

David John Galloway (1942 – 2014)

David Galloway was born on 7 May 1942 in Invercargill, and went to school there. His interest in lichens began around 1956 when he was a student at Southland Boys' High School. Retrieving the cricket ball from a bog during a weekend match he saw an interesting specimen that he later took to school to get identified. From his chemistry teacher, he learned that it was coral lichen, *Cladonia retipora*. The teacher was a son of lichenologist William Martin, and was doing the chemistry of the group for his father. David's interest was whetted, and he began collecting *Cladia* and *Cladonia* himself, under his teacher's supervision.

His biochemistry studies at Otago University led to an MSc on lipids of New Zealand lichens, followed by a PhD. Contacts with Dr James Murray, an organic chemist at the university, and Professor Alan Mark of the botany department, coupled with his love of mountaineering, led to serious lichen collecting in the Otago high country. In the summer of 1962–63, following the tragic death of Jas Murray in a car accident, Professor Geoff Baylis arranged for David to help visiting lichenologist Peter James of the British Museum (Natural History) curate the Murray lichen herbarium, and this moved David to consider lichens as a possible career.

From assistant lecturer at Otago University, he went to DSIR Applied Chemistry Division, Palmerston North, as a biochemist. Eventually, in 1972, after his leanings and potential were recognised, he was transferred to Botany Division to work on lichens. Director Eric Godley promptly sent him to the British Museum to become fully qualified, and there he met up with Peter James again. He focussed on the lichens of the Southern Hemisphere, especially Chile, and to repay his bond, worked on a New Zealand lichen flora, which was published in 1985. In 1974 he married his school sweetheart Patricia Payne, who had moved to England in 1967 to follow her vocation as an opera singer, and when Patricia sang in the great cultural centres of Europe, David continued his lichen work in nearby institutions.

In 1994, after 22 years in Britain, David returned with Patricia to Dunedin, and from 1995 to 2005 they lived in their cottage near Millers Flat in Central Otago, combining gardening and fishing with concerts, recitals and David's lichen-based contract projects. In 1996 he joined Landcare Research part-time, to prepare a second edition and major revision of *Flora of New Zealand Lichens*, a massive task to which he devoted all his time, until its publication in two volumes in 2007.

In later years David and Patricia lived in Ohopo, Dunedin, where David worked in his study overlooking the garden, his general interest book on New Zealand lichenology from Banks and Solander to the present day, close to completion.

In 2007 his friends and colleagues contributed 36 papers to a magnum opus in his honour; the following year he was awarded the prestigious Acharius Medal for life-long and outstanding contributions in lichenology – only the second time it has been made to a Southern Hemisphere lichenologist. An honorary life president of the International Association for Lichenology, and with numerous letters after his name, David Galloway died in Dunedin after a short illness, on 6 December 2014, aged 72 years. Eighteen lichen species are named after him, including the New Zealand endemic *Cladonia gallowayi*, described in 2003 by American lichen taxonomist Samuel Hammer.

