

WAIKATO BOTANICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

No. 40, December 2015

Presidents' Report

Hi Everyone,

I celebrated a significant birthday recently and someone said life is like a roll of toilet paper; the closer you get to the end the faster it goes, and this year certainly has flown!

I can tell I have been on a few trips this year by the number of photos on my hard drive. It takes a bit of effort to keep them all sorted.

I have spent quite a bit of time this year exploring our closest piece of forest to Hamilton - Mt Pirongia. DOC opened their new hut earlier in the year and I managed to stay up there a couple months ago. It's really popular so if you do go take your tent. I have also been on a couple of trips to Central Clearing up the Bell Track, stopping off on our tallest native tree on the way - the kahikatea. It's about 66 metres tall and there is quite a bit of king fern along the side track to the tree, and plenty at the lookout point. I stayed with a group of friends at Kaniwhaniwha camp at Labour weekend - a great spot only 40 minutes from the road end, and the Nikau Loop track has some glow worms to check out as a night walk. Back in January the Auckland Botanical Society was doing some exploring in the area and found some Ophioglossum (not sure which species) near the cave. I hope to go and have a look for it in January next year.

As usual a highlight of the botanical year is the yearly pilgrimage down to the East Cape with our sister organisation; the Rotorua Botanical Society. Tim Senior



Plantago picta out on the headland at East Cape. Photo: K. Jones



Mazus novaezeelandiae subsp. impolitus f. hirtus (Nationally Critical) growing in a paddock near East Cape. Photo: K. Jones

has a lovely bach at Whanarua Bay where we stay. This year we made it right out the East Cape and were shown around by Graeme Atkins (local DOC ranger). We have put together a program for next year but there are still some months with nothing on so if you would like to run a trip or have a trip idea please get in contact with me.

Threatened Native Plant Garden Update

By Kris Kramer-Walter

On the last Saturday of October we had a much need spring clean in the threatened plant garden (before and after pictures included). Plans for 2016 include getting metal tags or labels for each of the plants in the garden, and the possibility of adding a *Kunzea tenuicaulis*, which following Peter de Lange's revisions to *Kunzea*, is now classed as a threatened species. Previous transplants of the *Sporadanthus ferrugineus* from the old garden in the glasshouse complex have failed, most likely due to the recent hot dry summers. Therefore, I will be talking to University of Waikato grounds staff to see if we can find a place around the university lake margins, where the rush will stand a better chance of surviving the summers, and will be more easily accessible and viewable. If anyone has any suggestions for new plants we can add, let me know at kkramerwalter@gmail.com

Have a great Christmas everyone!



Before the spring clean (left) and after (right) Photos: K. Kramer-Walter

Table Mountain - 28 February — 1 March 2015

By Michael Clearwater

Table Mountain is an outstanding but rarely visited feature of the Kauaeranga Conservation Area. The mountain is a large andesite mass with, as the name suggests, a flat top that is very poorly drained (Burns, 1985; Hayward, 1974). The summit plateau is 800-820 m in elevation and is blanketed in a layer of nutrient-poor saturated organic material, sand and silt at least 1.5 m deep (Botany Division, 1983). The resulting vegetation resembles forests normally found much further south in New Zealand, and includes several rare and endemic species. The purpose of our visit was to provide DOC with an update on the vegetation of the area, and to check on the condition of the resident Sinclair's Tamingi (*Epacris sinclairii*) population.

The mountain is notoriously inaccessible, with the tracks across closed some 15 years ago because of their boggy and degraded state. The thick undergrowth of sedges and cutty grass, and many fallen and prostrate trees, also makes travel difficult. The mountain can be reached from Waiora Track in West, and via Mount

Rowe in the East, but in both cases the approach requires several hours of walking before reaching the plateau. We decided to fly to the Moss Creek campsite, and approach via Mount Rowe, with the cost of the helicopter shared amongst the Department of Conservation, the Society and party members.



Table Mountain viewed from the trig on Mount Rowe Photo: M. Clearwater

The party of 11 (Kevin Carter – Trip Leader, Thomas Emmitt, Catherine Beard, John Dodgson, Virginia Shaw, Paul Cashmore, Mike Clearwater, Jackson Efford, Rebecca Bylsma, Ron Vautier and Kerry Jones) assembled at Catley's Camp early on a fine Saturday morning, waiting expectantly for the helicopter to arrive from Skywork Helicopters in Thames. The flight in afforded spectacular views of the many rocky bluffs and peaks so characteristic of the area, prompting speculation on the plants we would find growing on them, if only they could be reached! After landing and setting up camp at the old Moss Creek hut site, the party set out for the mountain via the Moss Creek and Mount Rowe tracks. Two species

lists were prepared on the first day, one for the approach over Mt Rowe, and the second for the distinct vegetation of the plateau.

The plants near camp quickly absorbed our attention - regenerating from a history of disturbance by logging and mining, the canopy included kauri, yellow-silver pine, silver pine, towai, manuka, Griselinia, Quintinia, Hall's totara and rimu. The distinctive Coprosma dodonaefolia, with mottled yellow green leaves, was abundant and often laden with large red fruit. Along the track we walked through a carpet of Lycopodium laterale, the forked sundew Drosera binata and patches of Sphaghnum moss. The diminutive *Libertia micrantha* perched on better drained mounds and stumps. Time was lost as we tested whether we needed to leave the track and head



Botanising amongst the jumble of yellow silver pine stems on the plateau. Photo: M. Clearwater

directly for Mt Rowe, but repelled by dense kauri grass (*Astelia trinervia*) and giant *Gahnia*, we thankfully chose to stay on the track. The track to the summit of Mt Rowe is maintained, and ends at a trig with clear views of the Pinnacles, Table Mountain Plateau, and other parts of the Coromandel. From Mt Rowe to the plateau there is no permanent track; careful navigation is required to follow a route which is marked in places.

As we traversed towards the plateau, notable plants included *Mida salicifolia*, the handsome *Archeria racemosa*, and *Cordyline banksii*, with what seemed like unusually large leaves. *Dracophyllum patens* and *D. latifolium* were both common, but in contrast to previous visitors we did not notice any *D. traversii*. *Pseudopanax* species include *P. laetus*, with distinctive purple petioles and large glossy leaves, along with *P.*

colensoi and *P. discolor*. Epiphytic filmy ferns included *Hymenophyllum Iyalli* and *H. armstrongii*, as well as the bristle fern *Abrodictyum strictum*. A sapling of narrow leaved maire (*Nestegis montana*) was found near the track, a species not noted by Graeme Jane and John Smith-Dodsworth on previous visits. Comb fern (*Schizaea fistulosa*) was spotted on the way up, and on the plateau itself.

As the plateau of Table Mountain was reached, the canopy became dominated by yellow silver pine. Many of these trees have fallen, presumably because of the boggy substrate, but have continued growth, resulting in prostrate trunks with multiple upright shoots growing at a wide variety of angles. Other important members of the canopy and sub-canopy include southern rata, tawari, and in some areas, more frequent silver pine. Scattered Quintinia and towai were found, along with the occasional small kauri and rimu, all species which are more abundant as larger trees near the better drained edges of the plateau (Botany Division, 1983). undergrowth is dense in places, and dominated by the giant (and often very sharp) sedges Ghania xanthocarpa and G. setifolia, the smaller G. paucifloria, and the gentler Machaerina sinclairii. Kauri grass adds to the mix of sharp edged monocots. Kiokio (Blechnum novaezelandiae) is also abundant, particularly where the track was previously broad and muddy. Mounds of



Epacris sinclairii, Table Mountain. Photo: M. Clearwater

Dicranaloma and other mosses and liverworts cover the ground. The short stature and jumbled arrangement of the canopy trees, combined with the thick undergrowth and boggy substrate, made travelling across the plateau 'challenging' in places - but we were able to follow the remnants of an old track for much of the way, and the fascinating appearance and atmosphere of the vegetation was well worth the effort.



Pimelea longifolia, recently finished flowering, Table Mountain. Photo: M. Clearwater

As we neared the *Epacris* area the attractive *Pimelia longifolia* caused some delay, with long glossy leaves and recently finished flowers. Soon after we found ourselves amongst a large number of *Epacris sinclairii* plants, also an attractive shrub with a distinctive leaf shape and venation. In the short time available a survey was conducted, with the party working together to count all plants into size classes for DOC records. Many large plants were found, mostly growing on moss mounds, with seed capsules and old flowers. Smaller size classes and seedlings were also easy to find, suggesting the population was still healthy.

Aware that we risked running out of daylight, we

completed the survey and immediately began to retrace our steps back to our Moss Creek campsite. Unusual finds in the bog forest on the way back included a single plant of the naturally uncommon *Celmisia adamsii*, growing in the mud on the track – a plant normally colonising more open rocky crags on the Coromandel, and less interesting but looking just as lonely, a single plant of the common weed catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*).

As we fought our way back onto Mt Rowe, Thomas picked up a 'Fitbit' activity tracker lying in the undergrowth, presumably torn from the wrist of previous visitor. Against the odds, the gadget was later reunited with its Auckland based owner after some online-sleuthing of a geocachers' blog site revealed an image of him eating his lunch in the bog forest, fitbit visible on his wrist, under the heading 'worst tramp in the world' – a reference to the thick vegetation and deep mud of the plateau.

On day two the group decided to follow a bearing of 240° from the campsite towards an area of patchy vegetation, a suspected burn site, visible in aerial photographs. A third species list was recorded for this walk. The route took us through yellow silver pine and kauri forest, including prostrate (but still growing) kauri around 1 m in diameter. Interesting finds included the large leaved climbing rata *Metrosideros albiflora*, and additional colonies of *Abrodictyum strictum*, *Hymenophyllum armstrongii*, and *H. lyallii*. We also encountered a relatively flat area with moss mounds resembling those on Table Mountain, prompting an enthusiastic but unsuccessful hunt for a new *Epacris* population. Our target destination was confirmed as an area of previously burnt vegetation, with open areas colonized by mānuka, kauri, kauri grass, *Lycopodium laterale*, yellow silver pine, *Drosera*, *Gleichinia dicarpa* and *Machaerina tenax*. The group then returned to camp to prepare for the arrival of the helicopter.



The Ministry of Works prepares the Moss Creek helipad for departure, with logged over forest visible in the background. Photo: C. Beard

general lack of ungulate browsing or pig sign in the area. No wasps were seen on the trip, but two stray dogs were briefly encountered, possums were present at the camp, and there was a notable lack of a dawn chorus and few bird calls in general. Gorse was found scattered at the campsite, and royal fern, found next to the DOC shelter, was removed before we departed.

As we waited for our lift out, we noted the

References

Botany Division (1983) Vegetation of the Kauaeranga Valley, Report 452, Botany Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, NZ.

Burns, B. (1985) Ti Tipi ecological area. Unpublished Internal Report, Auckland Conservancy, NZ Forest Service.

Hayward, B. W. (1974). Geology and eruptive history of Table Mountain area, Coromandel Peninsula. New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics, 17(2), 403-422. doi: 10.1080/00288306.1974.10430400

Table top/Plateau species list

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Agathis australiskauri, kauri pineDacrydium cupressinumrimu, red pineLepidothamnus intermediusYellow silver pine

Phyllocladus toatoa Toatoa

Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens Supplejack, kareao

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Metrosideros perforata rata

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alseuosmia macrophylla Toropapa, Karapapa

Archeria racemosa

Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior kohurangi, Kirk's tree daisy

Coprosma colensoi Coprosma dodonaeifolia

kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau

Coprosma grandifolia raureka
Corokia buddleioides korokio

Dracophyllum latifolium neinei, needle-leaved neinei, spider wood

Dracophyllum patens Great Barrier Inaka

Dracophyllum traversii mountain neinei, grass tree, pineapple tree

Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus hinau

Epacris sinclairii Sinclair's Tamingi

Griselinia littoralisbroadleaf, kapuka, papaumaIxerba brexioidesTawari, whakou (flowers)Leptospermum scoparium var. scopariummanuka, tea tree, kahikatoaLeucopogon fasciculatusMingimingi, tall mingimingi

Metrosideros umbellata Southern rata

Myrsine salicina Toro
Olearia rani var. rani heketara

Pimelea longifolia taranga, long-leaved pimelea
Pseudopanax colensoi var. colensoi Mountain five-finger, three finger

Pseudopanax discolor

Quintinia serrata Tawheowheo, quintinia

Raukaua simplex haumakoroa Weinmannia silvicola towai, tawhero

Lycophytes

Lycopodiella lateralis Phlegmariurus varius

clubmoss

Ferns

Abrodictyum strictum

Asplenium flaccidum

Blechnum novae-zelandiae

Cardiomanes reniforme

Cyathea dealbata

Dicksonia squarrosa

Gleichenia dicarpa

Hymenophyllum armstrongii

Hymenophyllum lyallii

Hymenophyllum multifidum

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum

Lindsaea trichomanoides

Lygodium articulatum

Notogrammitis billardierei

Notogrammitis ciliata

Schizaea fistulosa

Tmesipteris tannensis

Erect bristle fern

Drooping spleenwort, hanging spleenwort

kiokio, horokio, palm leaf fern

Kidney fern, Konehu, Kopakopa, Raurenga

silver fern, ponga

rough tree fern, harsh tree fern, wheki

tangle fern, swamp umbrella fern

Filmy fern

Filmy fern

Much-divided filmy fern

Filmy fern, Piripiri

mangemange, bushman's mattress,

makamaka

common strap fern

strapfern

comb fern

Fork Fern

Orchids

Acianthus sinclairii

Earina autumnalis

Earina mucronata

Nematoceras acuminatum

Pterostylis banksii

Thelymitra longifolia

Thelymitra pauciflora

heart-leaved orchid, pixie cap

Easter orchid, raupeka

bamboo orchid, peka-a-waka, spring earina

Spider Orchid

Tutukiwi, Greenhood

White Sun Orchid

sun orchid

Sedges

Carex dissita

Gahnia pauciflora

Gahnia setifolia

Gahnia xanthocarpa

Machaerina sinclairii

Schoenus maschalinus

Forest Sedge

cutting sedge

mapere, Gahnia, giant Gahnia, razor sedge

Gahnia, mapere

Machaerina

dwarf bog rush

Monocotyledonous herbs

Astelia solandri Perching lily, kaiwharawhara

Astelia trinervia Kauri grass

Libertia micrantha Native Iris, Mikoikoi

Dicotylednous Herbs - composites

Celmisia adamsii var. adamsii Adams daisy Hypochaeris radicata* catsear

Dicotyledonous herbs other than composites

Luzuriaga parviflora

Nertera depressa Nertera, bead plant, fruiting duckweed

Bush bash South-west from Moss Creek campsite species list

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Agathis australiskauri, kauri pineDacrydium cupressinumrimu, red pineLepidothamnus intermediusYellow silver pineManoao colensoisilver pine, manoao

Phyllocladus toatoa Toatoa

Prumnopitys ferruginea Miro, brown pine

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline banksii ti ngahere, cabbage tree, ti rakau

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Metrosideros albiflora white rata, rata, aka

Metrosideros perforata rata

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alseuosmia macrophylla Toropapa, Karapapa

Archeria racemosa None known

Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior kohurangi, Kirk's tree daisy

Coprosma dodonaeifolia

Coprosma grandifolia kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau

Coprosma robusta karamu, glossy karamu

Corokia buddleioides korokio

Dracophyllum latifolium neinei, needle-leaved neinei, spider wood

Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus hinau

Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium hangehange

Griselinia littoralis broadleaf, kapuka, papauma

Hebe stricta var. stricta koromiko

Ixerba brexioidesTawari, whakou (flowers)Leptospermum scoparium var. scopariummanuka, tea tree, kahikatoaLeucopogon fasciculatusMingimingi, tall mingimingi

Metrosideros umbellata Southern rata

Myrsine salicina Toro

Nestegis cunninghammii black maire

Olearia townsonii Coromandel tree daisy

Pseudopanax colensoi var. colensoi Mountain five-finger, three finger

Pseudopanax discolor

Pseudowintera colorata Red horopito, mountain horopito, alpine peppertree

Quintinia serrataTawheowheo, quintiniaRubus cissoidesTataramoa, bush lawyerToronia torutoru, toro, toto, mihimihi

Ulex europaeus* gorse

Weinmannia silvicola towai, tawhero

Lycophytes

Lycopodiella lateralis

Lycopodium deuterodensum clubmoss

Lycopodium volubile climbing clubmoss, waewaekoukou

Phlegmariurus varius clubmoss

Ferns

Abrodictyum strictum Erect bristle fern

Asplenium flaccidum Drooping spleenwort, hanging spleenwort

Asplenium polyodon sickle spleenwort

Blechnum fraseri

Blechnum novae-zelandiae kiokio, horokio, palm leaf fern

Blechnum procerum small kiokio

Cardiomanes reniformeKidney fern, Konehu, Kopakopa, RaurengaDicksonia squarrosarough tree fern, harsh tree fern, whekiGleichenia dicarpatangle fern, swamp umbrella fern

Hymenophyllum armstrongii Filmy fern

Hymenophyllum dilatatum Filmy fern, Matua mauku

Hymenophyllum lyallii Filmy fern

Hymenophyllum multifidum Much-divided filmy fern

Hymenophyllum rarumfilmy fernHymenophyllum revolutumFilmy fern

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum

Lindsaea trichomanoides

Filmy fern, Piripiri

Lygodium articulatum mangemange, bushman's mattress, makamaka

Notogrammitis billardierei common strap fern

Notogrammitis ciliata strapfern
Notogrammitis heterophylla comb fern

Rumohra adiantiformis leathery shield fern, florists fern

Tmesipteris tannensis Fork Fern

Orchids

Acianthus sinclairii heart-leaved orchid, pixie cap

Dendrobium cunninghamii Winika, pekapeka, Christmas orchid, bamboo orchid

Earina autumnalis Easter orchid, raupeka Pterostylis banksii Tutukiwi, Greenhood

Thelymitra pauciflora sun orchid

Grasses

Agrostis capillaris*browntopAustroderia fulvidaToetoeRytidosperma sp.bristle grass

Sedges

Gahnia xanthocarpa Gahnia, mapere

Machaerina tenax

Rushes and allied plants

Juncus effusus var. effusus* leafless rush

Monocotyledonous herbs

Astelia fragrans Bush flax, bush lilly, kakaha

Astelia trinervia Kauri grass

Dianella nigra turutu, New Zealand blueberry, inkberry

Libertia micrantha Native Iris, Mikoikoi

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Drosera binata sundew

Gonocarpus incanus Nertera dichondrifolia

Moss Creek - Table Top Mountain species list

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Agathis australiskauri, kauri pineDacrydium cupressinumrimu, red pineLepidothamnus intermediusYellow silver pine

Phyllocladus toatoa Toatoa

Mountain totara, Hall's totara, thin-barked totara, totara-

Podocarpus cunninghamii kiri-kotukutuku
Prumnopitys ferruginea Miro, brown pine

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline banksii ti ngahere, cabbage tree, ti rakau

Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens Supplejack, kareao

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis paniculata white clematis, puawananga

Parsonsia heterophylla New Zealand jasmine

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alseuosmia macrophylla Toropapa, Karapapa

Archeria racemosa None known

Beilschmiedia tawa Tawa

Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior kohurangi, Kirk's tree daisy

Coprosma colensoi

Coprosma dodonaeifolia

Coprosma grandifolia kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau

Corokia buddleioides korokio

Dracophyllum latifolium neinei, needle-leaved neinei, spider wood

Dracophyllum patens Great Barrier Inaka

Dracophyllum traversii mountain neinei, grass tree, pineapple tree

Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus hinau

Gaultheria antipoda bush snowberry, fool's beech Griselinia littoralis broadleaf, kapuka, papauma

Hebe stricta var. stricta koromiko

Hedycarya arboreaPorokaiwhiri, PigeonwoodIxerba brexioidesTawari, whakou (flowers)Knightia excelsaRewarewa, NZ honeysuckle

Laurelia novae-zelandiae Pukatea

Leptospermum scoparium var. scopariummanuka, tea tree, kahikatoaLeucopogon fasciculatusMingimingi, tall mingimingi

Metrosideros umbellata Southern rata

Mida salicifolia willow-leaved maire, maire taike

Myrsine salicina Toro

Nestegis montana narrow-leaved maire

Olearia rani var. rani heketara

Pseudopanax colensoi var. colensoi Mountain five-finger, three finger

Pseudopanax discolor

Pseudopanax laetus None known

Pseudowintera axillaris Lowland horopito, lowland pepper tree

Quintinia serrata Tawheowheo, quintinia

Raukaua simplex

Toronia toru toru, toro, toto, mihimihi

Weinmannia silvicola towai, tawhero

Lycophytes

Lycopodiella lateralis

Lycopodium deuterodensum clubmoss

Lycopodium volubile climbing clubmoss, waewaekoukou

Phlegmariurus varius clubmoss

Ferns

Abrodictyum strictum Erect bristle fern

Asplenium bulbiferum Hen and chicken fern, pikopiko, mother spleenwort

Asplenium flaccidum Drooping spleenwort, hanging spleenwort

Asplenium polyodon sickle spleenwort

Blechnum fraseri

Blechnum novae-zelandiae kiokio, horokio, palm leaf fern

Blechnum procerum small kiokio

Cardiomanes reniforme Kidney fern, Konehu, Kopakopa, Raurenga

Cyathea dealbata silver fern, ponga

Cyathea smithii katote, Smiths tree fern, soft tree fern Dicksonia squarrosa rough tree fern, harsh tree fern, wheki

Gleichenia microphylla carrier tangle fern, parasol fern

Hymenophyllum armstrongii Filmy fern
Hymenophyllum lyallii Filmy fern

Hymenophyllum multifidum Much-divided filmy fern

Hymenophyllum rarumfilmy fernHymenophyllum revolutumFilmy fern

Lindsaea trichomanoides

Lygodium articulatum mangemange, bushman's mattress

Notogrammitis billardierei common strap fern

Notogrammitis ciliata strapfern
Notogrammitis heterophylla comb fern

Paesia scaberulaLace fern, Ring fern, Scented fernRumohra adiantiformisleathery shield fern, florists fern

Sticherus cunninghamii Umbrella fern, Waekura, Tapuwae kotuku

Tmesipteris tannensis Fork Fern

Orchids

Acinanthus sinclairii heart-leaved orchid, pixie cap

Chiloglottis cornuta bird orchid, ant orchid

Dendrobium cunninghamii Winika, pekapeka, Christmas orchid, bamboo orchid

Earina autumnalis Easter orchid, raupeka

Earina mucronata bamboo orchid, peka-a-waka, spring earina

Pterostylis banksii Tutukiwi, Greenhood

Grasses

Austroderia fulvida Toetoe

Microlaena avenacea bush rice grass, oat grass

Rytidosperma sp. bristle grass

Sedges

Carex dissita Forest Sedge

Eleocharis gracilis slender spike sedge

Gahnia setifolia mapere, Gahnia, giant Gahnia, razor sedge

Gahnia xanthocarpaGahnia, mapereIsolepis proliferNone KnownIsolepis reticularisNone KnownMachaerina sinclairiiMachaerina

Machaerina tenax

Schoenus maschalinus dwarf bog rush

Uncinia rupestris bastard grass, hook sedge

Uncinia uncinata bastard grass, hook sedge, kamu, matau-a-maui

Rushes and allied plants

Juncus effusus var. effusus* leafless rush
Juncus tenuis subsp. tenuis* track rush

Monocotyledonous herbs

Astelia fragrans

Bush flax, bush lilly, kakaha

Astelia solandri

Perching lily, kaiwharawhara

Astelia trinervia Kauri grass

Collospermum microspermum

Dianella nigra Libertia micrantha turutu, New Zealand blueberry, inkberry Native Iris, Mikoikoi

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Drosera binata Nertera depressa Nertera dichondrifolia forked sundew Nertera, bead plant, fruiting duckweed

Mosses

Campylopus introflexus
Catharomnion ciliatum
Cladomnion ericoides
Cyathophorum bulbosum
Dawsonia superba
Dicranoloma billardierei
Dicranoloma menziesii
Hypnodendron menziesii
Leucobryum javense
Ptychomnion aciculare

Liverworts

Bazzania adnexa Pallavicinia sp. Schistochila appendiculata Trichocolea mollissima

The Awaroa Ganoderma hunt – May 10 2015

By Kathryn Row and Michael Clearwater. Images by Kathryn Row and Yanbin Deng

Only three specimens of the *Ganoderma* sp. we were seeking have ever been seen. These were discovered by Reg Bell; a fungi enthusiast from the Awaroa area, between 1969 to 1972. Unfortunately the exact location he found them is not known, so we were left with a very large potential search area. Thomas chose some likely spots along Kaimango Road and our very able guide, Landcare fungi expert Peter Buchanan, described for us some of the defining characteristics to look for. He even brought along one of the three original specimens for us to see.



Ganoderma applanatum 'Artists Conk'



Ganoderma applanatum, with white undersurface

Ganoderma is a bracket fungi growing out from the trunk of a tree like a shelf (or bracket). G. applanatum, the species most commonly seen in the forest is fanshaped with a hard dull grey to brown upper surface and a pale pore under surface. It gets its name of Artist Porebracket or Artists Conk from the drawings which can be scratched in the under surface.

Peter explained that the undescribed Ganoderma sp., classified as nationally critical, was likely to be lightweight and soft, the result of relatively fast growth. It should also have a glossy upper surface, even when dry, because it belongs to a lacquer producing group of ganoderms, unlike the other more common NZ species we were likely to encounter. Reg Bell's notes stated 'on pukatea, near Pirongia'. Peter suggest the host range was not likely to broad - our goal was therefore to locate and examine dead or dying pukatea (Laurelia novae-zelandiae) for any signs of the elusive fungis.



Peter Buchanan points out the features of the Awaroa Ganoderma before the hunt began

The search began at a track junction with road near the Orakei stream head, with the group walking the track then into the gully in search of pukatea. All of the pukatea in the area were confined as usual to the gulleys, with none present on ridges. The terrain was quite steep, making it difficult to locate the trees in the dense undergrowth and thick supplejack. The target even briefly switched to finding members of our party after several, perhaps paying too much attention to Peter's fungal insights, managed to become disoriented within 100 m of the road. Some live trees with hollow centres were found. but few dead trees were located.

Many Ganoderma brackets were found on other species, but none had the morphology we were looking for.

The tall forest in the area included tawa, pukatea, miro, totara, rimu, kamahi, mangeo, tawheowheo (*Quintinia serrata*), the tree ferns *Cyathea medullaris*, *C. dealbata*, *C. smithii*, and *Dicksonia squarrosa*. Abundant regeneration was occurring in disturbed areas, with no sign of browsing animals, and lots of pukatea saplings in the gulleys. Scrub along the road and tracksides included lancewood, several species of lycophyte, *Hebe*, *Coprosma*, manuka, cabbage trees and ferns.

While we didn't find the Ganoderma we were looking for, we did find a great many other fungi, and with Peter's help a lot was learnt about them. A few examples are described below.

We saw many Wood-ear jelly fungi (Auricularia cornea) with its flabby brown ear-like appearance. Large quantities of this edible fungis were exported to China in the late 1800s to early 1900s from the Taranaki



Auricularia cornea, the wood ear jelly fungus

district, where supplies were abundant as a result of forest clearance providing ample habitat on dead trees.

Interest was sparked by Peter pointing out *Favoluschia calocera*, the invasive orange pore fungis, on branches and logs. This small kidney shaped fungis with its distinctive orange colour was first noted in New Zealand in 1969, after arriving from asia or Madagascar. Since then it has spread throughout the country, competing with the native white *Favoluschia*.

We did not see any of the striking blue pinkgill *Entoloma hochstetteri*, although we did see grey-brown pinkgill *Entoloma aromaticum*. Peter pointed out to us that *E. hochstetteri* is featured on our \$50 note



Entoloma aromaticum, the grey-brown pinkqill

along with the North Island kokako with its sky-blue wattles. According to Tuhoe legend the Kokako flew down and rubbed against the blue mushroom which is how its wattles became blue. The note also features supplejack (*Ripogonum scandens*), a food source for the bird. The forest illustrated on the note is part of Pureora Forest around Pikiariki village, and will be familiar to many from the Botanical Society.

A discussion was held about the deathcap or death flycap mushroom *Amanita phalloides*, with Hamilton being one of the few places in New Zealand where this has been found. It has a greenish or olive-brown cap that is at first convex, but becomes concave with age. The stem grows out of a membranous white cup with a white hanging ring on it. This mushroom grows under oak trees along the riverbank in Hamilton. Some years ago a Vietnamese migrant mistook it for an edible mushroom from his homeland and added some to soup which he and his 18 month old son consumed. They both became very ill, but thankfully both survived, although the father required a liver transplant. Peter mentioned that the only mushrooms he eats come from the supermarket. While I was photographing the deathcap mushrooms in the park an Asian man who spoke no English

was gathering the nuts of the Ginkgo biloba from the tree next to the oak tree where I was taking pictures. I think I managed to convey to him what would happen if he picked the mushrooms and ate them.



Amanita phalloides, the deathcap, showing the characteristic yellowish or olive green cap, and annulus around the stipe just beneath the cap. Beneath the leaf litter the cup-like other end of the veil is diagnostic for the deathcap. Parana Park, Hamilton.

Although we were not successful in locating new examples of the Awaroa *Ganoderma*, many in the group returned home with a new found interest in fungi. The following field trip to the nearby Walter Scott Reserve also provided plenty of opportunities for fungi spotting, and it was at that reserve that Don Horne took many of his photographs of fungi for the popular field guide 'Mushrooms and Other Fungi of New Zealand' (Geoff Ridley and Don Horne, New Holland Publishers).

Walter Scott Reserve - 13 June 2015

By Chris Lusk and Michael Clearwater

A small party converged on the Walter Scott Reserve, and the first thing we learned was that the reserve was NOT named after the famous Scottish writer, but after an illustrious local citizen. We were hoping to extend the suspiciously short species list available to us. Our three-and-a-half our walk certainly realized that hope, adding 37 species including trees, shrubs, ferns, climbers, orchids and other herbs. The reserve's population of king fern (*Ptisana salicina*) looked to be in very good health, with plants of all sizes plentiful in some gullies. The reserve also harbours a rich fern flora for its size, with ferns contributing 1/3 of the species recorded after only a relatively brief search.

Tawa (Beilschmedia tawa) is the main canopy tree throughout, but there are also a good number of pukatea (Laurelia novae-zealandiae), kamahi (Weinmannia racemosa), hinau (Eleaocarpus dentatus), rewarewa (Knightia excelsa) and mangeao (Litsea calicaris), with kohekohe (Dysoxylum spectabile) and pigeonwood (Hedycarya arborea) common in the subcanopy and understorey. The few totara we saw inside the reserve appeared to be Podocarpus cunninghamii, and we later also found P. totara growing on the forest margin at the carpark. Even after our additions, the reserve seems to have only moderate tree and shrub species richness, Mike Clearwater commenting on the almost total lack of divaricates and other small-leaved species. The walk turned out to be something of a fungal safari, with a splendid array of red, orange, yellow, blue and even green fungi on view, including some exquisite waxgills. Kathryn Mercer had brought along a photographic guide to New Zealand fungi, and so was able to identify some for us.

Walter Scott Reserve Species List

Showing species present in 1968 (from NZPCN database) and those present during the survey in 2015.

Gymnosperm Trees & Shrubs		15/06/1968	13/06/2015
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides	kahikatea, white pine	x	x
Dacrydium cupressinum	rimu, red pine Mountain totara, Hall's totara, thin-barked	x	x
Podocarpus cunninghamii	totara, totara-kiri-kotukutuku		X
Podocarpus totara var. totara	Totara	x	X
Prumnopitys ferruginea	Miro, brown pine		x

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline banksii	ti ngahere, cabbage tree, ti rakau	X	х
Rhopalostylis sapida	Nikau palm	X	X
Miopulostylis suplau	Nikau pairii	^	^
Monocotyledonous lianes			
Freycinetia banksii	kiekie	X	х
Ripogonum scandens	Supplejack, kareao	X	х
Dicotyledonous lianes and relate	d trailing plants		
Clematis paniculata	white clematis, puawananga	x	х
Metrosideros diffusa	white rata	Х	х
Metrosideros fulgens	rata	X	х
Metrosideros perforata	white rata, akatea		х
Muehlenbeckia australis	Pohuehue, large-leaved muehlenbeckia	Х	Х
Parsonsia heterophylla	New Zealand jasmine	Х	Х
Rubus australis	Tataramoa, bush lawyer, swamp lawyer	Х	Х
Rubus cissoides	Tataramoa, bush lawyer		Х
Rubus schmidelioides var.	Tataramoa, bush lawyer, white-leaved		
schmidelioides	lawyer		Х
Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs			
Alseuosmia macrophylla	Toropapa, Karapapa		х
Alseuosmia macrophylla Alseuosmia quercifolia	Toropapa, Karapapa oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa	x	x x
Alseuosmia macrophylla Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata	Toropapa, Karapapa oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry	x x	
Alseuosmia quercifolia	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa		x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa	x	x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry	x	x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend	x	x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma,	x x	x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau	x x x	x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu	x x	x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu	x x x x	x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu	x x x	x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu	x x x x	x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var.	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany	x x x x	x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var.	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia	x x x x	x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange	x x x x	x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium Griselinia lucida	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange puka	x x x x x	x x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium Griselinia lucida Hebe stricta var. stricta	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange puka koromiko	x x x x x	x x x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium Griselinia lucida Hebe stricta var. stricta Hedycarya arborea	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange puka koromiko Porokaiwhiri, Pigeonwood	x x x x x	x x x x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium Griselinia lucida Hebe stricta var. stricta Hedycarya arborea Hoheria sexstylosa	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange puka koromiko Porokaiwhiri, Pigeonwood Houhere, lacebark	x x x x x	x x x x x x x x
Alseuosmia quercifolia Aristotelia serrata Beilschmiedia tawa Berberis glaucocarpa* Brachyglottis repanda Coprosma grandifolia Coprosma lucida Coprosma robusta Dysoxylum spectabile Elaeocarpus dentatus var. dentatus Fuchsia excorticata Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium Griselinia lucida Hebe stricta var. stricta Hedycarya arborea	oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa Makomako, wineberry Tawa barberry rangiora, bushman's toilet paper, bushman's friend kanono, manono, large-leaved coprosma, raurekau karamu, shining karamu karamu, glossy karamu kohekohe, New Zealand mahogany hinau kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia hangehange puka koromiko Porokaiwhiri, Pigeonwood	x x x x x	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

Laurelia novae-zelandiae Leptospermum scoparium var.	Pukatea	x	х
scoparium	manuka, tea tree, kahikatoa	X	Х
Litsea calicaris	Mangeao, tangeao	X	х
Lophomyrtus bullata	Ramarama, bubble leaf	X	
Melicytus ramiflorus	mahoe, hinahina, whitey wood	X	Х
Mida salicifolia	willow-leaved maire, maire taike Red mapou, red matipo, mapau, red		Х
Myrsine australis	maple	X	Х
Nestegis lanceolata	White maire		Х
Olearia rani var. colorata	Heketara	X	Х
Pennantia corymbosa	Kaikomako		Х
Pittosporum eugenioides	Tarata, lemonwood		Х
Pseudopanax arboreus	Fivefinger, five finger, whauwhaupaku		х
Pseudopanax crassifolius	Horoeka, lancewood	X	х
Pseudowintera axillaris	Lowland horopito, lowland pepper tree	x	
Quintinia serrata	Tawheowheo, quintinia	X	
Schefflera digitata	Patete, pate, seven-finger	X	X
Solanum aviculare var. aviculare	poroporo		X
Vitex lucens	puriri		х
Weinmannia racemosa	kamahi, tawheo, tawhero, tawherowhero	X	Х
Lycophytes Huperzia australiana Lycopodium volubile	climbing clubmoss, waewaekoukou	x x	x x
Selaginella kraussiana*	Selaginella		х
Ferns			
Abrodictyum elongatum	bristle fern Hen and chicken fern, pikopiko, mother	X	
Asplenium bulbiferum	spleenwort	X	Х
Asplenium flaccidum	Drooping spleenwort, hanging spleenwort	X	Х
Asplenium oblongifolium	Shining Spleenwort	X	Х
Asplenium polyodon	sickle spleenwort	X	Х
Blechnum chambersii	Lance fern, nini, rereti	X	Х
Blechnum colensoi	Colenso's hard fern, peretao, petako		Х
Blechnum discolor	crown fern, petipeti, piupiu	x	Х
Blechnum filiforme	thread fern, climbing hard fern	X	Х
Blechnum fluviatile	kiwikiwi, kiwakiwa, creek ferm	x	Х
Blechnum fraseri		X	
Blechnum nigrum	black hard fern	X	
Blechnum novae-zelandiae	kiokio, horokio, palm leaf fern	X	Х
Cyathea cunninghamii	gully tree fern, slender tree fern, ponga	X	Х
Cyathea dealbata	silver fern, ponga	X	Х
Cyathea medullaris	black tree fern, mamaku, black mamaku	X	Х

Cyathea smithii	katote, Smiths tree fern, soft tree fern	Х	х
Dicksonia squarrosa	rough tree fern, harsh tree fern, wheki histiopteris, water fern, mata, bat's wing	x	х
Histiopteris incisa	fern	х	х
Hymenophyllum demissum	Drooping filmy fern, Irirangi, Piripiri	X	х
Hymenophyllum dilatatum	Filmy fern, Matua mauku		х
Hymenophyllum flabellatum	filmy fern	Х	х
Hymenophyllum frankliniae	Rusty filmy fern	Х	х
Hymenophyllum revolutum	Filmy fern	Х	х
Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum	Filmy fern, Piripiri		х
Lastreopsis hispida	Hairy fern		х
Leptopteris hymenophylloides	Crape fern, Single crape fern, Heruheru		х
Lindsaea trichomanoides		X	х
Loxogramme dictyopteris	Lance fern mangemange, bushman's mattress,		x
Lygodium articulatum Microsorum pustulatum subsp.	makamaka	x	х
pustulatum	hounds tongue, kowaowao, paraharaha	Х	х
Microsorum scandens	fragrant fern, mokimoki	Х	х
Notogrammitis heterophylla	comb fern	Х	
Paesia scaberula	Lace fern, Ring fern, Scented fern	Х	х
Pneumatopteris pennigera	gully fern, feather fern, piupiu	Х	х
Polyphlebium venosum	veined bristle fern, veined filmy fern	Х	х
Pteridium esculentum	bracken, rarauhe, bracken fern	X	х
Pteris macilenta	Sweet fern King fern, Para, Tawhiti para, Horseshoe	x	Х
Ptisana salicina	fern	Х	х
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia	leather-leaf fern, Pyrrosia	Х	х
Rumohra adiantiformis	leathery shield fern, florists fern	Х	
Tmesipteris elongata	Fork fern	x	x
Orchids			
Acianthus sinclairii	Heart-leaved orchid, Pixie cap	x	х
Chiloglottis cornuta	bird orchid, ant orchid Winika, pekapeka, Christmas orchid,	х	
Dendrobium cunninghamii	bamboo orchid	X	Х
Earina autumnalis	Easter orchid, raupeka bamboo orchid, peka-a-waka, spring	х	x
Earina mucronata	earina	X	Х
Nematoceras macranthum	Spider Orchid	Х	
Nematoceras trilobum	Spider Orchid	Х	
Pterostylis banksii	Tutukiwi, Greenhood	Х	
Pterostylis trullifolia	trowel-leaved orchid	Х	
Thelymitra longifolia	White Sun Orchid	X	

Χ

bush rice grass, oat grass

Grasses

Microlaena avenacea

Microlaena stipoides	meadow rice grass, slender rice grass	х	
Sedges			
Uncinia uncinata	bastard grass, hook sedge, kamu, matau- a-maui		х
Monocotyledonous herbs			
Astelia solandri	Perching lily, kaiwharawhara		х
Collospermum hastatum		х	х
Dianella nigra	turutu, New Zealand blueberry, inkberry flax, harakeke, korari (maori name for	Х	x
Phormium tenax	inflorescence).		х
Dicotyledonous Herbs - Com	posites		
Conyza sumatrensis*	broad-leaved flea-bane		X
Crepis capillaris*	hawksbeard		Х
Mycelis muralis*	wall lettuce		Х
Dicotyledonous herbs other t	than Composites		
Digitalis purpurea*	foxglove		x
Elatostema rugosum	parataniwha, New Zealand Begonia		х
Hydrocotyle dissecta		X	х
Nertera depressa	Nertera, bead plant, fruiting duckweed	х	
Phytolacca octandra*	inkweed		x
Potentilla vesca*	alpine strawberry		х
	Hairy buttercup, Maru, Maruru,		
Ranunculus reflexus	Kopukapuka, Pirikau	Х	

Koroki Kahukura ki Hinuera Scenic Reserve - 16 August 2015

By Chris Lusk

I confess I've driven past the Koroki Kahukura ki Hinuera Scenic Reserve countless times (it's on SH1), without ever noticing its existence. Overlooking the Southern end of Lake Karapiro, it was previously known as the Horahora Gorge Scenic Reserve before its return to Ngati Koroki Kahukura last year.

The view from the road wasn't terribly prepossessing, showing a few tawa and rewarewa emerging from a treefern canopy, with plenty of gorse and other exotics in evidence around the margins. It looked more inviting from Rick Barnaby's house perched on a hilltop above the reserve, where Rick gave us some helpful background, estimating that most of the vegetation had regenerated since the 1930's. In his book, the reserve only shows its best after dark — out shooting possums one evening,

his son was thrilled to discover that the three rocky caves in the reserve glowed "better than the Waitomo Caves".

There are no tracks through the reserve, and the steep terrain and wetness of the place made progress tricky at times. A few of us quietly congratulated ourselves on our early-morning decision to wear gumboots and/or leggings. We spent most of our time exploring a gully at the east end of the reserve, full of typical gully species like mahoe, pate, hangehange and mamaku. We didn't take long to find the first of the three glowworm coves, within 20 minutes of entering the reserve. They were beautiful even in daylight, the overhanging rocky faces adorned with ferns, and sporting some impressive "vegetable stalactites" of aerial roots descending almost to the ground below.

We were well served with expertise on a wide range of plant groups, thanks especially to Thomas Emmitt, Paula Reeves and Norm Mason. After lunching beneath a dense grove of treeferns (included a few *Cyathea cunninghamii*), most of us splashed around in a small area of sedgeland on the gully floor, before exiting the reserve onto what turned out to be a private driveway. The unannounced arrival of a herd of muddy botanists caused slight consternation to one of the residents, but in the end she seemed grateful for a distraction from her knitting, and kindly showed us a short-cut back to Ricky Barnaby's place.

Koroki Kahukura ki Hinuera Scenic Reserve species list

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Dacrydium cupressinumrimuDacrycarpus dacrydioideskahikateaPinus radiata*radiata pine

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis tī kōuka, cabbage tree

Monocotyledonous lianes

Freycinetia banksii kiekie

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Metrosideros diffusa rātā Muehlenbeckia australis puka

Passiflora tetrandrakohia; native passionfruitRipogonum scandenssupplejack, kareao

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus subsp. excelsus tītoki

Aristotelia serrata makomako, wineberry

Beilschmiedia tawatawaBrachyglottis repandarangioraBuddleja davidii*buddleiaCarpodetus serratusputaputawētā

Coprosma grandifolia kanono, raurēkau, raurākau,

Coprosma × cunninghamii (Coprosma propinqua × C. robusta)

Coprosma robusta karamū, kāramuramu

Coprosma rotundifolia

Corynocarpus laevigatus karaka
Cytisus scoparius* broom

Fuchsia excorticata kōtukutuku, kōnini

Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium hangehange
Hebe stricta var. stricta koromiko, kōkōmuka

Hedycarya arborea porokaiwhiri; pigeonwood

Knightia excelsarewarewaKunzea robustumkānukaLaurelia novae-zelandiaepukateaLeucopogon fasciculatusmingimingiLigustrum lucidum*tree privet

Litsea calicaris mangeao

Melicytus ramiflorus subsp. ramiflorus māhoe

Myrsine australismāpou, matipou, māpauPittosporum tenuifoliumkōhūhū, rautāhiri, rautāwhiri

Prunus sp.* ornamental cherry

Pseudopanax crassifolius horoeka, lancewood

Pseudopanax crassifolius \times P. lessonii

Rubus sp. (R. fruticosus agg.)* blackberry

Schefflera digitatapatēStreblus heterophyllustūrepoUlex europaeus*gorse

Ferns

Adiantum raddianum* huruhuru tapairu, maidenhair fern
Asplenium bulbiferum mouku, hen and chicken fern

Asplenium flaccidum makawe, ngā makawe o Raukatauri

Asplenium polyodon petako

Asplenium oblongifolium huruhuru whenua

Blechnum chambersiirereti, niniBlechnum filiformepānakoBlechnum minusswamp kiokio

Blechnum procerum

Cyathea cunninghamiipūnui, gully tree fernCyathea dealbataponga, silver fernCyathea medullarismamaku

Deparia petersenii subsp. congrua

Dicksonia squarrosa whekī

Hymenophyllum demissum irirangi, piripiri, filmy fern

Lastreopsis glabella

Leptopteris hymenophylloides heruheru

Microsorum pustulatum kōwaowao, pāraharaha, hound's tongue fern

Microsorum scandensmokimokiPneumatopteris pennigerapākau

Polystichum neozelandicum subsp. neozelandicumpikopiko, shield fernPteridium esculentumrārahu, brackenPteris macilentatitipo, sweet fernPyrrosia eleagnifolialeather-leaf fern

Trichomanes venosum

Sedges

Carex dissita
Carex geminata agg. rautahi

Carex secta pūrei, makura, pūreirei

Juncus articulatus* jointed rush
Typha orientalis raupō

Uncinia sp.

Rushes and allied plants

Isolepis prolifera

Schoenus maschalinus

Monocotyledonous herbs

Phormium tenax harakeke, flax Zantedeschia aethiopica* arum lily

zamedesema detmopied

Dicotyledonous herbs - composites

Mycelis muralis* wall lettuce

Dicotyledonous herbs other than composites

Acaena sp. panapana

Callitriche petriei subsp. petriei

Callitriche stagnalis* starwort

Cardamine debilis agg.

Galium aparine* cleavers

Lobelia angulata pānakenake

Lotus pedunculatus* lotus

Ludwigia palustris* water purslane

Phytolacca octandra*
Prunella vulgaris*
Ranunculus repens*
Solanum nigrum*

inkweed
selfheal
creeping buttercup
black nightshade

Grasses

Glyceria declinata*
Holcus lanatus*
Microlaena avenacea
Oplismenus hirtellus subsp. imbecillis

blue sweetgrass Yorkshire fog bush rice grass

Pehitawa Kahikatea Forest Reserve – 22 November 2015

By Chris Lusk

After weather caused a couple of postponements, it was good to finally get to Pehitawa, an 18.5 ha block purchased by the Native Forest Restoration Trust in 2001. The trust's timely intervention was spurred by the ongoing clearance of once-extensive kahikatea forests in the Mangapu River valley, North-West of Te Kuiti. "Kahikatea forest" was interpreted as a mandate to don gumboots, and this turned out to be a good decision. Pehitawa is a rare example of a kahikatea forest remnant where the water table has not been lowered radically by drainage.

What struck me first was the abundance of frost-sensitive pukatea (Laurelia novae-zealandiae). I thought the King Country was supposed to be cold, but on checking climate data afterwards, I found Te Kuiti's climate is almost identical to Hamilton's. The whole forest has a thoroughly warm-temperate character, the commonest trees besides kahikatea (Dacrycarpus dacrydioides) being swamp maire (Syzygium maire), pukatea and titoki (Alectryon excelsus); plus lots of young nikau (Rhopalostylis sapida) in the understorey. A dislike of wet feet probably explains the absence or scarcity of some other widespread warm-temperate trees, like tawa (Beilschmiedia tawa) (uncommon), mangeao (Litsea



Fuschia perscandens Photo: K. Jones

calicaris) (uncommon), hinau (Eleaocarpus dentatus subsp. dentatus)(not seen) and rewarewa (Knightia excelsa)(not seen). Treeferns were also scarce, apart from occasional Dicksonia squarrosa. On the other hand, the damp meant our species list included many wetland plants.



Ranunculus amphitricus Photo: K. Jones

Between us we turned up over 140 vascular plant species in the forest, about 25% of them exotics. The privets (*Ligustrum lucidum* and *L. sinense*) probably pose the biggest threats to the reserve, as their seedlings are present throughout, and the shade tolerance of *L. lucidum* in particular has enabled it to develop to adult size right in the heart of the forest. In the afternoon, an exotic-looking fern appeared in front of us, growing on the bank of a small stream; I looked on oblivious as Thomas and Kerry rushed forward in tacit complicity, and ferociously assaulted the plant. I was soon to learn this green villain was Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*), which they had been trying to eradicate at another site only days before. They

thought it was probably yet to sporulate; we searched downstream for other invaders (none found) before carrying out the remains in a plastic bag, to be disposed of at DOC's bio-dump.



We were Thomas Emmitt (leader), Amy Hawcroft, Dave Smith, Kerry Jones, Paul Cashmore, Tim Quinnell, Chris Lusk (scribe). Thanks to Amy, Thomas and Paul for identifying the most difficult plants.

Hymenophyllum flexuosum Photo: K. Jones

Pehitawa Kahikatea Forest Reserve species list

Gymnosperm Trees & Shrubs

Dacrycarpus dacrydioideskahikatea, white pineDacrydium cupressinumrimu, red pinePodocarpus totaratotaraPrumnopitys taxifoliamatai

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis ti kouka, cabbage tree
Rhopalostylis sapida nikau

Monocotyledonous lianes

Freycinetia banksii kiekie
Ripogonum scandens supplejack, kareao

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis foetida Lonicera japonica* japanese honeysuckle Metrosideros colensoi rata Metrosideros diffusa white rata Muehlenbeckia australis Pohuehue, large-leaved muehlenbeckia Parsonsia capsularis new zealand jasmine, Parsonsia heterophylla new zealand jasmine, Passiflora tetrandra Kohia, NZ passionflower, NZ passionfruit Rubus australis Tataramoa, bush lawyer, swamp lawyer Rubus fruticosus* blackberry

Rubus schmidelioides var. schmidelioides Tataramoa, bush lawyer, white-leaved lawyer

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus titoki

Aristotelia serrata wineberry, makomako

Beilschmedia tawa tawa
Berberis glaucocarpa* barberry

Carpodetus serratus putaputaweta, marble leaf
Coprosma areolata thin-leaved Coprosma

Coprosma propinqua mingimingi

Coprosma propinqua x robusta

Coprosma rhamnoides

Coprosma robusta karamu, glossy karamu

Coprosma rotundifolia

Coprosma tenuicaulis swamp Coprosma, hukihuki

Dysoxylum spectabile kohekohe

Fuchsia excorticata kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia

Fuchsia perscandens

Geniostoma rupestrehangehange, maori privetHedycarya arboreapigeonwood, porokaiwhiri

Hoheria populneahohere, lacebarkHoheria sexstylosahohere, lacebark

Laurelia novae-zelandiae pukatea Leucopogon fasciculatus mingimingi Ligustrum lucidum* tree privet Ligustrum sinense* chinese privet Litsea calicaris mangeo Melicope simplex Poataniwha Melicytus micranthus Swamp mahoe Melicytus ramiflorus mahoe, whiteywood Myrsine australis mapou, red matipo

Neomyrtus pedunculatarohutuNestegis cunninghamiiblack maireNestegis lanceolatawhite maire

Olearia lineata (P)

Piper excelsumkawakawaPittosporum eugenioidestarataPittosporum tenuifoliumkohuhu

Prunus species*

Pseudopanax crassifoliushoroekaSalix cinerea*grey willowSalix fragilis*crack willow

Schefflera digitata pate
Sophora microphylla kowhai

Streblus heterophyllus small-leaved milk tree, turepo

Syzygium maire swamp maire, maire tawake, waiwaka

Lycophytes

Phlegmariurus varius

clubmoss

Smooth shield fern

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii Common maidenhair, Cunninghams maidenhair

Arthropteris tenella Jointed fern

Asplenium bulbiferum Hen and chicken fern, pikopiko, mother spleenwort

Asplenium flaccidum Drooping spleenwort, hanging spleenwort

Asplenium oblongifoliumShining SpleenwortAsplenium polyodonsickle spleenwortBlechnum chambersiiLance fern, nini, rereti

Blechnum filiforme thread fern, climbing hard fern
Blechnum fluviatile kiwikiwi, kiwakiwa, creek fern

Blechnum membranaceum

Lastreopsis glabella

Blechnum novae-zelandiae kiokio, horokio, palm leaf fern

Cyathea dealbata silver fern, ponga

Cyathea medullaris black tree fern, mamaku, black mamaku
Cyathea smithii katote, Smiths tree fern, soft tree fern

Deparia petersenii

Dicksonia squarrosa rough tree fern, harsh tree fern, wheki
Diplazium australe

Histiopteris incisa histiopteris, water fern, mata, bat's wing fern

Hymenophyllum flexuosum filmy fern

Microsorum pustulatum hounds tongue, kowaowao, paraharaha

Microsornum scandens fragrant fern, mokimoki
Osmunda regalis* royal fern

Pneumatopteris pennigera gully fern, feather fern, piupiu

Pteris macilenta sweet fern
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia leather leaf fern

Tmesipteris elongata fork fern

Orchids

Corybus trilobus spider orchid

Earina autumnalis Easter orchid, raupeka

Earina mucronata bamboo orchid, peka-a-waka, spring earina

Grasses

Austroderia fulvida toetoe
Cortaderia jubata* pampas

Microlaena avenacea bush rice grass

Oplismenus hirtellus subsp. imbecillis

Glyceria maxima* Poa trivialis*

floating sweetgrass, reed sweetgrass rough-stalked meadow grass

Sedges

Carex dissita

Carex geminata

Carex virgata

Cyperus eragrostis*

Gahnia sp.

forest sedge

Cutty grass, Rautahi

swamp sedge, pukio, toitoi, toetoe

umbrella sedge

Rushes and Allied Plants

Isolepis prolifera

Juncus articulatus*

jointed rush

Monocotyledonous herbs

Astelia grandis Astelia hastata

Astelia solandri

Phormium tenax

Swamp astelia

tank lily

Perching lily, kaiwharawhara

flax, harakeke

Dicotoledonous Herbs - Composites

Conyza sumatrensis*

Jacobaea vulgaris* Lactuca serriola*

Leontodon taraxicoides*

Senecio bipinnatisectus*

Sonchus oleraceus*

broad leaved fleabane

ragwort

prickly lettuce

hawkbit

australian fireweed

sow thistle

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Alisma plantago-aquatica*

Apium nodiflorum*

Callitriche petrei

Centella uniflora

Cardamine sp. Galium palustre

Ludwigia palustris*

Lycopus europaeus*

Haloragis erecta

Hydrocotyle hetromeria

Hydrocotyle pterocarpa

Lobelia angulata

Lotus pedunculatus*

water plantain

water celery, fool's water cress

Petrie's starwort

bittercress

marsh bedstraw

Water purslane, marsh ludwigia

gypsywort

shrubby toatoa

waxweed, waxweed pennywort

Myosotis laxa*

Phytolacca octandra*

Prunella vulgaris*

Ranunculus amphitrichus Ranunculus flammula*

Ranunculus repens*

Solanum nigrum*
Stachys sylvatica*

Stellaria parviflora

Tradescantia fluminensis*

Urtica incisa

water forget-me-not

inkweed

selfheal

waoriki

spearwort buttercup

black nightshade

hedge woundwort

New Zealand chickweed

wandering jew

scrub nettle

Trip programme – 2016

**Please note: We would like intending participants to give the leader a call during the week before the trip. This will give the leader an idea of the party, and enable them to give you any last minute information. If the leader is not available contact Kerry Jones Ph: 027 747 0733.

The meeting place unless otherwise stated, is the carpark at Landcare Research, Gate 10 Silverdale Road. We will carpool with a donation for petrol expenses for cars/boats to drivers please.

Reminder to trip leaders

Please remember to take a first aid kit. You are also responsible for delegating the writing up of the trip report or writing it yourself and getting it to the editor within four weeks of the trip. A very brief report is much better than no report! Please send to Susan Emmitt: susan.carrodus@gmail.com.

January 30 - 1st February 2016 - Mt Whareorino & Waikawau Beach Headland

Leader: Thomas Emmitt Ph: 021 152 3030 Email: temmitt@doc.govt.nz

Meet: Outside Waikawau School on Waikawau Road at 10am on Saturday 30th January.

Grade: Medium-hard

Mount Whareorino summit sits at 649 metres above sea level and represents some of the oldest exposed rocks of its type in the Waikato. The summit is dominated by *Dracophyllum traversii*, *Quintinia* and kamahi with the surrounding slopes being a mix of coastal broadleaf species such as kohekohe and puriri. Gully tree fern *Cyathea cunninghamii* appears to be the dominant species of tree fern in the area. We will be accessing the mountain through Nukuhakari Station. For those who wish to stay for the weekend we will be camping at Waikawau and exploring Ngarupupu Point and other locations on the Sunday and Monday (Auckland Anniversary weekend). Ngarupupu Point is home to the threatened forget-me-not *Myosotis pansa* var. *praeceps*.

Contact the organiser to register and to arrange camping and carpooling details.

Bring: Lots of water, tent, good footwear, dinner & breakfast & a fishing rod if you want to have a go surfcasting off the beach.

20th February 2016 - Whakamarama Wetlands (combined with Rotorua Botanical Society)

Leader: Kerry Jones Ph: 07 855 9700 / 027 747 0733 Email: km8j1s@gmail.com

Host: Anne Mackersey

Meet: Whakamarama Hall at 9:30 (Opposite the school).

To get the Whakamarama Hall head north from Tauranga on SH2, go through Te Puna and then over the Te Puna Stream Bridge. After the bridge turn left on to Barrett Road. Then left on to Old State Highway and then right on to Whakamarama Road. The Whakamarama Hall is about 4.5 km up Whakamarama Road (Opposite the school).

The first wetland is about 10 minutes from the carpark which is 1km into the Forest Park from the end of the Whakamarama Rd. It has a boardwalk through the middle of it where an old tramway used to pass. Spaghnum moss and *Astelia* have dominated the area in the past but now a range regenerating podocarps and vegetation is emerging. Fernbird may be present. The second wetland is about one hour walk in. The walk is mostly along old tramways with two easy river crossings. This is more a 'hanging' swamp with the Ngamuwahine River flowing on the periphery and below it.

12th March 2016 - Hebe Speciosa site North of Aotea Harbour

Leader: Mike Paviour Ph: 027 801 9452, Email: mpaviour@doc.govt.nz

Rocky coastline north of Aotea Harbour, accessed over private farmland. You need a four wheel drive to get across the farm so numbers are needed, as are four wheel drives.

Meet: End of Phillips Road. Please let Mike know that you are coming so we can arrange car poolling with four-wheel drive vehicles to the site.

Grade: Hard. The site is quite challenging as there is steep gullies, climbing, small streams, a real adventure that people need to be relatively fit for and not too creaky.

Bring: Bring sturdy foot wear, clothing that you can climb through bush, streams and steep areas, and whatever the weather is forecasting.

Saturday 19th March – Mt Tarawera (Combined with Forest and Bird and Waikato Botanical Society) (Sunday 20th March reserve day if Saturday is wet)

Leader: Paul Cashmore Contact: Sandra Goodwin Ph: 07 362-8865 Email: sgoodwin@actrix.co.nz

Meet: Te Puia Carpark (southern end) (ex Maori Arts and Crafts Institute) at the South end of Rotorua on SH30 just north of the SH 5 (Old Taupo Rd) intersection at 8:30am or DOC Ashpit Road campground, Lake Rerewhakaaitu at 9:15am.

Grade: Medium-Hard and in particular confident walking on steep mobile scoria slopes and along high and sharp ridges.

Registration: Minimum age 14 years old. <u>Maximum</u> of 30 people on trip on a first come basis but <u>must</u> register first with Sandra Goodwin by Monday 14 March at latest.

Cost: Free

Bring: Minimum two litres water, lunch and snacks, wet weather and warm gear, sun hat, sunblock, boots or sturdy shoes, gaiters and/or leggings an advantage for loose scoria, gloves for pulling out pines.

We will be driven to the top of Mt Tarawera by 4WD bus and vehicle to the crater rim and hear a bit about the history and ecological values of the mountain. We will be led by staff from Kaitiaki Tours with assistance from Ruawahia trustees and DOC staff while we take in the stunning views. This year we will climb onto the edge of Ruawahia or Tarawera domes with time to take in the flora, fauna and 360 degree views of the Bay of Plenty. We will then spend the rest of the day helping to handpull wilding conifer seedlings to assist the Ruawahia Wilding Conifer Project which aims to control the spread of wilding conifers in order to protect the unique values on the mountain.

25th June - Whewells bush and Tamahere Gully

Leader: Kerry Jones Ph: 07 855 9700 / 027 747 0733 Email: km8j1s@gmail.com

Grade: Easy

Meet: Whewells Bush Gate Entrance at 10:00 on Swallow Lane (off Tauwhare Road) halfway between

Tamahere and Matangi.

Whewells Bush is a DOC Scientific Reserve. It is 11ha of remnant kahikatea. We may combine this trip with a Whewells Bush weeding group working bee. Afterwards we may have a look at one of the Tamahere gullys.

17th September 2016 - Moanatuatua Peat Bog

Leader: Kerry Jones Kerry Jones Ph: 07 855 9700 / 027 747 0733 Email: km8j1s@gmail.com

Grade: Easy

Meet: Ohaupo at 10:00

Moanatuatua is an 8500 ha peat bog administered by DOC as a Scientific Reserve between Ohaupo and

Cambridge. Here we will see Sporodanthus and Epacris pauciflora. Fernbird are also present.

1st and 2nd October 2016 - Waitete Bay

Leader: Dell Hood Email: dhood@xtra.co.nz

Ron and Dell invite members to stay at their place at Waitete Bay, just south of Colville, as a base to visit a very neglected Thames Coromandel District Council reserve on the Colville Hill. This 14 ha forest remnant deserves some care and more information about its botanical diversity might be helpful in achieving this.

As well as the reserve, there are adjacent privately protected forests we are welcome to visit, as well as our own little (8 ha) QEII covenant which is still in the early stages of regeneration. Local environmental enthusiasts are keen to join us.

Accommodation options: We have two spare bedrooms, lots of squabs and living room floor, and for those who'd prefer a little more privacy there is public accommodation at Amodeo Bay 2km south of Waitete, and at Colville, 10km north. On quiet nights kiwi can usually be heard in this area.

12th November - Piggott Wetland

Leader: Paula Reeves Ph 021 267 5802 Email: pnreeves42@gmail.com

Meet: 9am at the Landcare Research carpark off Silverdale Rd, Hamilton or at 10am on the corner of Buckland Road and Parker Lane, north of Tuakau

Piggott Wetland is a 53 ha block near Tuakau, which is owned by Auckland / Waikato Fish and Game Council. It is a floodplain wetland with several large kahikatea stands typical of the Waikato River Delta. Fish and Game have been restoring habitat at this reserve which we will view along with the kahikatea stands. A great chance to see this type of habitat that is not usually accessible.

Waikato Botanical Society

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