

Trip to Waingaro Reserve

Sunday, 21 May 2017

Led by Wayne Bennett

After a dismal Saturday weather wise, Sunday proved to be ideal for our trip to Waingaro reserve. Thirteen of us met at the B.P. service station at Ngaruawahia and carpoled up the Waingaro Road stopping at a church on the right about 5 km past the Waingaro Hot Springs.

After a little of the history of the regenerating bush we set off slowly up the loop track.



Group observing drupes of *Coprosma rhamnoides* glinting in the sun like rubies

Short history, courtesy of Bruce Mackay

The reserve was acquired as a result of a subdivision consent –forestry-about 1995. The bridge was then built about 2000. A contractor was engaged to form the track and spray the *Tradescantia fluminensis* (\$10,000 over 3 years). The weed has come back quickly but 3 insects have now been introduced to try to combat it. Apparently some success is beginning to show.

