

JAMES H. WILLIS (1910-1995)

Jim Willis died on 10 November 1995 after a short illness. In addition to his great contributions to Australian Botany, Jim had a lifelong fascination for fungi. He was well known to mycologists and field naturalists throughout Australia through his publications and lectures. Jim was ever willing to assist his many mycological friends, with whom he often maintained an extensive correspondence. An appreciation of Jim's mycological contributions will appear in a forthcoming issue of this *Newsletter*.

T.W. May

BRUCE FUHRER RETIRES

In December 1995 Bruce Fuhrer retires from Monash University. After a career as a professional photographer, Bruce joined the University in 1971 and since then provided photographic services to various Departments, including Botany, Earth Sciences, Mathematics and Zoology. Most recently he was with the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology where he was a Senior Technical Officer. In addition to the photographic duties which Bruce carried out so skilfully, he also played an important role in the Department as a source of expertise on natural history. He often assisted with plant identification during field trips and practical classes, and worked with staff and students on various projects, especially those concerning cryptogams. Bruce's observations set in train many a research project.

Bruce has an outstanding knowledge of and enthusiasm for Australian macrofungi, and has transmitted this through several field guides to which he has contributed—including *A Field Guide to the Common Genera of Gilled Fungi in Australia*, *A Field Companion to Australian Fungi* and *Rainforest Fungi of Tasmania and South-east Australia*. Bruce's contributions to various aspects of natural history were recognised by the award of an Honorary M.Sc. by Monash University in 1988, and he was the recipient of the Australian Natural History Medallion in 1989. In retirement Bruce intends to actively continue his interest in botany, especially fungi, as a Research Associate of both the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Monash University, and the National Herbarium of Victoria.

T.W. May

INCORPORATION OF THE AUSTRALASIAN MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

The ACT Government approved in September 1995 the incorporation of the Society. The principal effect of incorporation is to limit the financial liability of office holders of the Society.

The Society's Newsletter has not been a citable publication. This was done in the hope that people would feel free to express opinions, present preliminary results, seek further material etc. Unfortunately this has not happened to the extent that was hoped for. The Australian Lichenological Newsletter is a citable publication; the editor, Professor Jack Elix, found this to be a more productive approach. Likewise articles in the Newsletter of the Mycological Society of America can be cited. After discussion, the Executive has decided unanimously that the confidentiality statement in the Australasian Mycological Society Newsletter should be removed and the Newsletter be a citable publication.

J.A. Simpson

AMALGAMATION OF CSIRO FORESTRY DIVISIONS

The Division of Forestry and Division of Forest Products of CSIRO are to be amalgamated on 15 January 1996 as the Division of Forestry. Dr Glen Kile is to be the Chief of the Division and Dr Harry Greaves the Deputy Chief. The amalgamation follows a Performance Evaluation in May 1995 of the Division of Forest Products. The new Division is to have an integrated structure by July 1996 and is to be re-reviewed in February 1997.