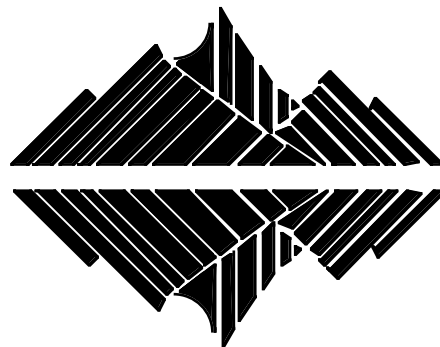


Ecological Society

Newsletter



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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2002?

Currently we have a long list of people (more than 100 members) who have not paid for subscriptions for this year—this amounts to around \$4700 and is a significant financial risk for the society. We may try to attach a reminder to those people with this newsletter. If you know you haven't paid, do so promptly, the second issue of *NZJE* is due to be sent out shortly, unpaid members probably won't get theirs!

FROM THE EDITOR

With the conference moving over the Tasman this year, I have been thinking about Trans-Tasman relationships. As kiwis, we are very familiar with the rivalry that exists between our two countries—think Bledisloe Cup, the netball, the cricket... Then there are the stolen kiwi identities—Russell Crowe, Crowded House, I even heard Ed Hillary mentioned once as being Australian. As biologists we are above that sort of thing, of course. But then there are the claims that all of New Zealand's existing (and by implication all the fauna too) has been derived from long-distance dispersal from places like Australia in the Tertiary, having replaced the previous biota which is all supposed by some Australian botanists to have vanished following the complete submergence of New Zealand in the Oligocene (Pole 1994, MacPhail 1997). In other words, they provided our flora and fauna too. Too much, I hear you say? That can't be right. What about the tuatara, kiwi, and *Nothofagus*? This strikes at the heart of our understanding of New Zealand as a place—“these ancient isles” (with an inferred ancient biota).

Recent molecular studies of several of our large herbaceous plant groups (*Hebe*, *Myosotis*, groups of Asteraceae) do suggest a recent arrival (<5 million years ago) by dispersal from other landmasses (Winkworth et al. 2002). Interestingly, these same studies also suggest a surprising number of movements

out of New Zealand back to Australia. So we do have a large number of recent immigrants. However, there are now some molecular studies that to my relief do confirm the presence of much older, gondwanan elements here. DNA sequences show our Kauri to be basal within *Agathis*, which is found within New Zealand, Australia and the Melanesian islands (Stöckler et al. 2002). Similarly, and spectacularly, sequence data suggest that the New Zealand wrens (*Acanthisitta*) fall at the base of the tree of all of the world's perching birds (passerine) radiation (Edwards and Boles 2002). In other words, it seems almost certain that the ancestors of all kauri and of rifleman, bush wrens and rock wren, (and presumably other groups have been present in New Zealand continuously since the cretaceous, and survived the Oligocene drowning). Of course we knew

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all this didn't we—Charles Fleming summarised the different elements decades ago (Fleming 1975). It's just nice to see it confirmed in the genes!

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 contribution.

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CONFERENCE 2002



<http://www.tesag.jcu.edu.au/ecology2002/>

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.

The conference looks as if it is going to be a lively affair with over 500 registrations, 316 talks, 88 posters at the main conference, and over 100 registrations for the student day on 1 December. Around 40% of total registrations are students and more than 50 NZES members are registered (see note below).

Because of the very large numbers of offered talks, the organisers managed to arrange for four concurrent sessions instead of three to accommodate them all. This

delayed finalising the programme, but is now available in draft form on the website and will be finalised on 8 November. The Society for Conservation Biology is launching its new Australasian section on Tues evening, and Earthwatch is having a workshop aimed at identifying projects that can be conducted out of its new field station on the Atherton tablelands, also on Tuesday evening.

The post-conference excursion is now full but, at the time of writing, there were still a few places left on the mid-week excursions. Places for the dinner were nearly full too.

Importance notice for NZES members attending the conference—we need you to come to the AGM!

Since our AGM will be held at the conference in Cairns and therefore there will be fewer NZES members at the conference than normal, it is very important that those of you that are there attend the AGM on the Tuesday lunchtime. If we don't get the required quorum (around 30 people), we will be in difficulty as our rules require an AGM to be held in each financial year (Jan to Dec), and if we don't get the numbers in Cairns, we will need to somehow arrange a special AGM before Xmas!

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL AND SECRETARY

At the end of this year, NZES will need to find three new councillors and likely a new secretary as well. NZES is now calling for nominations which will be elected at the Cairns AGM (Dianne Brunton has resigned due to ill-health, and Bruce Burns and Susan Wisser have reached the end of their terms—Susan can serve another term but Bruce will have completed four years and must resign or become an officer).

In addition, Dave Kelly has also signalled his desire to stand down as secretary in December after 4 years as secretary and 8 on council, though he may be willing to stand as an ordinary councillor to give some overlap. Candidates for the positions to be nominated by a current member, and seconded by another (this can happen at the AGM if everyone concerned is present, otherwise it will need to be done in writing and sent to Dave Kelly as secretary **before the end of November**). Similarly, if the nominees are not present at the AGM, they will also need to indicate, in writing, their willingness to stand and for which position.

PROFILE OF DAVID WARDLE, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD, 2001 TE TOHU TAI AO – AWARD FOR ECOLOGICAL EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT

Over the last decade David Wardle has achieved international recognition for his experimental and theoretical research on the functional significance of biodiversity for ecosystem processes. He has led the way in developing our understanding of the links between soil and plant ecology in both managed agro-ecosystems and natural habitats. A key theme of his research has been the way in which plant traits, species richness, and functional diversity of above ground components interact via litter quality and decomposition with the soil biota and ecosystem processes associated with nutrient cycling. Over the last five years he has been awarded four Marsden Grants for fundamental research on biodiversity and ecosystem processes. His research is rigorously experimental, often involving field-based manipulations, and spans a range of vegetation types, from Waikato dairy pasture to indigenous forest.

His contribution has been acknowledged through invitations as a key-note speaker at international meetings, contributions to specialist books, receiving the 1999 New Zealand Association of Scientists Research Medal, and his recent appointment to a personal professorial position at the University of Sheffield. He will continue to conduct a significant proportion of his research in New Zealand, as a Research Associate of Landcare Research.

David has a prolific publication record (over 70 scientific papers), comprising book chapters, major papers in international journals, and invited forum articles. He has recently published a book “Communities and Ecosystems: Linking the Aboveground and Belowground Components” part of the Princeton University Press “Monographs in Population Biology” series.

In recent years David has also made an important contribution to the publication of ecological research in New Zealand as editor of the *NZ Journal of Ecology*. Congratulations to David on receiving this prestigious award.

Jacqueline Beggs,
2001 Awards Convenor

David will make a plenary address at the meeting in the Cairns at the opening session of the conference – editor

TUITIME GETS MORE FUNDING

As reported in the last newsletter, the NZES educational website *Tuitime* <http://www.tuitime.org.nz> has been launched. This launch was intended to release the first modules of *Tuitime*. Carol West and the rest of the bdevelopment team (Jacqueline Beggs and Laura Sessions) applied to the *Sustainable Management Fund* run by the Ministry of the Environment to further develop the project. Carol reports the good news that “our application for funds from the *SMF* for *TuiTime* has been approved. We will receive up to a total of \$29,300 over two years. Now for some more hard work!”

WEBSITE

Jon Sullivan continues to do an excellent job on our webpage <http://www.nzes.org.nz/>. The most significant recent change is the implementation of a free search engine for the page. Jon says that “I finally managed to get a free search engine up and running on our website. You can now search the whole site, or just a part of it (e.g., just the *NZJE* webpages, the Hot Science list, or the newsletter). You can also use wild cards and multiple keywords (see search tips on a search results page—I’ve also duplicated the tips on the search page of the *NZJE* webpages). Why free? Because we have to tolerate some advertising on the search results page. As I hope you agree, it is not excessive.”

SUBMISSIONS

Biosecurity

The NZES submission on the public consultation document “Issues Paper—September 2001—Developing a Biosecurity Strategy for New Zealand” put together by Peter Bellingham (Landcare Research, Lincoln) is now on our website <http://www.nzes.org.nz/advocacy.html>. Peter says that he “coordinated this, using relevant input from Landcare Research staff with whom I’d consulted in the FRST Invasive Weeds Programme (e.g. Peter Williams, Lynley Hayes) and also obtained additional input from Mick Clout, Rod Hay and John Parkes”

The developers of the strategy say that “over the past two months there have been extensive comments on the draft from government agencies and an independent advisory group of stakeholders established to advise the Biosecurity Council. This advisory group of 10 members is chaired by Anton Meister of Massey University and includes members from a wide range of sectors and backgrounds”. The advisory group have described the draft strategy to be “an excellent description of the current system and its strengths and

weaknesses but needing more work on strategic options with supporting analysis. The Council has accepted this advice and has established a steering group of Murray Sherwin, Hugh Logan, Warwick Tuck, Bas Walker and Wren Green to oversee this work which is being done by a small working group of policy analysts. Both groups are chaired by the independent Chair of the Council, John Hellstrom. He will oversee the completion of the biosecurity strategy.

“The working group is expected to complete their work by mid-September and Cabinet then has to approve release of the draft strategy for the second round of consultation. This is expected to allow consultation to be completed by the end of March 2003 and the strategy to be published by the end of June.”

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

Things are apparently moving rather slowly here. Our plans to hold a workshop have been put on hold. Bruce Burns, Kath Dickinson, and John Craig are key people from NZES. Members should get in touch with them if they want further information or if they want to get involved.

SIR JOURNALS ARE NOW RSNZ JOURNALS (AND MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE!)

In 2003, the publishing unit of the Royal Society of New Zealand is to be renamed. It will no longer be SIR (which publishes *NZ Journal of Agricultural Research*, *NZ Journal of Botany*, *NZ Journal of Crop & Horticultural Science*, *NZ Journal of Geology & Geophysics*, *New Zealand Journal of Marine & Freshwater Research*, *NZ Journal of Zoology*, *Journal of the Royal Society of NZ*). Instead the unit will be known as “the publishing unit of the Royal Society of NZ (or RSNZ Publishing)”. More importantly, the subscriptions are increasing, and page charges will no longer be waived for current subscribers. Online only access will be charged at a reduced rate compared to the full price.

The table below sets out the new subscriptions compared to 2002 prices. (These figures are from subscription notices sent out with the *New Zealand Journal of Botany* but appear to apply to all RSNZ journals.)

Subscriber type	2002 (full)	2002 (discount)*	2003 (online only)	2003 (print & online)	% increase for print version
NZ & Australian Institution	\$315.00	\$236.25	\$360.00	\$425.00	80%
Individual	\$147.00	\$110.25	\$170.00	\$200.00	81%
Member of RSNZ	\$105.00	\$78.75	\$120.00	\$140.00	78%

* in 2002, subscribers who paid before 31 March received a 25% discount. This is to be discontinued in 2003.

For people who paid ontime and like to get hardcopy in their hands this represents an increase of approximately 80% to all classes of subscribers.

Moreover, RSNZ have announced that “for the last 10 years the journals have had a \$50 page charge. This charge has been waived where the submitting author subscribes to the journal. As from 2003, the option of subscribing to the journals will be removed. The page charge will remain at \$50 per printed page, with a limit of \$500 (equivalent to 10 pages) for any one paper”.

RSNZ claims that “easier and cheaper access to the online journals, for most researchers, should help offset the negative impact of the compulsory charge.”

In comparison, the *NZJE* costs New Zealand Institution subscribers \$120, Waged individuals \$65, Unwaged individuals \$35. Of course, we publish only two issues a year compared to 4 for the RSNZ journals, but *NZJE* still represents exceptional value. Our page charges (which can be waived in cases of poverty), are \$26.50 per page or \$16.50 for the first 10 pages to society members.

Editors comment: I don't understand how online access offsets the extra cost of publishing in the journal. Speaking as an academic, the prospect of paying \$500 to publish one of my student's papers will probably see us sending the paper somewhere else – like the NZJE! With total budgets for masters projects often just a few thousand dollars, finding \$500 to publish a paper is not easy. It seems to me, RSNZ has overlooked that not all of its authors belong to CRI's with big overhead budgets that can pay these charges. I suspect that the outcome of the subscription increases will be a lot of cancelled subscriptions. Assuming my university will pay the \$425 institutional fee for online and print form, what incentive is there for me to subscribe or belong to the RSNZ? It's not going to help with page charges! See also the comments in Mary McEwen's' report on the annual meeting of RSNZ constituent societies.

MEETING OF RSNZ CONSTITUENT ORGANISATIONS, BRANCHES, AND AFFILIATE ORGANISATIONS

Below is an edited version of a report by Mary McEwen who attended the 12 July 2002 meeting of the Constituent Organisations, Branches, and Affiliate Organisations of the Royal Society of New Zealand on behalf of the NZES – editor

Who and what is the Royal Society of New Zealand?

The RSNZ is ‘the independent, informed, trans-disciplinary voice for the sciences and technology in New Zealand’. There are 53 Constituent Organisations (including NZES), together with approx 1100 members and 11 Companions, plus the Royal Society Academy that comprises the 293 Fellows of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

The RSNZ is in the hands of the Society Council which comprises:

- An appointed President (currently Sir Gil Simpson)
- 3 representatives of the Academy (i.e. the Fellows. The Academy also has a President)
- 2 representatives of the RSNZ Branches
- 9 councillors elected by Electoral Colleges, to reflect the number of Society members in various areas (we are represented by an Biological Sciences & Technology councillor)
- Councillors who may be co-opted to cover areas otherwise under-represented.

I commented in a ‘break-out’ discussion group during the meeting that I have never been aware of getting any feedback from the RSNZ Councillor representing the Biological S&Ts, and I think this is an area of weakness in the democratic functioning of the RSNZ.

What are the functions of the RSNZ?

Promoting Public Awareness, Knowledge and Understanding of Science and Technology

In recent years RSNZ has put greater effort into this function, such as their promotion of the visit to NZ by Nobel Laureate, Professor Alan MacDiarmid. A new joint initiative of The British Council, Fulbright New Zealand, Montana Wines and the Royal Society of New Zealand is: ‘Masterclass! Science: Lectures and Seminars which kicked off in August.

Advancing Science and Technology Education

RSNZ seems to be doing a lot in this area. For example

- the Science and Technology Fairs (now sponsored by *Genesis Energy*),
- Fellowships for Science, Mathematics and Technology Teachers (up to 45 teachers a year are released from schools to participate in programmes with industry and research institutions),

- publications in the Alpha and Gamma Series.
- The RSNZ also offers New Zealand S&T Awards for beginning scientists (PhD students) to attend their first international conference.
- The RSNZ has been running courses for scientists in media and presentation skills and has a database of potential speakers on scientific topics.

Providing Expert Advice on Important Public Issues to the Government and the Community

For example to the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification.

Preparing a Code of Professional Standards and Ethics

I understand that the NZ Ecological Society adopted the earlier code prepared by the RSNZ. This code is currently being reviewed and we are all asked to forward comments on the code directly to ceo@rsnz.org. The RSNZ Website is: <http://www.rsnz.org>

Publishing

RSNZ CEO Steve Thompson gave us a rapid rundown on this distressing change in journal pricing, and there was some discussion from the floor, although we did not have the full figures in front of us. Apparently the Government subsidy for SIR Publishing has not been increased for ten years, and at one stage in the discussion Steve Thompson declared that SIR Publishing was bankrupt and something had to be done about the situation. I feel sure there will be more debate about this.

Steve Thompson also indicated that in the next few years there are likely to be major changes in science publication everywhere. The days of journals that you can read comfortably in bed on Saturday morning are probably numbered! I haven’t yet found a comfortably way to balance a laptop on my knee while I sip my tea.

How can we all work together?

In ‘break-out groups’ we looked at a paper that had been prepared following the first meeting of Constituent Organisations (last July) entitled ‘Twenty Ways to Better Business’ [As an aside, I had a geologist staying with me at the time, who seemed to despise the use of the expression ‘business’ to describe science. I wonder how many scientists feel the same way as he does? Unfortunately the world has changed, and our attitudes need to change as well. The business of science in its widest sense has always been of supreme importance to human society; the trouble is that scientists are seen as boffins and it seems that if we want more money for science we have to change the way we are seen by the public—the voters.]

We were asked which four ‘ways’ we thought were most important. There was insufficient time for us to do this task well but some of the ideas that surfaced included:

- the lack of communication between the RSNZ and members of constituent societies – especially lack of feedback from Electoral College representatives;
- the need for better accessibility of constituent organisations to the Royal Society;
- the need for a forum for ‘cross-society learning’, e.g. how do other constituent organisations organise themselves etc.
- Some constituent organisations have trouble justifying membership of RSNZ and want more clarity of the benefits of belonging as constituent organisation.

[In relation to this, I canvassed a number of other orgs at meal breaks and several of them had experienced a similar history of relationship recently with the RSNZ as did NZES – i.e. they had questioned what they were getting for the greatly increased sub paid to RSNZ, and had a somewhat negative attitude to the RSNZ. On the other hand, the Geological Society had taken a different approach and had decided to get all it could for its money. It apparently has a close relationship with RSNZ and uses it to promote earth science meetings etc, possibly more than we do.]

- Encourage interaction between social and natural sciences, especially when society is considering complex issues (e.g. GMO)
- RSNZ could sponsor interdisciplinary conferences – see more later.
- RSNZ to speak on behalf of scientific integrity, e.g. take a stronger role in debating issues of academic freedom against ‘managerialism’ in universities.

Two other ‘break-out groups’ were held—one concerning relationships with RSNZ and the other concerning the proposed joint conferences. No commitments were made by individual societies (eg NZES) but it seemed to be concluded that the RSNZ would go ahead with plans for *annual* joint conferences (seemed far too often to me), probably in December at end of academic year so that post-grad students could present their thesis findings. There would be a theme of fairly general interest and part of the meeting only would concern the theme with invited big name speakers etc, while organisations that had an interest in the theme could arrange to hold their own annual meeting and conference before or after the themed meeting.

We were in our electoral colleges for this discussion, and several groups including ours commented that we already do or have in the past run either combined or back-to-back meetings with affiliated groups. (Apparently when NZES combined with Entomological Soc and/or SYSTANZ the smaller organisations did not feel that enough time was given to their specialities.)

Personally, I would like to see the NZES have a combined meeting with groups in other RSNZ electoral colleges such as the Meteorologists (to talk about the potential effects of climate change for example) or earth scientists, as well as with other biological science groups.

Mary McEwen,
McEwen Associates Limited.

HOT SCIENCE!

Here is the latest instalment of international papers, books and book chapters from New Zealand researchers. Only a small number this time but I know there are a lot more papers out there – we want to have this list as complete as possible for items published internationally after 2000 so don’t be shy – if your paper has not yet been listed let me know about it – the rules for submission are at the end of the listing and are on the website : <http://www.nzes.org.nz/hotscience/rules.html>. The list on the website is now fully searchable and is now easier to navigate around thanks to our wonderful Webmaster. This will make the list, a valuable place to search for New Zealand ecological papers, chapters and books – but will be stronger if it is complete. So, please send your summaries to me. Send them in anytime, I will accumulate them for the next listing.

Lord, A., Waas, J.R., Innes, J., & Whittingham, M.J. 2001. Effects of human approaches to nests of northern NZ dotterels. *Biological Conservation* 98: 233–240.

People and dogs disturbing nesting NZ dotterels potentially decrease their nesting success. Dotterels flushed at greater distances and for longer times when there was a dog with the person, while responses to people walking and running did not differ. The results suggest that disruption would be greatly reduced if dogs were banned within 100m of nesting dotterels. Human access should be prevented within a 50 m radius on busy beaches, and 70 m on remote beaches.

Moles, A. T.; Hodson, D. W.; Webb, C. J. 2000. Do seed size and shape predict persistence in soil in New Zealand? *Oikos* 89: 541–545.

European species with small, rounded seeds have persistent seed banks, but species with larger, elongate or flattened seeds usually lack persistence. This may be because small, rounded seeds are easily incorporated into the soil, and therefore have less exposure to seed predators. We tested whether seed size and shape could predict persistence in soil in 47 species native to New Zealand forests. Species with persistent seeds had significantly smaller seeds than transient-seeded species. However, some species did have large and/or elongate persistent seeds. Perhaps these species can persist because of the low levels of seed predation observed in New Zealand.

Toft, R. J.; Harris, R. J.; Williams, P. A. 2001. Impacts of the weed *Tradescantia fluminensis* on insect communities in fragmented forests in New Zealand. *Biological Conservation* 102: 31–46.

The impact of *Tradescantia* on insect communities, as represented by Malaise-trapped beetles and fungus gnats (Diptera: Mycetophilidae s. l.), was studied at three lowland forest fragments in the southern North Island. The proportion of *Tradescantia* cover within study plots was a poor predictor of species richness for either beetles or fungus gnats, but there was evidence that particular taxa were affected. The richness of beetle and fungus gnat species was correlated with vascular plant richness. As *Tradescantia* is known to prevent regeneration of many native plants, we predict a corresponding decline in invertebrate diversity and fragment complementarity where the weed is established.

Young, J.R.; Kearvell, J.C. 2001. Distinguishing between sexes and species: bill size in orange-fronted and yellow-crowned parakeets, *Cyanoramphus auriceps*. *Emu* 101:137–143, 2001.

Controversy surrounds the taxonomic status of the orange-fronted parakeet (previously known as *Cyanoramphus malherbi*), officially a colour morph of the more common yellow-crowned parakeet, *C. auriceps*. We analyse bill length and bill width measurements from 60 museum specimens of orange-fronted parakeet and 44 museum specimens of yellow-crowned parakeet. Male orange-fronted parakeets have shorter bills than male yellow-crowned parakeets—the difference between sample means is 0.7–0.8 mm. Power calculations show that others have most likely not seen the difference as significant because of small sample sizes. Our analysis illustrates a useful statistical technique for identifying morphological differences between two species where both species are sexually dimorphic but the sex of each individual is uncertain.

PETER WARDLE'S VEGETATION OF NEW ZEALAND RETURNS TO PRINT – ADVERTISEMENT

Originally published in 1991, *Vegetation of New Zealand* by Peter Wardle offers a comprehensive description of that country's unique flora and highly diverse vegetation. The text, supported by over 300 photographs, maps and diagrams, has made an outstanding contribution to the understanding of the biology of these islands. The Blackburn Press has returned the book to print with a new preface by the author.

With its isolation from other lands, its latitudes extending from subtropical to sub-Antarctic, and its long evolutionary history, New Zealand has a vegetation of interest to botanists, foresters, ecologists and conservationists world-wide.

Chapters 1–4 describe the New Zealand environment, flora and fauna; and they discuss the origins, relationships, life forms and reproductive aspects of the indigenous vegetation. Chapter 5 is a synopsis of vegetation types, habitat classes and environmental processes; it serves also to define the terms in which these are described in the book. Chapter

6 contains an outline of the geographic divisions of the country. Chapters 7–9 offer expanded descriptions of plant communities, preceded where appropriate by information on their structure and characteristic species and genera. The concluding chapters discuss ecological functions and processes.

Vegetation of New Zealand is an essential book for botanists, ecologists, conservationists and many others who love New Zealand's plants, animals and landscapes.

Vegetation of New Zealand by Peter Wardle, ISBN 1-903665-58-X, Hardcover, 682 pages, US \$89.95

Andrea Herbert, The Blackburn Press, Caldwell, New Jersey. <http://www.BlackburnPress.com>

ANNUAL REPORTS 2001

President's report

It has been a great year for the New Zealand Ecological Society. Membership has continued to grow; as of the end of December 2001, we had an impressive 602 members, 559 who were paid up. The 50th Jubilee conference in Christchurch during August 2001 was a resounding success; it attracted about 225 attendees who celebrated half a century of New Zealand ecology and ecologists, delivered the usual high standard of cutting edge presentations, and made a \$9,500 profit.

The society's membership and attendance at the annual conference both directly contribute to the successful and continued publication of the society's own *New Zealand Journal of Ecology (NZJE)*. Our journal just gets better and better as quality manuscripts continue to be published. Over the last few years, the editor and Council have resisted the strong temptation to hand over the journal's reigns to a large international publisher and decided to continue being an independent publisher. While the former potentially promised to increase the journal's distribution and recognition, it would have come at a cost of reduced editorial control, content, and vastly increased journal subscription rates, particularly for libraries. All this, at a time when libraries are honing down their journal subscriptions, seemed risky for a relatively small journal. Our decision to remain independent, so far at least, has turned out to have been a good one, particularly when we remember our readership and focus is New Zealand ecology. The latest results given to us by the editor show the *NZJE* now has a higher Journal Science Citation Factor (1.404) than many internationally respected journals. Given the *NZJE* is one of the most important outputs of the NZES, I would personally like to thank all those who voluntarily spend untold hours behind the scenes of the journal i.e., the editor (David Wardle), technical editor (Jenny Steven) and all those on the editorial board whose combined efforts all contribute to its

ongoing success and improvement. In a climate when everyone is increasingly busy, this level of personal commitment to the publication of the *NZJE* is totally admirable and one for which we, as members and readers, should remain grateful. The next exciting and inevitable step underway for the *NZJE* (while continuing to publish the paper copy) is electronic publication of the journal on the society's web pages. In addition, there are plans afoot for all the back issues to be scanned in making the entire published works of the journal available, providing a valuable and readily accessible resource. Watch this space.

Keeping on with the electronic theme, the newsletter is now available on the NZES WebPages, and as always, we encourage you to submit items of interest to this. Issues will continue to be stored on the web pages for your convenience. If you haven't already visited the new and vastly improved NZES web pages, please do so at this address: www.nzes.org.nz; you will be impressed. Jon Sullivan has kindly volunteered his skills and time as our web designer, and has brought our website into the 21st Century. We hope as the site continues to develop, and eventually contains the entire published pages of the *NZJE*, that it will soon become a natural focus for New Zealand Ecology. At present, you can find out about what submissions have been made by the society, annual conference details, what other ecological meetings are scheduled, and scroll through a growing database of articles and chapters about New Zealand ecology published offshore in journals and books which may not be so readily available as local publications. This will be great when you are writing your next paper too – instant access to an ecology reference database. You can also join the society (handy when you want to recommend this to a friend or colleague), join the list server, and advertise ecological job vacancies.

For those of you who have not checked out the WebPages recently, you will also find the fruits of another labour called *TuiTime*. Carol West, Jacqueline Beggs and Laura Sessions, supported by a grant from the Royal Society of NZ, have put in a huge effort to create an online educational programme that supports science and Te Reo Maori levels 2–4. The interactive game is designed to provide children with a fun way of exploring ecology through the day in the life of a tui called Tiaku. It covers concepts such as feeding, breeding, competition, predation, introduced pests, and decomposition and is proving to be a real success.

This year, the NZES has launched the Kauri Fund for Ecological Science. It presently contains \$3560 (ex. GST), which once the trust deed is officially drawn up, will be used to support small ecological projects. Thanks to Bruce Burns for pushing this concept ahead with the support of Council, and making it a reality. We

hope to see the Kauri Fund grow in the future, as donations and covenants start to flow in.

This year, the annual conference of the NZES will be held jointly with the Australian Ecological Society in Cairns. You can find out all about it on the NZES WebPages, and electronic registration makes signing up and arranging accommodation too easy. The last (and first) joint conference with the Australian Ecological Society in Dunedin proved to be a real success. No doubt, this was because many Australian ecologists turned up to support it. Although Cairns will be a hot and steamy place in December, it promises to be a great conference, and an opportunity to catch up and exchange scientific ideas with our Australian counterparts. I encourage as many of you New Zealand ecologists to attend the conference in Cairns, and to reciprocate the efforts made by the Australian ecologists when they came to Dunedin. This is THE conference for Southern Hemisphere ecology!

Janet Wilmshurst
President

Treasurer's report

Shown below are the unaudited statements of financial performance and financial position for the New Zealand Ecological Society for the 12 month financial year ended 31 December 2001 (values in this report are GST exclusive). The audited accounts (with any changes necessary) will be available at the AGM.

Financial performance

The Society made a profit of \$12,881 in the 12 months ended 31 December 2001. The large profit was due to a healthy conference profit from Christchurch (which made up over 70% of the overall Society profit), and useful increases in income from interest and members subscriptions. Expenditure was significantly higher than the previous financial year, which was partially anticipated, as the previous financial year was only a 9-month period. Journal production costs increased c\$3,000 from the previous year due to increased printing and postage costs.

Financial position

The level of cash reserves at 31 December 2001 was up from the previous year to \$55,877, which is substantially above the desired minimum level of reserves agreed to at the 1999 AGM at Blenheim (i.e., one years expenditure which is approximately \$44,000). However, the 2002 financial year may yield a loss as the Society will not obtain any revenue from the 2002 Conference in Cairns. Conference profits usually provide the bulk of the Society's annual profit. Also, the success of funding applications to cover expenditure (\$4,444) in 2002 on the Tuitime website project is currently unknown*. The Tuitime project was largely funded by a grant from the Royal Society

NEW ZEALAND ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Inc)
Statement of Financial Performance for the Twelve Months ended 31 December 2001

	\$	12 Months Dec 2001 \$	9 Months Dec 2000 \$
INCOME			
Members Subscriptions	26,314		25,558
Interest	2,389		546
Publications	578		167
Journal Subscriptions	15,060		15,195
Reprints	1,911		1,966
Conference - 2001	9,417		
- 2000	347		4,785
Grant – Royal Society			
Portion spent in current year	3,254		150
Sundry Income	642		-
		59,912	48,367
EXPENDITURE			
Journal Production	26,784		23,674
Newsletters	3,763		3,715
Secretariat	6,801		5,101
Subscriptions	1,590		1,111
Council Expenses	2,113		2,484
Administration	1,632		1,281
Audit Fee	300		300
Awards	400		434
Royal Society Grant expenditure	3,254		150
Web Site	394		344
		47,031	38,594
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		\$12,881	\$ 9,773

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2001

	\$	Dec 2001 \$	Dec 2000 \$
FUNDS & LIABILITIES			
Accumulated Funds			
Balance 1 January 2001	42,996		33,333
Adjustment for last year			(110)
			33,223
Add Net Surplus	12,881		9,773
		55,877	42,996
Liabilities			
Advance – membership	524		556
Advance – journal subscriptions	1,016		1,625
Accounts payable	1,338		1,537
GST Payable	910		125
Royal Society Grant unspent	11,596		14,850
Kauri Fund	3,560		-
		18,944	18,693
		\$74,821	\$ 61,689
ASSETS			
Westpac Cheque Account	13,550		39,860
Westpac Term Deposit	40,000		10,000
BNZ Term Deposit	7,000		7,000
	60,550		56,860
Arrears – membership	469		453
Arrears – journal subscriptions	440		150
Sundry Debtors	12,702		4,076
Prepayments	510		-
Stock - Journals	150		150
		\$74,821	\$61,689

of NZ, but NZES advanced an extra amount to complete the project in anticipation of securing other grants to cover this. Further information on the likely profit/loss of the 2002 financial year, and therefore, the likely level of cash reserves as at 31 December 2002 will be presented at the AGM in Cairns. Council would appreciate input from members on the general direction that they wish council to take regarding new spending initiatives.

Overall the Society is in a sound financial position. Thanks are due to the secretariat, the volunteers who run the conferences with such great results, and to members for renewing their memberships promptly.

Ben Reddiex
Treasurer

* See note above – ed.

Journal Editor's report

The journal continues to serve as an important outlet for manuscripts published by New Zealand ecologists. Although there was a dip in the number of manuscripts received in 2001 (21 in total), this appears to be explicable in terms of short term fluctuations; already in the first 10 months of 2002 we have received 25 manuscripts. We continue to be well supplied by manuscripts on most branches of New Zealand ecology, with an encouraging increase in contributions from plant ecologists over the past year. We still receive relatively few Forum and Review articles, despite frequent enquiries by prospective authors considering writing such pieces.

The acceptance rate of manuscripts submitted to the journal continues at around 70%; the main reasons for manuscripts being declined are insufficient novelty of the work reported, and major problems with experimental design. Of those manuscripts accepted about half require minor revision while half require significant revision, in several cases requiring more than one round of reviewing. Generally manuscripts requiring minor to moderate revision are published within 12-15 months of receipt; some are published considerably faster than this (seven months in some cases). However, in a number of cases there are lengthy delays between submission and publication; usually these delays are created by authors taking an excessive period of time to revise their manuscripts after the review process is completed. I continue to be amazed by authors who take over a year to get around to performing minor revisions on a manuscript which probably requires less than two hours work!

It is apparent that the journal is increasingly being taken more seriously in the wider scientific community. For example, the Journal Science Citation Impact Factors released for all ecological journals for 2001 reveals that *NZJE* has leapfrogged its way up the ladder and now has an impact factor of 1.404, the first time that

NZJE has scored above 1.00. This places us above our Australian counterpart (1.323) as well as several respected international journals, e.g., *Biodiversity and Conservation* (1.311), *Ecological Modelling* (1.182), *Ecoscience* (1.181) and *Plant Ecology* (1.059), and just behind the *Journal of Biogeography* (1.497). Although I have significant reservations about these sorts of league tables (notably because they are severely biased in favour of American journals), this is undoubtedly good news for the journal. *NZJE* now has the highest impact factor of all Southern Hemisphere ecological journals, suggesting that there is no good reason for New Zealand ecologists to publish their work in any Southern Hemisphere journal other than *NZJE*.

The more observant members of the Society might note that at the time of the tabling of this report at the AGM in December, I will have almost completed the fourth of my five year term as Scientific Editor. I think that five years is about the right duration for one person to hold this job, and while my time as Editor continues to be fun, I will be ready to pass the reins over to someone else at the end of my term at the end of 2003. So, if anyone is interested in knowing a bit more about what the job entails please don't hesitate to contact me, or alternatively target me at the conference in Cairns.

The Journal continues to be served by an enthusiastic and dedicated Editorial Board. Over the past year, David Choquenot has left the Board, and Peter Bellingham and Ian Jamieson have joined it. The other, continuing, members of the Board include Doug Armstrong, Kay Clapperton, David Coomes, Richard Duncan, Graham Hickling, Gábor Lövei and Michael Winterbourn, with Duane Peltzer as Book Reviews Editor. I would especially like to thank the Technical Editor, Jenny Steven, who performs a superb job of seeing the accepted typescript manuscripts through to the final product. In addition I would like to thank manuscript reviewers, and also those authors who supply us with enough interesting manuscripts to maintain the success of the journal.

David Wardle
Scientific Editor

NZES Education Subcommittee report

TuiTime: a nature adventure with Tiaki tui

Members: Carol West, Jacqueline Beggs, Laura Sessions and Kerry Barton

TuiTime was launched on 16 May 2002. By now all members should have checked out this exciting website at www.tuitime.org.nz. After a shaky start, we teamed up with Heurisko Ltd who are experts in educational software development. They subcontracted the shockwave game "A day in the life of Tiaki tui" to MediaFX and the Maori language component to The Classy Sisters.

The members of the education subcommittee are very pleased with the product that was delivered for the \$30,000 funding from the Science and Technology Fund plus \$5,000 that NZES contributed during the final stages of development. The Department of Conservation, Landcare Research and the University of Canterbury contributed considerable in-kind support, as the employers of the subcommittee members. We also received some helpful critical feedback from a number of NZES colleagues. Landcare Research is hosting the TuiTime site. Initial feedback about TuiTime has been very positive.

TuiTime was entered in the Computer Excellence Awards as the software developers felt that the site is cutting edge but we unfortunately did not make it through to the finals.

Because our intention is to keep TuiTime up to date and relevant, we are seeking further funding to promote and improve the site. We are currently applying to the Sustainable Management Fund (Ministry for the Environment) for a further \$25,000 and have been asked to submit a full funding application after consultation with the Ministry of Education and the Department of Conservation (*see page 3*). As a consequence of the consultation with DOC we have been granted \$5,000 to link TuiTime with the Science and Technology Roadshow and we will receive up to 100 hours of in-kind support for promotion of TuiTime.

TuiTime is looking good. Please spread the word to your kids, their teachers, your colleagues and any homesick friends you might have overseas. We are keen to have some new members join the education sub-committee to assist with the next stage of development of TuiTime.

Contact us if you are interested in helping (cwest@doc.govt.nz, beggsj@landcare.cri.nz, las43@it.canterbury.ac.nz).

50th Jubilee Conference 2001 report

The 2001 conference, held at the University of Canterbury, was a celebration of the Society's 50th Jubilee. Several inaugural members of the society were able to attend, including K. Radway Allen, first President, and Ken Lee, first Secretary, both of whom now live in Australia.

There were four symposia; beech forest ecology, agents of change, introduced species as model systems, and hybridisation, and a total of 100 talks. The Hybridisation symposium was combined with SYSTANZ.

The conference must be considered a success, with 298 registered participants and a healthy profit of \$9,417! Our thanks go to the chief conference organizer, Hazel Chapman (University of Canterbury) and her team of helpers; and also to all those who attended or contributed to papers and posters.

Dave Kelly

Awards Convenor's report

Awards presented at the New Zealand Ecological Society Conference, Christchurch, 2001

Te Tohu Taiao – award for ecological excellence was awarded to **Prof David Wardle**, University of Sheffield. This award, which is made annually, recognises society members who have made an outstanding contribution to the study and application of ecological science.

See earlier for a profile of David.

Life Memberships were awarded to Ian Atkinson and Murray Williams.

I hope to have profiles of both recipients for the next newsletter

Best Paper by a New Researcher Award was presented to **Dr Duane Peltzer**, Landcare Research, for the following paper:

Peltzer, D.A.; Wilson, S.D. 2001: Variation in plant responses to neighbors at local and regional scales. *The American Naturalist* 157(6): 610–625.

Best student oral presentation was awarded jointly to **Yanbin Deng**, University of Auckland and **Angela Moles**, Macquarie University. Yanbin Deng's paper was titled "Palynological evidence of vegetation succession from Whangapoua estuary, Great Barrier Island, New Zealand". Angela Moles spoke on "Dispelling a myth: large seeds do not suffer higher levels of pre- or post-dispersal seed predation than small seeds". **Ingrid Grüner** received a highly commended award for her student paper titled "Herbivory by introduced mammals: A threat to native New Zealand broom?" The judges commented on the overall high standard of the talks.

Best poster by a student was awarded to Paul Leisnham, University of Otago, for his poster titled "Meta-population dynamics of a New Zealand alpine weta *Hemideina maori* (Orthoptera: Anostostomatidae) on island habitat patches".

The Society is grateful for the valuable contribution of those people who put the time and effort into judging the various awards. We would like to hear from you if you are willing to be involved in judging any of these awards in the future.

Best publication: Rob Allen (Landcare Research), Tony Dixon (University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK), C.M. King (University of Waikato).

Student papers: Richard Harris (Landcare Research), Ian Jamieson (University of Otago), Kelvin Lloyd (Landcare Research), Richard Maloney (DOC), Clare Miller (MAF), Susan Timmins (DOC).

Student posters: Robin Fordham (Massey University), Bruce McKinlay (DoC).

Jacqueline Beggs
Awards Convenor

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Australasian Quaternary Association Conference

4–7 February 2003

University of Canterbury—Brian Mason/Max Gage Field Station, Westport

The Australasian Quaternary Association (AQUA) Biennial Conference in association with the New Zealand Friends of the Pleistocene. The Conference will have special sessions on Antarctica, PEPH, Phytolith Research, Neotectonics, The Younger Dryas/Antarctic Cold Reversal and Megafauna Extinction. <http://www.geo.vuw.ac.nz/conferences/aqua03/index.html>

Annual symposium of the British Ecological Society, “Biological Diversity and Function in Soils”

25–27 March 2003

Lancaster University, United Kingdom.

The main goal of the symposium is to bring together ecologists and soil scientists to review our understanding of how soil biological diversity is regulated by natural and anthropogenic changes in the environment, and to establish how changes in soil biodiversity might alter soil processes and ecosystem functions, including decomposition, nutrient flux and plant growth in natural and managed systems. The meeting will also consider applications for soil ecology with respect to land restoration, pollution, and the maintenance of sustainable agricultural systems.

Invited speakers will integrate and synthesise their knowledge within five sessions: characterisation of soil biodiversity; functional importance of soil biodiversity; system linkages; soil biodiversity and environmental change; and, applications of soil biodiversity. A key aim of the meeting is to produce a symposium volume, to be published by Blackwell Scientific Press, that provides a synthesis and conceptual consideration of what we know about soil organism diversity, but also provide a clear statement of future challenges in this research area. The meeting consists of a series of invited talks from leading international researchers, but there are also two poster sessions for contributed papers. Further information about registration, including an online booking form, and a programme of the meeting are available on the BES web site:

<http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/meetings/2003/annualsymposium/index>

MEETINGS DIARY



NZ Soil Science Society Golden Jubilee Conference

25–29 November

Victoria University of Wellington.

<http://www.rsnz.govt.nz/clan/nzsss/index.htm>

DNA Technology Workshop

25–29 November 2002

Inst. of Molecular BioSciences, Massey University
An annual workshop with an introduction to the theory and practice of DNA technology.

<http://imbs.massey.ac.nz/workshop.htm>



“Microbes and Molecules 2002”

26–29 November 2002

University of Canterbury, Christchurch

<http://www.conference.canterbury.ac.nz/microbes2002>

Australian New Zealand Society for Ecological Economics (ANZSEE) 2002 Conference

2–4 December 2002

University of Technology, Sydney

Theme: Strategies into action: regional and industry policy applications of ecologically sustainable development

New Zealand Ecological Society & Australian Ecological Society Joint meeting

2–6 December 2002

Cairns Convention Centre, Queensland

<http://www.tesag.jcu.edu.au/ecology2002/>

Geological Society of New Zealand’s Annual Conference, “Northland 2002”

2–6 December 2002

Forum North, Whangarei.

<http://www.gsnz.org.nz/gSCO.htm>

NZ Hydrological Society Symposium “The easy water is gone: making the most of a scarce resource”

3–6 December 2002

Blenheim.

<http://www.hydrologynz.org.nz/society-conferences.html>

Workshop on Matrix Population Models

4–6 December 2002

Centre for Applications of Statistics and Mathematics,
University of Otago, Dunedin

SEEM4. Fourth Conference on Statistics in Ecology and Environmental Monitoring – Population Dynamics: The Interface Between Models and Data

9–13 December 2002

Centre for Applications of Statistics and Mathematics, University of Otago, Dunedin

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

Distance Sampling Workshop

16–17 December 2002

Christchurch, Jointly sponsored by New Zealand Department of Conservation, Biomathematics Research Centre, University of Canterbury.

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



ICPP 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology

2–7 Feb 2003

Christchurch

<http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/icpp2003>

7th International Conference on Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography

24–28 March 2003

Wellington.



Annual symposium of the British Ecological Society, “Biological Diversity and Function in Soils”

25–27 March 2003

Lancaster University, United Kingdom.

<http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/meetings/2003/annualsymposium/index>

Fourth Oamaru Penguin Symposium

19–20 June 2003

E-mail: agh@ihug.co.nz

22nd Conference of the New Zealand Geographical Society

6–11 July 2003

Auckland University

E-mail: NZGS2003@geog.auckland.ac.nz

3rd International Wildlife Management Congress

1–5 December 2003

University of Canterbury, Christchurch.

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

<http://www.conference.canterbury.ac.nz/wildlife2003/>

NEWS FROM COUNCIL

Editor's Note – edited and abridged minutes

Minutes of NZES council meeting 9 August 2002 PAMS University of Canterbury

Council received with regret the resignation of councillor Dianne Brunton who has resigned from Council due to health reasons. Council sent a card wishing her well.

NZES Archives

Got a reply from Jo-Anne Smith at Canterbury Museum saying it would be possible to use our own digital camera (on our own material) with conditions re not harming the originals, which seems good. Dave to write back confirming this, to get it on paper.

Journal

David Wardle had an item in latest newsletter about the high impact factors for *NZJE*. Clearly all is doing well. Council noted that the last issue of the journal had a missing figure in one of the articles.

Page charges and new rates for RSNZ journals: should we complain as a member of RSNZ? At the very least we need to see a financial statement put forward arguing why the journals need to get more money and where it will go, as the increases seem to be about a doubling of income. Carol said the Ed Boards of *NZJBot* etc were not consulted. On the upside, the page charges are going to make *NZJE* look much more attractive. Dave suggested we write to ask for justification, which we could then pass on to members, and also try and put pressure on RSNZ to reduce or alter the increases. It could be bad for individual subscribers, and also bad for science publication in NZ.

Editors Note – see page 4 for more information

Web

Jon has been doing a great job sprucing up the web pages. Everyone thought it was brilliant. The pages look really good and the updates are happening really fast. Council resolved to put the Society rules on the web, and a statement of society aims.

So far, the aims are there but not the rules yet (ed).

TuiTime

TuiTime got some promotion in a recent *Forest & Bird* magazine. The team has been pursuing extra funding to further develop the project (*see earlier item on funding success*). The committee is thinking of ways to publicise the site. The last meeting with Heurisko got publicised in *The Press*, but not much anywhere else. Options include a flyer (preferably in colour), small collector's cards for the main characters, etc. Kerry Barton (Landcare Nelson) has recently agreed to help on the committee with Jacqueline, Carol and Laura. Please contact any of these people if you want to offer any help to them.

Treasurer report

Accounts for 2001 year were presented (unaudited) (see *annual reports for details*). Last year we had a surplus of \$12,881, which is an excellent result. The Kauri Fund needs to be set up as separate entity and be registered as a charitable trust, not happened yet, so donations are not yet tax-deductible. Credit card payments—since July 2000 we have had only 6 payments for overseas, and 7 from within NZ. We could publicise this more but we are charged 4.8% of the total on each transaction so a better solution is probably what we need to do is more strongly emphasise that overseas people can send a personal cheque in their own local currency.

Correspondence and membership

New members and resignations: Welcomed 9 new members: five unwaged (Kate Orwin, Keith Barber, Richard Evans, Miss Harshi Garnage, Julia Chard) and four full (Mr Hiro Shibazaki, Dr Sarah Richardson, Rachel McClellan, Rex Bartholomew). Six resignations accepted. Three members have gone “on hold” while going overseas (not current but intend to rejoin). No change in institutional subscribers

At 6 August we have 480 paid up members out of 600 total (including 4 on hold, and 7 honorary members). The 600 includes 19 “gone no address” of which only 1 is paid up. Dave to circulate copies of the names of those 2 years in arrears, and also those gone no address, so people can contact anyone they know or provide updated addresses. Resolved to strike off those 2 years in arrears.

Buzz groups

Unfortunately, these didn’t happen as there was insufficient interest from enough of the universities to be worthwhile.

Next council meeting – 3 December, Cairns.**CHANGES TO NZES LISTSERVER**

We have now changed the listserver so only those on the list can send messages. I have also updated these instructions to remind everyone about keeping your email address up to date on the server, so please read over this even if you have been on the list for a while (or think you have been!).

What is it

NZES has an automated email listserver that can broadcast messages to all those on the list. There is not a huge amount of traffic (a handful of messages a month) but it can be useful for job adverts, information about conferences, requests for help or information about particular topics, etc.

How to subscribe

You can subscribe (and unsubscribe) yourself using the commands below.

To subscribe, send a message to nzecosoc-request@it.canterbury.ac.nz and in the message have two lines:

SUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC
END

To unsubscribe, send a message to the same address, with these lines:

UNSUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC
END

If you change your email address

If you change your email address, you have to unsubscribe from the old one, and subscribe from the new one. If you changed address but forgot to tell the server, I start getting error messages from your old address and have to unsubscribe you manually, so make my life easier and do this yourself. If your email address has problems (eg messages rejected because your inbox is full) for more than a few weeks I will also unsubscribe you. If you are not getting any messages and wonder if you are still on the list, just send another subscribe command.

How to send messages

Note that due to a (single) spam message which was sent through the list in August 2002, we have changed the system so that only those registered on the list are able to send messages to everyone. If you want to send a message and think you are on the list but the server says you are not, it is probably because you changed your email address and didn’t tell the server (see above). If you are not on the list and don’t want to subscribe and want to send a message, send it to me to forward on.

Messages on the list should follow these simple rules:

- NO ATTACHMENTS!!!
- put the info in plain text in the message
- if there is bulky or graphic material some people may want, put a web address in the message that people can click on if they want, or give a contact email address where people can ask for it
- only send stuff that is likely to be of general interest to NZ ecologists

To send a message, e-mail it to:

nzecosoc@it.canterbury.ac.nz (assuming you are a member of the list).

Replying to list messages

If you get a message on the listserver and want to reply to the person who sent it, please be careful that your reply goes to the person, and not to the list (to be bounced out to everyone!).

For more information, contact me at:

d.kelly@botn.canterbury.ac.nz.

Dave Kelly

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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
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Next deadline for the newsletter is 25 November 2002.

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

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