

**NEW MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIETY OF PLECOPTEROLOGISTS**

**Dr. J. Manuel Tierno de Figueroa** is a new member of the Committee.

Dear colleagues,

The aim of my message is to acknowledge again your invitation for being a member of the Plecoptera committee, this time to all the members of the committee. As I told to Drs. Stewart and Brittain, it is for me a great honour and pleasure, and I will be very happy to collaborate with all of you in any aspect related to the committee and its activities.

Yours sincerely,

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**Obituary**

**Ian Dudley McLellan**  
22.2.1924 - 28.11.2008



**Ian D. McLellan** was born in the small coastal town of Westport, South Island, New Zealand. The fourth son in a family of seven boys, in childhood he led an outdoor rural life, heavily influenced by, and revelling in the rich natural environment of mountains, forests and sea of the West Coast. At Westport Technical High School his strengths were in mathematics and sciences. He initially began training as a teacher in 1942 but World War II intervened and he joined the Royal New Zealand Air Force, training for aircrew in Canada and England. In 1944 he joined 75 (NZ) Squadron RAF and saw service over Europe. His most gratifying memories were associated with the dropping of emergency food supplies into parts of the occupied Netherlands in April and May 1945.

In 1946 Ian returned to complete his training in Christchurch as a schoolteacher and the following year took up a teaching position in Westport. After further experience in several schools in northern Westland he became Head of the Science Department at Buller High School, Westport, from which he retired in 1981.

He married Nancy Herd, whom he had known since schooldays, in 1946. They had two children, Alister and Christine. Nancy died in 1982. In 1985 he married Ngaire Beattie, who predeceased him in 1992.

The pre-World War II West Coast of New Zealand retained something of its nineteenth century pioneering, colonial heritage. Gold rushes, timber milling and coal mining were the exploitative industries which dominated the area, as well as sheep and cattle farming. Hunting and fishing were important influences on his early life and he retained these interests as a schoolteacher. In particular the well-established brown trout fishing rivers of Westland attracted him. He quickly realised that knowledge of freshwater entomology would enhance his angling skills. A natural aptitude for careful observation soon led him to an appreciation for the taxonomic and ecological work which had already been done, largely by English biologists and visiting fly fishermen.

In the early 1960's he became particularly interested in stoneflies and soon discovered that entomologists working in New Zealand at that time were committed largely to ecological and conservation issues in which plecopteran taxonomy made up only a small part. The opportunity for an independent worker with a rich and largely undescribed stonefly fauna almost literally on his doorstep was there waiting for him.

In 1966, Joachim Illies during his Plecoptera collecting tour in the southern hemisphere visited and collected with Ian whom he invited to be a visiting scientist at Schlitz, Germany. During the year at Schlitz, Ian's revision laid the foundations of the taxonomy of Australian Gripopterygidae. The present subfamily classification follows Ian's 1977 paper. During his time in Germany, Ian also fished and hunted European fauna that has not been introduced to New Zealand, especially pike, carp, and roedeer, and collected hair and feather samples of exotic animals, for example squirrel and badger to

tie artificial trout flies. Ian and Nancy became close friends of staff and visitors of the Schlitz institute, especially Teizi Kawai (Japan) and W. D. Williams (Australia). Many Schlitz citizens missed the McLellans when they returned home in 1968.

From then on, Ian's scientific activities concerned the entire southern hemisphere, although the New Zealand stonefly fauna always remained at the core of his work. Ian attended the 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Plecoptera at Abisko/Sweden in 1968 and several subsequent international symposia. At the 12<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Plecoptera in Lausanne (1995) he was awarded the Plecoptera Lifetime Achievement Award. Ian's warm-hearted cheerful way, his knowledge and experience earned him many friends from all over the world. Whenever there was an opportunity, Ian visited Schlitz where he was always welcome, like a family member. His visits were always enjoyable and scientifically rewarding.

In his many publications, Ian proposed two new subfamilies of Plecoptera, named or co-authored 20 new stonefly genera and over 100 new species from the southern hemisphere. However, Ian's interest and activities were by no means restricted to Plecoptera. He was involved in conservation projects and collected and knew many aquatic insects other than stoneflies. For example, he discovered *Nothohoraia micrognathia* Craig, New Zealand's most unusual net-winged midge, and revised the Thaumaleidae, naming 9 new species and one new genus from New Zealand. *Podaena maclellani* (Zwick, 1975) (Col.: Hydraenidae), *Stenoperla maclellani* Zwick, 1979 (Plec.: Eustheniidae), and *Zelandopsyche maclellani* McFarlane, 1981 (Trich.: Oeconesidae) from New Zealand were named in Ian's honour.

Students of aquatic insects, especially stoneflies, lost and sincerely miss a most amiable colleague, close friend and very successful scientist whom they will always remember.

*Terry Hitchings (Christchurch), Peter Zwick (Schlitz)*

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## Appendix

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## MEMBER NEWS

### **Dr. John Sandberg, Aquatic Bioassessment Lab (ABL)-California Dept. Fish & Game, CSU Chico**

I have been collecting and rearing stoneflies since arriving at Paradise, CA in May 2006. My research continues to focus on intersexual vibrational communication and as of August 2008, has recorded 2,697 signals from 18 species representing five California stonefly families. Production taxonomy duties take up much of my time; so anyone wishing to assist in the analysis is more than welcome (help!).

My interests in Perlodidae taxonomic questions have expanded. These include an interesting *Isoperla* larval morphological project to better understand the California species. I have been applying the methods of Wisconsin *Isoperla* specialists, Hilsenhoff & Billmyer (1973) using the maxillae with associated lacinia, galea and palps to aid in species determination (See *Isoperla baumanni* Figure below). To examine the maxillae, I suggest slide-mounting the structure using a clearing agent like CMC-10. Other nearby stream populations of potential interesting species-level larval morphological projects include: *Skwala americana* and *S. curvata*; *Kogotus nonus* and *Rickera sorpta*; *Cultus pilatus* and *C. tostonus*; *Isoperla adunca*, *I. baumanni*, *I. bifurcata*, *I. fulva*, *I. miwok*, *I. pinta* and *I. quinquepunctata*.

I continue to collect larval series for life history research but find these projects difficult to complete and so invite prospective students to take them over by visiting the ABL and possibly pursuing a Masters degree. The ABL has limited work space and one graduate student could work part-time in sample production to help with the costs of their education.