



Forest and Bird AGM and Council Meeting

Forest and Bird's 68th AGM and council meeting were held in Wellington on June 22.

Three new executive members were elected. They were Bill Gilbertson (West Coast), Sandra Te Hakamatua Lee (Waiheke Island) and Craig Potton (Nelson).

Old Blue awards were presented to Ken and Nina Spencer, and Ruth Mander, from Tauranga, Eric Geddes from North Shore, Ken Mason from Otago and Theo Simeonidis from the NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers.

Former President Dr Alan Mark was created a distinguished life

member of the Society.

President Gordon Ell farewelled editor Gerard Hutching, congratulating him on his efforts in maintaining the standard of the Society's publications over the years.

Marine biologist Dr Bill Ballantine delivered the Sanderson Memorial Address, using the opportunity to launch his new book *Marine Reserves for New Zealand*, which has been sponsored by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society.



Dr Bill Ballantine presenting a copy of his new book *Marine Reserves for New Zealand*, which the Society co-sponsored, to President Gordon Ell.

Subscription rates – no change

Some of the best news to come out of the Society's Council meeting was that there will be no increase in the Society's subscription rate.

Considering that your subscription helps employ around 20 staff, funds a host of conservation campaigns and provides you with four of these beautiful magazines a year – in that light the subscription price is an excellent investment.

Waikato Branch conservation grant 1991/92

Applications are invited for a \$3,500 grant to support a conservation project during the summer of 1991/92. There is no restriction on the type of project as long as it helps protect NZ's plants and animals, though relevance to the Waikato/Coromandel area would be an advantage. Acceptable proposals would include fencing bush, acting as a wildlife warden, research on a conservation topic, an education or journalistic project.

Each applicant should set out the aim of the proposal, an outline of how it will be carried out, estimated cost, other sources of revenue, evidence of ability and two referees.

Applications should be sent to Forest and Bird, Waikato Branch, PO Box 11-092, Hamilton.

Canterbury Branch Stocker Scholarship Grants

APPLICATIONS are invited from individuals or groups for a grant for a conservation project over the 1992 year.

The research or project undertaken must have special reference to the needs of South Island and further to objects of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, as stated in the Society's constitution.

The results of the research or project shall be communicated widely and as relevantly as possible.

A total of \$3,500 is available and at the sole discretion of the trustees, this may be awarded in whole or part to one or more applicants, or held over for a subsequent year.

Applications should be sent to: Forest and Bird, Canterbury Branch, PO Box 2389, Christchurch.

Errata

ON PAGE 40 of the May *Forest & Bird* (Protecting an Icon), the captions for the bottom two photos were transposed.

An article on bird re-locations in the August 1990 issue (page 28) stated that Antipodes Island kakariki had been predated by tuatara. In fact, the kakariki preyed on the tuatara.

Peter Hooper 1925-1991

AFTER ALMOST 25 YEARS of visiting the Coast I have great difficulty in separating the man, Peter Hooper, from the place, the West Coast.

The deep philosophical calm of Peter and the dramatic beauty of the region he deliberately chose as his seem in perfect harmony. To arrive at his dwelling, be it at one of the Paroa properties he was to occupy or up the Grey Valley at Ahaura, was to be admitted into the life of one who lived the solitude of books and writing and thought, and yet loved people deeply too.

In so many ways he was a contrast to what the Coaster is popularly seen as – a man of deliberation rather than action, a peacemaker rather than a confrontationist, a man of gentleness, intuition and originality and a great lover of nature. He was not without considerable courage and independence and pursued his own beliefs, particularly about conservation, long before it was fashionable.

Because of his style, his example, he won over far more converts both as

a teacher and exemplar, than perhaps he realised.

He was a man of great lyrical gift. In his quietly appreciated but never fully acknowledged forest trilogy, *Song of the Forest*, *People of the Long Water* and *Time and the Forest*, he created the wonderful world of the boy who became a spiritual leader.

In his most political work, *Our Forests, Ourselves*, he spoke of how so often all we see of the forest is what we view from a car – and how different it all is once we enter it on foot. That in some ways sums him up – he never took something at face value but always chose the most deliberate route, achieving wisdom on the way.

I have a sense that somewhere out in the Westland bush right now, a great rata is in untimely full florescence. Peter, it was a privilege to know you and I thank you for the opportunity.

David Young

*I walk out into the winter night
to find again, if only for some moments,
a broader margin to my thoughts.
And suddenly the weather of my mind
veers sou'sou'west, I inhale a sharp delight.*

*Fierce air and a few glittering stars –
an old memory wakes of such a night
moving to love, the earth alive
and singing in me, pure and clear
my thought as your philosopher's pond.
New-found companion of my lonely walks
interpreter of my unproved ideals,
how readily it seemed you might direct
as honestly and plainly as your axe
hewed timbers for your hut, my 'prentice dreams.
The gold moon slipped her moorings on the hill
the air divided to the morepork's call.*

*In a boy's mind held
gold disk and bird had power
to cherish the innocent world.
In thirty years,
the moon long drowned in blood, the morepork calls
only the names of the lost from the wounded hill.*

From *Homage to Thoreau*, by Peter Hooper

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