

TOTTY'S BUSH - A SOCIETY PROJECT

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On Mr. Alan Totty's property at Staveley, which was visited by the Society's members attending the Summer Camp in 1982, lies a small area of regenerating native forest. As Mr. Totty had only fenced off this piece of bush, to exclude his grazing stock, eight months before, it was thought that this would be a good opportunity to monitor any changes in the vegetation that might take place.

A few weeks later, at the end of February, 1982, a small but keen group descended upon this tiny remnant of bush, recording species, counting and measuring trees, surveying and mapping, and photographing the area. Philippa Horn, Max Visch and their helpers, measured and listed species: Norman Sutherland and chairman Ross Lake surveyed the boundaries, and Norman later drafted a plan complete with map references. The outcome of all this activity is that we can now say that on Mr. Totty's farm, 'Beechwood' on the Winterslow Road near Staveley lies a small but irregularly shaped piece of native bush, 0.28ha in area within which flourish no less than 65 species of native and adventive plants.

It is surprising how many trees (plants with trunk diameter of 10cm or more at breast height) there are in such a small space.

33	<i>Nothofagus solandri</i> var. <i>cliffortioides</i>
5	<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>
5	<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>
3	<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>
2	<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>
2	<i>Elaeocarpus hookerianus</i>

A more complete set of records of this project is held in the Society's files and it is hoped that we can record any changes that occur in the vegetation at least every five years.

CHECK-LIST

Ferns:

<i>Asplenium</i> (sporlings)	<i>B. fluviatile</i>
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>	<i>B. sp.</i> (cf. ' <i>latifolia</i> ')
<i>B. discolor</i>	<i>B. penna-marina</i>

