HONORARY MEMBERS

E. H. (Harry) Bunn

Under our constitution we are permitted to elevate to Honorary Member status those who have been outstanding, either in service to the Institute, or in contributing to or influencing the practice of forestry in New Zealand.

Harry Bunn qualifies on both counts. During his long term as a member of the Institute he has provided unfailing support. He has served 6 years on Council and has hardly ever missed an A.G.M. He has encouraged and supported others in service to the Institute.

Harry’s contribution to forestry practice in New Zealand has been even more impressive. He has a very wide and practical knowledge of all aspects of forestry and an insatiable desire to share this with others. By his writings, his presence on committees and his advice to others, he has made an effective contribution to almost every important forestry issue in recent years.

Under his directorship, FRI’s Production Forestry Research Division had become a world leader. His research leadership has provided not only stimulus and encouragement for effective and meaningful research but has also contributed much to scientific method. Harry Bunn believes that research should not be just about “why” something happens but about how can that knowledge be used. He believes also, that way-out and extreme ideas should be encouraged and investigated, and, that trials should have where possible two “controls”; one “do nothing”, the other the most extreme application of the treatment proposed. Another Bunn principle is that researchers should not be too distracted by immediate problems but should concentrate on providing answers for questions which are most likely to be asked in five or more years hence. In his research management Harry has always placed major emphasis on getting research results disseminated and applied in the field.

It has become almost traditional for our Institute to leave the recognition of Honorary Members status until just before or after retirement. Council now feels that sometimes recognition should come during worthy members’ careers.

With many more years to contribute to forestry, Harry Bunn is such a deserving example.

W.R.J.S.