

spent periods of 10 to 15 days each month studying sika deer in the field, but regularly returned to Wellington to look after Bill and catch up on office work. Until retirement in 1975 she continued field work, especially studying dispersal and anatomy of sika deer, working mainly from her base at Kuripapango. For six years after retirement, Mavis was a valued member of the Kaweka Forest Park advisory committee.

At age 81 she took part in a memorial visit to Crete, followed by a visit to Mohensee, Germany, where she was an honoured guest of the International Sika Society.

Mavis continued to work long after retirement, publishing articles and papers until the age of 85. In fact, most of her 12 scientific publications on sika deer were published after retirement. She

was always generous - with money, time, hospitality, and knowledge. When the N.Z. Deerstalkers Association wanted to do their own study of sika deer, Mavis was unstinting in giving them technical and practical help.

Mavis was characterised by her industry, toughness, pioneering spirit, and the positive way she encouraged others. She influenced the lives of hundreds of people. For these qualities, and for her work, she received an O.B.E. in 1992.

Mavis's brilliant memory was intact right to the end. Each Christmas she posted her beautiful alpine cards to some 300 friends, each with a short handwritten note. The handwriting on her final card, Christmas 2003, is bold and firm.

Ashley Cunningham

NZFP Researcher

John Leonard
1927-2003

John, the great-grandson of the first Mayor of Auckland, grew up in that city. He was successful at school and at the age of 11 he travelled to England to attend boarding school. At the outbreak of the Second World War he had to come home quickly. Back in Auckland he attended Kings College before going onto Auckland University where he got an M.Sc. in chemistry.

During his student years he and his friends undertook many expeditions into the ice and snow of the Southern Alps. He measured and worked out the cartography of some unknown mountains. The results were published under his name.

John started work as a chemist in the Research and Development Section of NZ Forest Products (NZFP) in the late 1950s. Early on he worked on the development of an adhesive from radiata pine bark which had a potential for use in bonding particle boards and plywood; it became known as Tanaphen. Later on among other things he worked on the preservative treatment of radiata pine timber and plywood.

John also directed a project on the effect of run-off into streams of fertilisers applied to forests particularly following thinning. This study was made in Kinleith and Mahurangi forests, both part of the NZFP forest estate at that time. This work involved much detailed chemical analysis of the run-off for many chemicals which



he supervised and interpreted in association with the foresters. This resulted in his joining the Institute of Forestry.

John retired from NZFP in the late 1980s. Throughout his life he had to cope with a severe speech impediment. Outside his work John had a long interest in Theosophy. He was also a member of the Alpine Club.

Heidrun Leonard and Rex Mirams.