



NEWS



Geoff Bendall, Hon. Luamanavoia Winnie Laban and Bob Cawley at the recent Volunteer Recognition Awards.

Eastenders

To acknowledge the valuable contribution that volunteers make to many facets of society, each year, Volunteering Canterbury invite nominations for their Volunteer Recognition Awards. This year we were delighted that the Society's nomination of the Eastenders was accepted. The award was presented by Hon. Luamanavoia Winnie Laban, Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector. The citation read:

"In October of 1983 a party of eight people went about the restoration of the neglected Major Hornbrook Track on the Port Hills. From this modest beginning, other projects followed. Over the following 24 years the group has restored and maintained many tracks between Castle Rock and Godley Head, has built a number of new tracks, for example the Mt Pleasant Bluffs track and has also carried out a significant amount of weed control and planting.

The group's number now stands at 43, who together contribute around 1,600 volunteer hours to practical conservation work on the Port Hills. This ongoing labour of love has helped and continues to help to preserve and protect a unique but constantly threatened environment that is the common heritage of all Christchurch."

Press Officer

Our President, Mike White, has been concerned for some time about the difficulties in generating publicity for the Society. The mainstream press seems to be increasingly reluctant to publish 'good news' stories, and in recent years events such as Arbor Day have generated little interest. We are very pleased therefore that **Katherine Trought** has agreed to be co-opted to the Board as the Society's Press Officer. Katherine, who works for Crop and Food Research, has a background in journalism and public relations, and was involved in the Montgomery Spur campaign, is ideally qualified to take on this role.

Claydon's Block

Claydon's Block is the area of land at the head of Evans Pass and is owned by the Department of Conservation. It comprises a large area of grassland overlooking Sumner, with regenerating native bush on the hillside above Lyttelton harbour. For some time now, the Society has been concerned about the grassland, which is increasingly being invaded by woody weeds. With the acquisition by the City Council of Greenwood Park, the Society saw this as an opportunity to introduce grazing, which as you will have seen in Brian Molloy's article in the last newsletter, is a valuable management tool in ensuring the health of native tussock. The major issue facing DOC was the cost of repairing the dilapidated fence along the Summit Road, and the new fencing required along the ridge above the regenerating bush. In discussions with the Ranger service, it was evident that the City Council saw the benefits of introducing grazing. In an effort to resolve the situation, the Society offered to make a financial contribution. In a great example of the partnerships that can address issues such as this, we are delighted to say that this offer was accepted, and fencing has now started.



Claydon's Block will soon be sustainably grazed following the installation of new fencing, thanks to the initiative of the Summit Road Society





Membership

This year the response to the invoices for the renewal of subscriptions has been very good. Only a few are outstanding, and we thank all those of you who continue to support the Society and its work with your membership. Thanks go also to those of you who have taken up the membership challenge and recruited new members. The prize draw will take place later in the year. Currently our membership stands at 346, not counting those subscriptions that remain overdue, a small increase over our total of 330 at the end of 2006. From the last Planning Day we set ourselves a target of 500 members by the end of December next year. As ambitious as it may be, we believe that if everyone plays their part we can achieve this.

Since the last newsletter we welcome:

Hilary & Ross Allen	Fairlie Horsley
Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust	John Iseli & Diana Adams
Brighton Ramblers Walking Group	Allan & Sue Jones
Rob Brown	Barrie & Diana Jones
Angus & Fleur Chambers	Margaret Kingsley
Caroline Chambers	Edward MacCormack
LM Christie	Northwest Hikers
CityRamblers	Pegasus Trampers
Catholic Tramping Club of CHCH	Linda Pickering
Arabel Dickson	JM Thompson
Ellesmere Tramping Group	Andrew Trevelyan
John Gilbert	C Whitford
Anne Goodwin	



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Vice-President	Richard Pickering	332 2171
Secretary	John Goodrich	326 7330
Treasurer	Paul Loughton	322 7082
Board Members	Geoff Bendall	384 9254
	Steve Cottrell	337 9049
	Bill Woods	03 318 4825
	Anne Kennedy	377 0364
	Robin Collie	332 1477
<i>Honorary Life Member</i>	John Jameson	354 5925
Press Officer	Katherine Trought	332 9877
<i>Representatives</i>		
Selwyn District Council	Annette Foster	347 8651
Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board		
	John Freeman	326 6406
Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board		
	Paul de Spa	942 2939
Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board		
	Jeremy Agar	328 9956
Port Hills Rangers		332 5627
Eastenders work party	Geoff Bendall	384 9254
Ohinetahi	Mike White	03 312 1551
Weekenders	John Goodrich	326 7330

We are a voluntary society working to enhance, preserve and protect the natural environment, beauty and open character of the Port Hills of Banks Peninsula for people to enjoy. We need and welcome contributions to our work through memberships, donations and corporate sponsorships, participation in work parties (non-members welcome - but why not join us as well!), and bequests.

Victoria Park

You may have noticed that the City Council has been upgrading the Visitor Centre at Victoria Park. It can attract as many as 200 visitors at a weekend, particularly during the winter. For a long time, the A&P Committee has been looking into the feasibility of members spending some time at the Visitor Centre in Victoria Park to talk to visitors about the Society and the Port Hills in general. We now have a team of volunteers willing to spend a couple of hours each Sunday. This initiative has the full support of the Port Hills Rangers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Secretary. The commitment will be one Sunday every four months or so.



One of the new displays at the Victoria Park Visitor Centre which can see up to 200 visitors pass through in a single weekend.

Annual General Meeting

The Society's Annual General Meeting held on 21 March was well attended, and Mike White, in his annual report, was able to report on another successful year, with an increase in membership, 3,500 volunteer hours carried out by our work parties, considerable activity in the resource management area, and a healthy financial position as a result of membership subscriptions and grants from the City Council and Selwyn District Council. Head Port Hills Ranger, Paul Devlin, gave a presentation on the work of the Rangers, and impressed the audience with the range of work that they carry out, and their obvious skills and commitment. We were left in no doubt that the Rangers are an extremely valuable asset to the city.

New Board

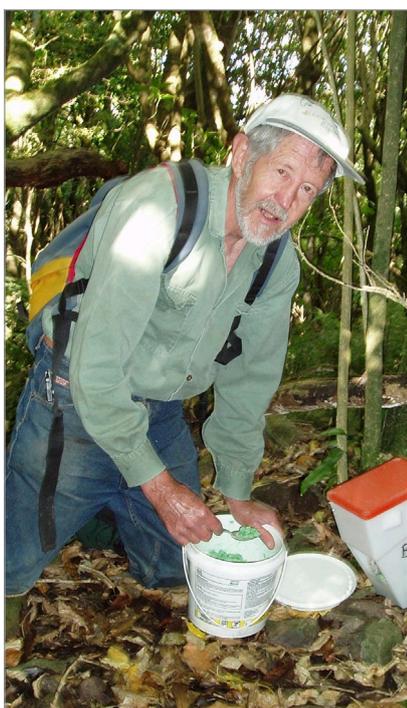
There were few changes to the composition of the Board. We said goodbye to Maurice McGregor, who has now stepped down as Vice-President, to be replaced by Richard Pickering. We also welcomed Robin Collie who is a member of the Ohinetahi work party. Robin's particular interest is our animal pest management strategy and he has already spent many hours installing and maintaining bait stations and traps. Jeremy Agar has now been formally appointed as the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board representative on the Board. (See the panel for full details of the Board).

Hill Work Parties

The work parties remain as busy as ever. There have been no new projects at Ohinetahi, and the focus has been on track maintenance, the control of weeds, and animal pest control. Weeds remain a big problem, particularly old man's beard and banana passionfruit, both of which can have a serious impact on native plant regeneration. Old man's beard is a major problem throughout Governors Bay, and the Landcare Group has initiated discussions with Environment Canterbury to explore how this can be tackled more efficiently. Our animal pest strategy continues to expand, with more bait stations and traps being installed. The results are now clearly visible with seedlings of such species as pigeonwood and fuchsia (favourite possum delicacies) popping up within the forest for the first time. Plans for the immediate future include some more plantings around the Bay Heights access to the reserve and the installation of seven interpretation panels with maps. Earlier in the year, Miles Giller from the QEII National

[Right] Managing noxious weeds and unwelcome marsupials at Ohinetahi is an ongoing task.

[Below] Robin Collie refills one of many bait stations at Ohinetahi, the results of this strategy are now clearly visible at the reserve with the increase of native seedlings.



Trust visited the reserve as part of the visits every two years to inspect covenanted land. There were no issues about our management, and we were delighted with his comments:

"I was really impressed by the succession on the balance of the SRS covenants. They (and nature) are surely doing a good job".

For the **Eastenders**, it has also been 'business as usual'. They have been working on a number of tracks including Mt Pleasant Bluffs, Mt Cavendish Bluffs, Stan Helms and Whaka Raupo tracks, with some weed control thrown in. They have also carried out further benching and work on drains in Barnett Park. The group's commitment remains high, with a current membership of 43.

Omahu Bush and the area around Gibraltar Rock are owned by Grant and Marilyn Nelson (the GAMA Foundation). This is a combination of lovely regenerating bush, tussock grassland and a volcanic outcrop, all with a QEII National Trust covenant. Grant and Marilyn have had a long

association with the Society, and we helped with the building of some of the tracks. The Ohinetahi group and the Eastenders are currently carrying out some track improvements at Omahu Bush including replacing some bridges. Grant and Marilyn have kindly offered to make a substantial donation to the Society in return for this work, but it's fair to say that our volunteers would have been happy to carry this put for free.

The **Weekenders** are still active, but is suffering a little bit at present from members having work or other weekend commitments. Nonetheless, they are soldiering on with plant releasing and weed control. The current project is at Scotts Reserve where it was quite alarming to see the amount of broom that has reappeared after the group thought they had it under control two years ago.

All the work parties welcome more volunteers, so if you are interested, please contact the Secretary.



[Right] Old man's beard (Clematis vitalba) is a fast growing vine that covers and strangles trees and shrubs. Its thick blanket of growth blocks light from getting through to the plants underneath, eventually killing them. Native bush is particularly vulnerable to this pest.



Resource Management Roundup

Banks Peninsula District Plan

The complicated and long-running process of the appeals on the Rural Variation of the District Plan is still continuing. Two main areas are in dispute, the identification and proposed management of the "Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes" as defined in the Resource Management Act and the definition of and rules relating to indigenous vegetation. The latter is the less controversial, although there is still considerable disagreement over the detail even after two days of mediation. Federated Farmers arranged a field trip on June 19 to visit a range of habitats in an effort to develop a shared understanding of the various categories of indigenous vegetation on Banks Peninsula. A further day of mediation is scheduled in July.

The whole area of landscape is much more controversial, and made the more difficult due to its subjective nature. The landscape study referred to in the last newsletter was completed by Boffa Miskell in May. This is a massive 270 page document which is the most comprehensive landscape study undertaken for District Plan purposes in New Zealand to date. The City Council has adopted the study as the basis for identifying Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes and framing the objectives and rules to be included in the Plan, as required by the Resource Management Act. In summary, it identifies the outstanding landscapes, both upper hill slopes and coastal areas, puts forward the concept of "Visual Amenity Landscapes" for the remainder of the peninsula on the basis that general feedback is that the whole of the area is "outstanding", and identifies important ridge lines. It also recommends that the 160m contour is adopted as the boundary in the density and subdivision proposals with much less development allowable above this contour. There is a presumption that normal farming activities are allowable as these to a great extent define the peninsula landscape.

Two days of mediation took place in June. No agreement was reached, but the mediation clarified all the

areas of continued disagreement. For many landowners, the areas that will be subject to greater 'control' remain controversial, whilst the Department of Conservation and Forest and Bird for instance have concerns that conservation objectives will not be adequately met. For the Society, our major concern was for the Port Hills, and the suggestions in the landscape study largely meet those concerns. Whilst there are another two days of mediation set down for August, at this stage, it appears unlikely that agreement will be reached with the result that an Environment Court Hearing will take place in October or



Should there be mountain bike track from the Gondola terminus to Heathcote valley?

November. Whilst the outcome to date for the Port Hills is satisfactory, the Society still intends to be involved in the process, including appearing in the Environment Court, to try to ensure that the landscape study and the proposed rules are formally adopted in the District Plan.

It is well worth looking at the introductory chapters of Boffa Miskell's final report as this has excellent summaries of some of the history of Banks Peninsula, its geology, places of archaeological and cultural interest etc. The report is available on the City Council's web site.

Purau

Provisional proposals for a large residential subdivision at Purau are currently being discussed. Regardless of the outcome of the District Plan proposals, if the developers decide to proceed, the resource consent application will be publicly notified. This will prove to be an interesting,

difficult and significant proposal, as our understanding is that it would involve exchanging development rights over a larger area for a 'cluster' development, and an area of land on the upper slopes coming into public ownership. We strongly advise you to "keep an ear to the ground" and to make a submission if the application is notified.

Christchurch Gondola

As many of you will appreciate, the Society was a firm and vocal opponent of the construction of the Gondola. Mt Cavendish Reserve was an early addition to the Port Hills reserves,

selected primarily for its botanical interest. The construction of the gondola was an unfortunate milestone as it was the first commercial operation allowed on a scenic reserve. The City Council, Department of Conservation and a number of groups have been consulted about a proposal to build a new mountain bike track from the top station to the Summit Road, the idea being that people would pay to take bikes up from Heathcote and ride down. We have signalled that we would oppose this. Whilst the proposal in itself would not have a major impact, we feel that there are some important principles involved, not least of which is our belief that the original consent precluded further commercial development. We also question the need for a track, particularly as no further development in this area is anticipated in the Port Hills Recreation Strategy. We understand that the City Council has recommended to DOC that the proposal should not be supported.

QEII National Trust

Reference has been made a number of times to QEII National Trust covenants, and it is perhaps worth explaining just what the Trust is and what it means to have a covenant on land. The Trust was set up 30 years ago to "...help landowners protect significant natural and cultural features on their land." A covenant is a legally binding protection agreement, which is registered on the title of the land. It is voluntary, but once in place binds the current and all subsequent landowners. Normally, QEII covenants are in perpetuity. Each covenant is unique, and can apply to the whole or parts of a property. Within a covenant, there can be different management areas with varying management conditions, dependent on what it is intended to protect. QEII will pay for the initial survey, and assistance may be available for fencing, planting and pest control. Normally, rate relief is available. Representatives are available for advice on management, and monitor the covenants by visiting every two years. The whole of the Society's 150 ha Ohinetahi Reserve is covenanted.

There are many organisations like the Society that covenant land with the primary objective of protecting it. However, many landowners recognise that protecting natural features can make good land management sense. For example, bush and wetlands help to filter rain and runoff, improving water quality. The fencing of natural and difficult areas such as gullies or swampy areas can assist in achieving efficient paddock layout. It also needs to be recognised that many landowners gain immense satisfaction in bringing back natural flora and fauna. The success of the QEII National Trust can be judged by the fact that there are a total of 2,532 registered covenants covering an area of 99,800 hectares, with a further 607 awaiting registration. In Canterbury:

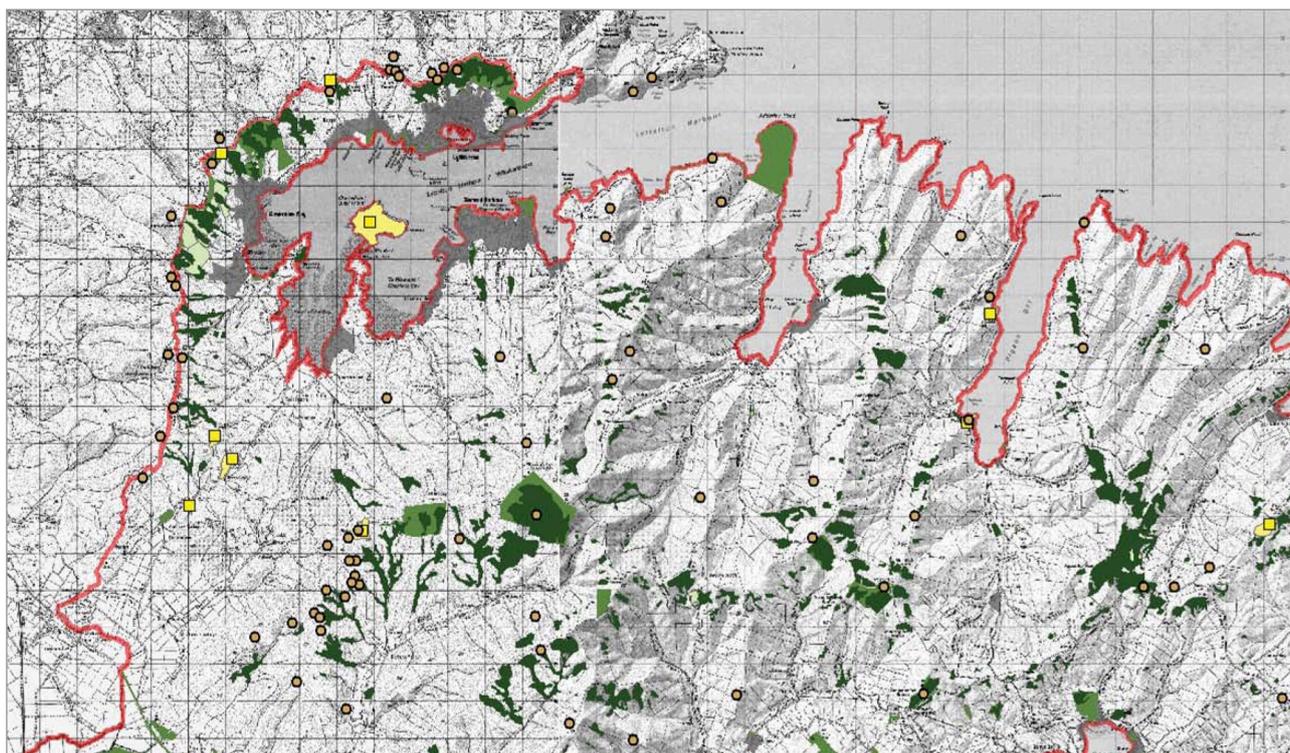
- The total land area is 4,222,000 ha
- There are 175 registered covenants with a further 33 approved.
- The total area of covenants is 11,970 ha.
- The largest covenant is 1,679 ha.

It is also worth noting that the only other organisation that has been given the power to covenant land is the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust. Since it was formed, the Trust has worked hard to promote the advantages of covenants on Banks Peninsula, both for the protection of native habitat and as part of efficient and responsible land management. Currently there are 23 covenants registered with a total area of 258 ha, and a further 17 in progress with an estimated area of 92 ha. Given that the Trust has only been in existence for a short time, this is a great achievement.

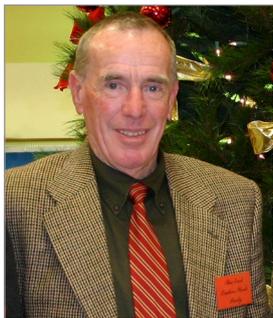
Even though support from QEII is available, having a covenant on your land is a serious responsibility. For the Society, the main obligations are:

- To protect and maintain open space values of the land.
- To protect and encourage further development of native flora and fauna on the land, particularly the bluff communities.
- To assist in protecting the landscape integrity of the Port Hills.
- To provide public access for recreational purposes.

Natural Science Values (significant landforms, Geopreservation sites and areas, native vegetation in protected areas, DOC Conservation Units 2006, QEII covenants March 2007) taken from the Banks Peninsula Landscape Study May 2007 by Boffa Miskell.



Profile: Geoff Bendall



Geoff Bendall, convenor of the Eastenders was born on to a small dairy farm in Taranaki.

In spite of his love of the outdoors he chose a career in banking and worked as a bank manager in Australia and in various cities in the North Island. In 1989, after 35 years in the industry, Geoff and his wife Patricia chose Christchurch to settle into retirement. Geoff's passion for tramping was an important factor as well as seeking a quieter pace of life than the bigger cities of NZ could offer. He soon discovered the Over Forties Tramping Club and became a very active member. One year he clocked up 90 tramping excursions

many of them multi-day trips. Two replacement knees in 2000 have not dampened his enthusiasm for wandering the hills, although they are mostly day jaunts now. Through Rotary, Geoff met John Willocks and they have remained firm tramping mates to the present. John introduced Geoff to the Eastenders in 1992 when the late Gerald Ward was convenor. John took over from Gerald in 1994, and when he stepped down from the demanding job in 2004, Geoff agreed to take over.

With 44 members on the Eastenders roll, organising their fortnightly working forays on the Hills is a major task. Fortunately he has some loyal lieutenants in Bob Cawley, Ken Rossiter and Alan Davey who help with the necessary communication with the team, each having a group of members to contact before each outing. Nevertheless there is plenty to think about and organise prior to each outing. Liaison with the City

Council Rangers is required, surveying the reserves to assess the maintenance or upgrading needed, organising any material required and much ringing around. Generally the Eastenders work in the City Council Reserves towards the east end of the Port Hills but from time to time they range more widely. They occasionally assist the Ohinetahi team, and recently have worked in the Mt. Vernon Reserve, at Victoria Park and at Omahu Bush where they are working with the Ohinetahi team to upgrade the Kirk Track for the Gama Foundation.

Fortunately the team has a wide range of expertise to call on among its members including retired carpenters, engineers, surveyors and foresters. And they just love building new tracks. From the beginning they were into serious track construction with the spectacular Mt. Pleasant Bluffs track being the first. Gerald Ward initiated this together with Gordon Kirk who was President of the Society

at the time. Surveying a route through this intricate steep bluff country was a task in itself. This construction was followed by several others including the Wakaraupo, Chalmers Loop, and Mt. Cavendish Bluffs tracks. This year the gang completed a track from Barnett Park up onto Clifton Hill and the Summit Road. Our August Sunday outing will show us this new track. Geoff was asked "What motivates your elderly gang to carry out all this hard work voluntarily?" He says, "We are a happy social team, who love the recreational opportunities that the Port Hills provide and we get satisfaction from providing a valuable community service of helping to protect and enhance the natural environment of the Port Hills. Yet he is a humble soul. His final words were "Oh I'm just a cog in the wheel".

Mike White
President

The Harry Ell Summit Road Memorial Trust

The purchase, protection, enhancement of open spaces on the Port Hills for all to enjoy

The Harry Ell Summit Road Memorial Trust was set up by the Society in 2002, with the express purposes of:

- To receive funds for the furtherance of the works of The Summit Road Society (Incorporated)... and in particular—
 - (i) To enable the Society to purchase or otherwise acquire land on the Port Hills
 - (ii) To generally further the works of the Society by way of funding the ongoing maintenance of tracks and other facilities
- To invest funds received in either approved Trustee investments or in projects which may be promoted or endorsed by the Society.

The Society shares with many other groups and individuals the growing acknowledgement of the importance to Canterbury of the finite Port Hills environment. Many people now point to the backdrop of the Port Hills as Christchurch's

unique signature, and have asked how they can assist in a tangible way. To meet the above needs it is important that the Society has substantial funds on hand to take advantage of opportunities to purchase. The Society recognises that outright purchase on a willing seller/willing buyer basis is the best way to protect open space. Funds are also required for the continued maintenance of acquired land and ongoing maintenance work.

If you are planning to make a donation, or arrange a bequest which is intended to help to preserve the Port Hills, or indeed know anyone in this position, we would ask you to consider the merits of placing the donation or bequest with the Trust.

It is worth remembering that our acquisition of Ohinetahi Reserve was only made possible by bequests. This land has been protected by an Open Space Covenant and is available for all to enjoy.



Harry Ell (1904)

For further information please contact Treasurer Paul Loughton Ph 322 7082



Teaching the younger generation the importance of conservation.

In August of that year, 300 school children planted trees in Cracroft Reserve. John, still an active Society member at 86, recalls that Deputy Mayor, Councillor Carole Evans, took part in that first Arbor Day as a student. Every year since, the Society and children from a number of schools have taken part in Arbor Day, resulting in the planting of thousands of native trees in the parks and reserves of the Port Hills, and introducing the younger generation to the importance of conservation.

In recent years, Arbor Day has been a partnership between the Society and the City Council's Port Hills Ranger staff, who recognise the importance of involving children in their planting and

Arbor Day

Arbor Day originated in the USA, when in 1872, Julius Sterling Morton, a former governor of the Nebraska Territory and a keen proponent of afforestation, after many years of lobbying, succeeded in establishing a holiday to encourage tree planting. In response to growing concerns about the loss of native forest, the idea was taken up by far-sighted New Zealanders, with our first Arbor Day plantings taking place in Greytown in the Wairarapa in 1892.

Arbor Day, which marks the start of the planting season, is a time to celebrate the unique biodiversity of our country. It is a reminder that we can all play a part in protecting the native forests and wildlife which are left. Since 1977 New Zealand has celebrated Arbor Day on June 5. Across the country, many groups, supported by local councils and the Department of Conservation play their part by planting native trees to be enjoyed by future generations.

One of the first activities of the Summit Road Society when it was founded in 1948 by John Jameson, grandson of Harry Ell, was to reinstate Arbor Day in Christchurch.

conservation efforts on the Port Hills.

Once again, we were blessed with good winter weather on Wednesday 6 June. Children from Cashmere, Rudolf Steiner and Thornington schools planted nearly 400 native trees on Latters Spur in upper Victoria Park. These were a mix of hardwood species including kowhai, manatu (ribbonwood), houhere (hoheria), kanuka and a mix of fruiting trees and shrubs, with long-lived totara interspersed through the plantings. These plantings on the eastern side of Victoria Park will eventually create a podocarp/hardwood forested corridor to the Bowenvale Valley to connect with other restoration plantings and native forest remnants on the Port

Hills. This is an area that has been planted on previous Arbor Days, and it is encouraging to see the success rate of the plants and to visualise what this area will look like in a few years. It is also heartening to see the enthusiasm of the children and their teachers, and to realise that yet another group of children will appreciate the importance of conservation and of the Port Hills.

The Arbor Day plantings are part of the City Council's ambitious programme of planting 32,000 native trees on the Port Hills this winter. Clearly, this is a major task which will require contractors to complete it. However, at least 2,500 of these trees will be planted by volunteers.

Do you need Ecotherapy?

Have you ever wondered why you feel better after spending three hours in the bush or on the hill rather than walking round a shopping mall? Whilst the benefits of a long walk have been recognised for some time as a tool in combating depression, medical researchers have now established that it is not just the physical exercise that is important, but the environment. Recent research at the University of Essex has compared the benefits of a 30 minute walk around a shopping centre with a 30 minute walk in the country. After the latter, 71% of participants reported lower levels of depression and 90% reported greater self-esteem. By contrast, after the shopping centre walk, only 45% felt less depressed, and 22% said that they felt more depressed.

Of course, ecotherapy is not new, and ten years ago "green prescriptions" were introduced—a walk instead of a pill—

allowing doctors to formally instruct patients to get more exercise. Last year, 27,000 such prescriptions were handed out. The new research emphasises that the connection with nature is important. Like everything else, it must have a word to describe it, and American zoologist has coined the term "biophilia" – the connection with other forms of life that humans subconsciously seek and need. The British Medical Journal ascribes the success of ecotherapy to "patients being outdoors and feeling part of a greater system connecting beyond the individual".

So, the next time you think that you need some retail therapy, think again, and take a walk in the bush or on the hills, and feel secure in the knowledge that you are experiencing the medical phenomenon of biophilia!



Better for you—which pastime?



Outings

Ohinetahi picnic

This year's outings programme started with a picnic in February. We had planned to be at the top of Ohinetahi Reserve, but as it was very windy, we did what countless visitors and walkers have done before, and took advantage of Harry Ell's Sign of the Bellbird. After lunch various groups walked in Kennedy's Bush or Ohinetahi Reserve.



Almost 40 members took to the hills to view a hidden waterfall near Purau in April this year.



Windy conditions prevented members from picnicking at Ohinetahi so we settled for the charms of the Sign of the Bellbird.

Purau Waterfall Walk

April saw almost 40 members and supporters over at Purau. This was a superb walk, taking in farmland, regenerating bush and tussock grassland, leading to a 'secret' waterfall situated just below the Mt Herbert Walkway. Unfortunately it was quite misty near the top, and lack of rain meant that the waterfall was nowhere near as spectacular as it can be. It is always interesting to go into places not usually accessible to the public, and the striking thing about this area is its wilderness feel so close to home just how much regenerating bush there is in the valleys and gullies that cannot be seen from the local roads. Our thanks go to the Diamond Harbour Ramblers for organising and leading the walk and to the landowners, the Keenans, for allowing us access.

Mid-winter dinner

The regular winter feature on the Society's calendar took place on 23 June, when 28 of us gathered in the unique and historic Sign of the Kiwi. Designed by Hurst Seagar, and constructed between 1914 and 17, this is a fine example of an Arts and Crafts Building. Once again, hosts Siggie and Lyndsay did us proud, tested our brains and gave us the pleasure of one of Lyndsay's shaggy dog, or in this case shaggy sheep, stories. They have certainly made their mark at the Kiwi, and it is a great place to absorb some of the history of the Port Hills and to appreciate the attractions of the surrounding area.

As mentioned earlier, Maurice McGregor has now retired from the Board, and in recognition of all the hard work he has done for the Society, he was presented with a framed citation. We also gave a gift to James Samuels, an early and long-serving work party member and a former Vice-President, who is moving to Wellington to be closer to his family.



The lure of an historic atmosphere, lively company and wonderful food provided by Siggie and Lyndsay is hard to resist.

(Right) The citation presented to Maurice on the night.

From the Secretary



"Producing newsletters is hard as former secretaries will agree. I am always on the lookout for contributions, so if you have an article or a contact who can provide one, a profile, snippets, poems, jokes or anything else that could be relevant, I would be delighted to hear from you."

Summit Road Society Inc.



MAURICE MCGREGOR QSM

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
PRESIDENT: 1996-2005
BOARD MEMBER: 1998-2007

Presented to Maurice McGregor QSM upon the occasion of his retirement from the Society's Board to acknowledge formally his invaluable contribution to the Society.

His esteemed leadership and management skills have helped set the Society on a growth path in terms of membership and general public awareness of the importance of protecting the Port Hills for future generations.

Mike White
PRESIDENT

Paul Loughran
TREASURER

John Goodrich
SECRETARY

From the Board and members of the Summit Road Society, 23 June 2007