

AGM and Council meeting

FOREST AND BIRD'S 69th AGM and mid-year council meeting were held at Kaitoke, Upper Hutt over the weekend of 12-14 June.

The current executive members were all re-elected.

Old Blue awards for outstanding contributions to conservation in this country were presented to Ivan Green (Kapiti), Helen and Adrian Harrison (Eastern Bay of Plenty), Doug Heighway (Wairoa), Christine Henderson (Southland), John Staniland (West Auckland), and to Hugh Barr from Federated Mountain Clubs. Hugh is a long-time friend of Forest and Bird and was recognised for his major contribution to forest, high country and wilderness conservation.

Two ministers addressed councillors during the weekend. Conservation Minister Denis Marshall spoke on the Friday evening and Fisheries Minister Doug Kidd delivered a provocative speech on marine mammal and sea bird issues as the annual Sanderson Memorial Address on Saturday.

New policies

THE COUNCIL meeting adopted five new policies which had been developed by the executive in consultation with branches:

The **transport policy** has two main goals: the reduction in New Zealand's total pollution emissions including greenhouse gases through a reduction in fossil fuel use for transport, and secondly to ensure that the country's transport network does not make any further significant encroachments on protected areas and natural habitats.

The **fisheries and marine policy** aims to promote the conservation of indigenous marine life in New Zealand waters and in the open ocean, and to develop a comprehensive network of no-take marine reserves amounting to ten per cent of the coastal marine area by the year 2000.

The goal of the **high country policy** is to ensure that the plant communities, natural landscapes and indigenous flora and fauna



Forest and Bird staff together for a rare moment outside head office following the June Council meeting. Front row: Chris Wratt (education officer), Mike Harding (Christchurch field officer), Sue Maturin (Dunedin field officer), Julianne Beek (information officer), Alan Tennyson (researcher), Ian Close (editor). Second row: Robyn Harding (membership secretary), Charlotte Shipman (mail order manager), Catherine Hanham (publications coordinator), Felicity Gifford (marketing manager), Allison Scholtens (assistant accountant), Mark Bellingham (field director). Back: Kevin Smith (conservation director), Barry Weeber (researcher), Anne Graeme, Basil Graeme (Tauranga field officers), Fran Gould, obscured (receptionist), Alan Hemmings (Auckland field officer). Absent: Rosemarie Owens (national secretary), Lisa Rae (conservation director's assistant).

of the South Island high country are adequately protected in a comprehensive network of parks, reserves and permanent covenants.

The **international tropical and temperate forest policy** aims to reduce market pressure on the world's rainforests by promoting controls on the imports of timbers from these forests, to encourage the government to become a leading international advocate for forest protection and conservation, and to ensure that forest conservation and ecologically sustainable development are a priority for New Zealand's overseas aid programmes in the south Pacific and South-east Asia.

The **protection of native plants and animals policy** contains a detailed list of objectives to improve the level of protection of native species and their habitats.

If any members want a copy of the full version of the above policies please write to Lisa Rae at head office. The new policies plus those already adopted will be consolidated soon into a booklet which will be sent to all branches and made available to members.

Subscription rates

FOR THE SECOND YEAR in a row there will be no increase in the society's membership fees. Despite an increase in costs the Finance Committee believed it was important to maintain a broad base to the membership by keeping fees at a level that most people could afford. So your subscriptions will continue to fund the society's professional conservation work plus provide you with four issues a year of *Forest & Bird* and six of *Conservation News*. Membership of Forest and Bird continues to be the best value investment you could make for the future of natural New Zealand.

Membership privacy

WE GET INQUIRIES from members from time to time about the confidentiality of our membership records. Unlike many organisations we do not make our membership information available to other groups or commercial organisations, despite regular (and sometimes lucrative) requests. Members can be assured that their names and addresses are strictly confidential to the society.

Summer camps

CENTRAL AUCKLAND branch is running a tour around the top end of the South Island from 26 December to 9 January. Details from Mrs Nancy Payne, 61 Kurahaupo St, Mission Bay, Auckland 5.

Horowhenua branch will be holding a summer camp at Otaki from 17 to 24 January next year. A trip to Kapiti Island will be included. Contact Barbara Douglas, 15 Ngaio Street, Otaki.

Otago and South Otago branches are organising a camp in the Catlins from 15 to 20 January. Details from John Dawson, 118 London St, Dunedin.

Tauranga branch is holding a camp in kokako country, in Pureora Conservation Park from 4 to 10 January. Contact Reg Janes, 364a Waihi Rd, Tauranga.

A Forest and Bird seashore study camp is being organised at **Waihi Beach** from 16 to 20 January. Learn about reef life, mangroves, sea birds, sand dunes and coastal forest. For details write to Ann Graeme, 53 Princess St, Tauranga.

Please include a stamped addressed envelope with all inquiries.

North Canterbury branch scholarships

APPLICATIONS are invited for a Stocker Scholarship grant for a conservation project over the 1993 year.

The research or project undertaken must have special reference to the needs of the South Island and the objects of Forest and Bird. The grants are open to individuals or groups and \$3,500 is available which may be awarded to one or more applicants.

Applications and inquiries to Forest and Bird, North Canterbury branch, PO Box 2389, Christchurch. Applications close 30 September.

Correction

THE ITEM in last issue's *Branching Out* on pingao planting referred to the wrong beach. It should have been Foxton Beach, not Waikawa.