for effective control of the species.

A budget should be submitted with the application, together with a comprehensive CV of the candidate. Overseas candidates will be considered.

Applications, including a two-page research outline, from both the candidate and host institution, should be lodged with the Chairman of the Board of Governors, by 31 March, 2002. Inquiries may be made from the Research Advisor, Dr Katharine Dickinson ([kath.dickinson@botany.otago.ac.nz](mailto:kath.dickinson@botany.otago.ac.nz)), Botany Department, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin or the Chair of the Trust's Board of Governors, Professor Alan Mark ([amark@otago.ac.nz](mailto:amark@otago.ac.nz)) at the same address.

## NEWS FROM COUNCIL

*Editor's Note (Edited and abridged minutes)*

### **Minutes of NZ Ecological Society Council meeting, Friday 15 February 2002, University of Canterbury, Christchurch**

*Journal editor's report*

David reported that 27/1 is with the printers, and 4 manuscripts have been accepted for 27/2. He has requested Peter Bellingham to join Ed Board to cope with the increasing number of plant ecology articles, this was supported.

Sticker for inclusion in 27/1 about pagination of volume 26 will cost \$120.

*Electronic publishing*

*(Editor's Note: comments from members are invited)*

Most journals are going electronic (in addition to the print version). What should NZES do for NZJE? If we go ahead where should this be hosted? When would we start? We can probably obtain PDF's for all future issues for a small charge or possibly for free. Back issues may cost more. Single PDF's could then be made available to authors instead of or as well as reprints for authors to publicise their own work. The question of access to complete issues is more problematic.

Could we put entire issues on the web but have member-only access to the most recent X years? Most of our income is membership and journal subs so we need to protect these. There is a conflict between maximising readership and impact factors (free access) and maintaining subs. What about institutions? Most of our members are in DOC or a NZ university, if they get good access to electronic files why would they also pay a membership? Could we shift more to page charges to pay for it? Total cost would be about \$1500 per paper if it was all charged that way. Would libraries pay more if we add the PDFs as an extra service for the price? Probably yes. Would we have to have an electronic-only version? This could greatly increase web costs.

A possible strategy may be that libraries get hard and electronic copies (including all back issues thru web site with password), members get hard copy only, authors get PDFs, and back issues sold on CD. Could be a great incentive to libraries taking up the subs if we can offer them web access to all the back issues instantly.

David Wardle agreed to draft a discussion document to consider these issues.

The journal cover and redesign was discussed previously but it was agreed that for the moment, the cover redesign would not be pursued.

Dave thanked David W for his sterling efforts on the journal keeping it to time and so forth.

#### *Kauri fund*

We now have a draft trust deed. Council will discuss the details and move towards producing a proposal for members in the next couple of months.

#### *Membership status*

Two new members welcomed: Craig Sixtus, Unwaged; KG Munro, Full. Six members resigned: three full, and three unwaged.

Four new subscribers: University of Georgia, Athens, USA; Department of Conservation, Invercargill, NZ; Duke University, Durham, Nth Carolina; Swets Blackwell (agent), Melbourne, Australia.

Paid up members 554 of 597; paid up subscribers 97 of 115; complimentary subscribers 18.

#### *Treasurer report*

Secretariat rate has gone up by 7.7% (inflation rate since approx 1994), so up \$1364 a year (plus GST) to \$8165 a year.

Last year's accounts: Ben now has all the information. Income was good last year: over \$2000 in interest, conference profit seems to be more like \$8400 excl. GST, which is good. So surplus for 2001 must be fairly good. The accounts must be audited one month before the December AGM in Cairns.

Draft budget for 2002 presented. On a conservative summary, we are looking at a loss of perhaps \$9500. Main problems are the lack of a conference profit, secretariat going up, and allocating \$4444 plus GST to Tuitime which we hope to get back from a grant. Also the website costs could be much higher than the budgeted \$444. This is not ideal but NZES reserves were probably up to around \$50K by December 2001 so we can survive this.

#### *Education: Tui-time*

Heurisko are doing the work, have a signed contract and good progress, keeping to specific deadlines. There is a draft version of the Flash game and NZES has agreed to float \$5K for the Java games as well (hopefully to be recovered on a grant). Members can expect to see a release before winter.

## ECOLSOC E-MAIL LIST SERVER AND WEB PAGE

### **Ecolsoc E-mail**

To subscribe to this server, send a message to the automatic Mailserv processor at:

[nzecosoc-request@its.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:nzecosoc-request@its.canterbury.ac.nz)

The recommended way to subscribe is to send a message with two lines:

SUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC  
END

The command line to stop receiving mail from this list is:

UNSUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC

Once subscribed, you will receive instructions on how to send messages, unsubscribe etc.

**PLEASE KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND FOLLOW THEM.**

To send a message to anybody on the list, even if you are not a subscriber, use the address:

[nzecosoc@its.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:nzecosoc@its.canterbury.ac.nz)

To reply you have two options. You can either hit reply and this will reply to **everybody**, or you can reply to the author only (e.g., a new e-mail with the author's personal e-mail address).

For information on the listserv contact the newsletter editor ([A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz)) or me at [d.kelly@botn.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:d.kelly@botn.canterbury.ac.nz). For information on the Australian listserv contact Dave Kelly.

### **Web page**

To obtain additional details contact the NZ Ecological Society website: <http://www.nzes.org.nz>. This site has membership details, information on awards and prizes, information on submitting papers to the journal and links to overseas ecological organisations.

## Office Holders of the New Zealand Ecological Society 2001/2002

In the first instance, please send postal or email correspondence to:

### **Sue Sheppard & Angela Wilkinson**

*Secretarial Assistants*

PO Box 25 178  
Christchurch  
Phone/fax: 03-384-2432  
E-mail: [sheppars@ihug.co.nz](mailto:sheppars@ihug.co.nz)

### **Janet Wilmshurst**

*President*

Landcare Research  
PO Box 69  
Lincoln 8152  
Phone: 03-325-6700  
Fax: 03-325-2418  
E-mail: [WilmshurstJ@landcare.cri.nz](mailto:WilmshurstJ@landcare.cri.nz)

### **Mark Sanders**

*Vice President*

Dept. of Conservation  
Private Bag, Twizel  
Phone: 03-435-0457  
Fax: 03-435-0852  
E-mail: [msanders@doc.govt.nz](mailto:msanders@doc.govt.nz)

### **Carol J West**

*Immediate Past President*

Dept. of Conservation  
PO Box 743  
Invercargill  
Phone: 03-214-7532 (direct)  
Fax: 03-214-4486  
E-mail: [cwest@doc.govt.nz](mailto:cwest@doc.govt.nz)

### **Dave Kelly**

*Secretary*

Plant and Microbial Sciences  
University of Canterbury  
Private Bag 4800  
Christchurch  
Phone: 03-364-2782  
Fax: 03-364-2083  
E-mail: [d.kelly@botn.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:d.kelly@botn.canterbury.ac.nz)

### **Ben Reddiex**

*Treasurer*

Ecology and Entomology Group  
PO Box 84  
Lincoln University  
Phone: 03-325-3838 extn 8386  
Fax: 03-325-3844  
E-mail: [reddieb@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:reddieb@lincoln.ac.nz)

### **Bruce Burns**

*Councillor*

Landcare Research  
Private Bag 3127  
Hamilton  
Phone: 07-858-3728  
Fax: 07-858-4964  
E-mail: [burnsb@landcare.cri.nz](mailto:burnsb@landcare.cri.nz)

### **Susan Wisser**

*Councillor*

Landcare Research  
Private Bag 69, Lincoln  
Phone: 03-325-6700  
Fax: 03-325-2418  
E-mail: [wisers@landcare.cri.nz](mailto:wisers@landcare.cri.nz)

### **Dianne Brunton**

*Councillor*

Ecology lab  
School of Biological Sciences  
Private Bag  
University of Auckland  
Phone: 09-373-7599 extn 7203  
Fax: 09-373-7417  
E-mail: [d.brunton@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.brunton@auckland.ac.nz)

### **Richard Duncan**

*Councillor*

Ecology and Entomology Group  
PO Box 84  
Lincoln University  
Phone: 03-325-2811 extn 8969  
Fax: 03-325-3844  
E-mail: [duncanr@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:duncanr@lincoln.ac.nz)

### **David Wardle**

*Journal Editor*

Landcare Research  
PO Box 69, Lincoln  
Phone: 03-325-6700  
Fax: 03-325-2418  
E-mail: [WardleD@Landcare.cri.nz](mailto:WardleD@Landcare.cri.nz)

### **Jenny Steven**

*Technical Journal Editor*

FRST  
PO Box 12-240, Wellington  
Phone: 04-917-7837  
Fax: 04-562-8841  
E-mail: [jenny.steven@frst.govt.nz](mailto:jenny.steven@frst.govt.nz)

### **Alastair Robertson**

*Newsletter Editor*

Ecology,  
Institute of Natural Resources  
Private Bag 11222  
Massey University  
Phone: 06-350-5799 extn 7965  
Fax: 06-350-5623  
E-mail: [A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz)

### **Position vacant**

*Webpage Editor*

### **Katharine Dickinson**

*Aust Ecol Soc rep*

Botany Dept  
University of Otago  
PO Box 56  
Dunedin  
Phone: 03-479-9059  
Fax: 03-479-7583  
E-mail:  
[kath.dickinson@botany.otago.ac.nz](mailto:kath.dickinson@botany.otago.ac.nz)

This Newsletter was produced by Alastair Robertson and Jeremy Rolfe.

Contributions for the newsletter – news, views, letters, cartoons, etc. – are welcomed. If possible, please send articles for the newsletter both on disk and in hard copy. 3.5" disks are preferred; MS Word, Word Perfect or ASCII file text, formatted for Macintosh or MS-DOS. Please do not use complex formatting; capital letters, italics, bold, and hard returns only, no spacing between paragraphs. Send disk and hard copy to:

*Alastair Robertson  
Ecology, Institute of Natural Resources  
Private Bag 11222  
Massey University*

*Ph: 06-350-5799 extn 7965  
Fax: 06-350-5623  
E-mail: [A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:A.W.Robertson@massey.ac.nz)*

**Next deadline for the newsletter is 15 May 2002.**

*Unless indicated otherwise, the views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Ecological Society or its Council.*

**This issue is printed on 100% recycled paper**

