

THE HENDERSON TRAM LOOP

Graeme Jane

The August field trip coincided with Conservation Week 2003. Over 20 people turned up, mostly Conservation Week visitors from Rotorua but one member travelled from New Plymouth. The trip comprised a loop of two old tram lines originally put in for logging (from 1936) linked by the main ridge track. We started near the former mill site on Old Kaimai Road, traversing first a link track leading to the north tram line. This was a detour because the lower part of the tram route now passes through private land and had a large, now completely collapsed, viaduct.

Travel on this first segment was slow, as much time was spent introducing our guests to the common plants. This part of the track was especially rich in ferns including species such as *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *Blechnum fluviatile*, *Microsorium pustulatum*, and the miniature tree fern, *Blechnum fraseri*. The main stream, almost wall to wall with broad mossy floodway and banks, had *Lindsaea viridis* along the flood line and *Hymenophyllum atrovirens*, hiding under large rocks almost in water. As we emerged from the stream bed, *Corybas acuminatus* was common along the banks of the track. We soon entered rich lowland forest with pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zealandiae*) and rewarewa (*Knightsia excelsa*), over a predominant tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*) canopy. This short track segment to the old tramline, usually traversed in 20 minutes took 2 hours!

Along the tramline the forest appears little modified but old sleepers remain along the path. Lots of kamahi (*Weinmannia racemosa*), hinau (*Elaeocarpus dentatus*), mapou (*Myrsine australis*) lined the track with the winter flowering vine rata (*Metrosideros fulgens*) just finished flowering. A few old rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) remained - too deformed to log. Further along tawari (*Ixerba brexioides*), horopito (*Pseudowintera axillaris*) and miro (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*) became more common as we got higher and the climate wetter. In a detour around yet another derelict bridge, *Trichomanes elongatum* appeared in shaded areas near the creek forks along with *Libertia pulchella* (recently renamed *L. micrantha*), a sure

sign that we were getting back towards the main range. By now canopy height had lowered considerably. *Gleichenia microphylla*, *Lycopodium deuterodensum* and scattered short kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) appeared in a large old bush camp clearing and signalled time for a rather late lunch in a nice sunny spot.

After lunch we continued on in search of the North/South Track junction. The area was now clearly more recently logged with some theylmitras and onion orchid (*Microtis uniflora*) appearing on the bare clays and much tree fern. Finally, we meet the North/South track and headed off along the ridge and old haul lines to the junction of south tram track. Here horopito was very common with high rainfall ferns such as *Hymenophyllum ferrugineum* and *H. scabrum*, and raukawa (*Raukawa edgerleyi*) which was spotted in several places both on the ground and on tree ferns. This presence, especially on the ground, may be attributed to the late arrival here of deer and lack of pigs. In one wet dark spot the dark fronds of *Blechnum nigrum*, typical of these areas in the Kaimais, was spotted.

At the junction with the South Tram track we first followed a haul line but were soon on an open tram. We were hurrying along now as we seemed a long way from home. The forest was getting less disturbed as we neared road, the reverse of the upward trip. But still we saw willow-leaved maire (*Mida salicifolia*) and more raukawa. In the open areas, the ground lawyer (*Rubus australis*) was common and under mamaku (*Cyathea medullaris*) masses of *Corybas trilobus* were seen, now just finished flowering. In the last drop into creek, just before the cars, we passed through a nice stand of tanekaha (*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*). Three tail enders arrived late - in talking they had missed a new track section and ended up at a deer fence where the old tram continued across paddocks.

In all a rewarding day for all and a tiring day for some.

HENDERSON TRAM LOOP VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES LIST

Graeme Jane

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	Rimu, red pine
* <i>Pinus pinaster</i>	Maritime pine
<i>Podocarpus hallii</i>	Hall's totara; thin bark totara
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i> (<i>Podocarpus ferrugineus</i>)	Miro; brown pine

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Cordyline banksii</i>	Forest cabbage tree; ti ngahere
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Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>	Toropapa; shrubby honeysuckle
<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	Wineberry; makomako
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	Tawa
* <i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>	Barberry
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Putaputaweta; marbleleaf
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i> (<i>C. australis</i>)	Raurekau
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	Karamu; shining karamu
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	Karamu
* <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom
<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	Hinau
* <i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Spanish heath
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	Fuchsia; kotukutuku
<i>Geniostoma rupestre</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	Hangehange; privet
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	Broadleaf; kapuka
<i>Griselinia lucida</i>	Puka
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	Pigeonwood; porokaiwhiri
<i>Ixerba brexioides</i>	Tawari
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	Rewarewa; NZ honeysuckle
<i>Laurelia novae-zealandiae</i>	Pukatea

<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Manuka; red teatree
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i> (<i>Cyathodes fasciculata</i>)	Mingimingi
<i>Meliccytus ramiflorus</i>	Mahoe
<i>Mida salicifolia</i>	Willow-leaved maire
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	Red matipo; mapou
<i>Nestegis lanceolata</i> (<i>Gymnelaea</i>)	White maire
<i>Olearia rani</i>	Heketara
<i>Pseudowintera axillaris</i>	Horopito
<i>Pseudowintera colorata</i>	Pepperwood; mountain horopito
<i>Quintinia serrata</i> agg (<i>Q. acutifolia</i> ; <i>Q. elliptica</i>)	Tawheowheo
<i>Raukawa edgerleyi</i> (<i>Pseudopanax</i>)	Raukawa
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	Pate; patae; kotete
* <i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	Kamahi; Towai; tawhero

Monocotyledonous lianes

<i>Freycinetia banksii</i> (<i>F. baueriana</i> var)	Kiekie
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	Supplejack; kareao

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

<i>Clematis paniculata</i>	Clematis; puawhananga
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	White climbing rata; akatea
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>	Scarlet rata; winter rata
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>	Aka; small white rata; torotoro
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>	Maori jasmine; kaihu; kaiwhiria
<i>Rubus australis</i>	Bush lawyer
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	Bush lawyer; tataramoa
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry

Psilopsids, Lycopods & Quillworts

<i>Huperzia varia</i> (<i>Lycopodium varium</i>)	Hanging clubmoss; iwituna
<i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>	Puakarimu
<i>Lycopodium scariosum</i>	Creeping clubmoss
<i>Lycopodium volubile</i>	Waewae-koukou; climbing clubmoss
<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>	
<i>Tmesipteris tannensis</i>	Chain fern; fork fern

Ferns

<i>Anarthropteris lanceolata</i>	
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	Hen and chickens fern; moku
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i> ss	Hanging spleenwort; makawe
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i> (<i>A. lucidum</i>)	Shining spleenwort
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i> (<i>A. falcatum</i>)	Sickle spleenwort; petako
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i> (<i>B. lanceolatum</i>)	Nini; lance fern
<i>Blechnum discolor</i>	Crown fern; piupiu; petipeti
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>	Climbing hard fern; thread fern
<i>Blechnum fluviatile</i>	Kiwakiwa; kiwikiwi
<i>Blechnum fraseri</i>	
<i>Blechnum nigrum</i>	Black fern
<i>Blechnum novae-zealandiae</i>	Kiokio
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	Ponga; silver fern
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	Mamaku; korau; black tree fern
<i>Cyathea smithii</i>	Soft-leaved tree fern; katote
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	Wheki; harsh tree fern
<i>Diplazium australe</i> (<i>Athyrium</i>)	
<i>Gleichenia dicarpa</i> (<i>G. circinata</i>)	Waewaekaka; tangle fern
<i>Grammitis billardierei</i>	Common strap fern
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	Water fern
<i>Hymenophyllum atrovirens</i>	

<i>Hymenophyllum bivalve</i> (<i>Meringium</i>)	
<i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i> (<i>Mecodium</i>)	Piripiri; irirangi
<i>Hymenophyllum dilatatum</i> (<i>Mecodium</i>)	Lop-sided filmy fern
<i>Hymenophyllum ferrugineum</i> (<i>Sphaerocionium</i>)	
<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i> (<i>Mecodium</i>)	Fan fern
<i>Hymenophyllum multifidum</i> (<i>Meringium</i>)	
<i>Hymenophyllum rarum</i> (<i>Mecodium</i>)	Wire-stemmed filmy fern
<i>Hymenophyllum revolutum</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>	Blood-scented filmy fern
<i>Hymenophyllum scabrum</i> (<i>Mecodium</i>)	Coarse-haired filmy fern
<i>Hypolepis distans</i>	
<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i> (<i>Ctenitis</i>)	Felted fern
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i> (<i>Rumohra</i>)	hairy fern
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i> (<i>Todea</i>)	Single crepe fern; heruheru
<i>Lindsaea trichomanoides</i>	
<i>Lygodium articulatum</i>	Mangemange; bushmans mattress
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> (<i>Phymatosorus pustulatus</i>)	Hounds tongue; kowaowao
<i>Microsorium scandens</i> (<i>Phymatosorus</i>)	Mokimoki; fragrant fern
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	Scented fern; matata; ring fern
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i> (<i>Cyclosorus</i>)	Gully fern; pakau; pakauharoha
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i> (<i>P. aquilinum</i> var <i>esculentum</i>)	Bracken; rauaruhe
<i>Pyrrosia eleagnifolia</i> (<i>P. serpens</i>)	Leather-leaf fern
<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>	
<i>Sticherus cunninghamii</i> (<i>Gleichenia</i>)	Umbrella fern; kotuku; tapuwae
<i>Trichomanes elongatum</i> (<i>Selenodesmium</i>)	Bristle fern
<i>Trichomanes reniforme</i> (<i>Cardiomanes</i>)	Kidney fern; raurenga
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>	

Orchids

<i>Corybas acuminatus</i> (<i>Nematoceras</i>)	Spider orchid
<i>Corybas trilobus</i> (<i>Nematoceras</i>)	Spider orchid

<i>Earina autumnalis</i>	Easter orchid; raupeka
<i>Earina mucronata</i>	Spring orchid; peka-a-waka
<i>Genoplesium nudum</i> (<i>Corunastylis</i> , <i>Prasophyllum</i>)	
<i>Microtis unifolia</i>	Onion orchid
<i>Thelymitra carnea</i>	
<i>Thelymitra longifolia</i>	White sun orchid
<i>Winika cunninghamii</i> (<i>Dendrobium</i>)	Bamboo orchid

Grasses

* <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> (<i>A. tenuis</i>)	Browntop
* <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet vernal
<i>Cortaderia fulvida</i>	Toetoe
* <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog
<i>Microlaena avenacea</i> (<i>Ehrharta diplax</i>)	Bush rice grass; oat grass
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> (<i>Ehrharta</i>)	Forest rice grass
* <i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan fairy grass
<i>Rytidosperma gracile</i> (<i>Notodanthonia</i>)	Forest fairy grass
* <i>Rytidosperma penicillatum</i> (<i>Notodanthonia</i>)	

Sedges

<i>Carex solandri</i>	
<i>Eleocharis gracilis</i>	
<i>Gabnia xanthocarpa</i>	Giant sedge
<i>Isolepis reticularis</i> (<i>Scirpus</i>)	
<i>Schoenus apogon</i>	
<i>Uncinia silvestris</i> agg (<i>U. affinis</i>)	
<i>Uncinia uncinata</i>	Watu, hook grass

Rushes and allied plants

* <i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush
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Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

<i>Astelia fragrans</i>	Bushflax; kakaha
<i>Astelia solandri</i>	Kowharawhara
<i>Collospermum hastatum</i>	Kahakaha
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	Blueberry; turutu
<i>Libertia micrantha</i> (L. <i>pulchella</i>)	Star herb

Daisy-like herbs

<i>Anaphalioides trinervis</i> (<i>Gnaphalium</i>)	
* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (<i>C. lanceolatum</i>)	Scotch thistle
* <i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Hawkesbeard
<i>Euchiton involucratu</i> s	Creeping cudweed
<i>Euchiton limosus</i> (<i>Gnaphalium</i>)	
* <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i> (<i>Hypochaeris</i>)	Catsear
* <i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall lettuce
* <i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort

Dicotyledonous herbs other than

Composites

<i>Acaena anserinifolia</i>	Bidibid
* <i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Red bidibid; piripiri
<i>Centella uniflora</i>	
* <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove
* <i>Duchesnea indica</i>	Indian strawberry
<i>Gonocarpus incanus</i> agg (<i>G. montanus</i> ; <i>Haloragis</i>)	
<i>Gonocarpus micranthus</i> (<i>Haloragis micrantha</i>)	
<i>Haloragis erecta</i>	Toatoa
<i>Hydrocotyle dissecta</i>	
<i>Hydrocotyle heteromeria</i> (<i>H. americana</i> var)	Wax weed
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i> (L. <i>major</i> ; L. <i>uliginosus</i>)	Lotus major

* <i>Mimulus guttatus</i>	Monkey flower
<i>Nertera depressa</i> agg (<i>N. cunninghamii</i>)	Common nertera
<i>Oxalis magellanica</i> (<i>O. lactea</i>)	White oxalis
* <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort; narrow-leaved plantain
<i>Pratia angulata</i>	Panakenake
* <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal
* <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup

Uniquely Norfolk: A field course on Pacific plants taught in the Pacific

This new field course is being run by the University of Waikato which already runs several other flora courses. A field course on Pacific plants taught in the Pacific Discover the art and science of plant identification in a spectacular island setting. Course facilitators Bruce Clarkson and Chrissen Gemmill are internationally renowned specialists in the field of Pacific plants and will expertly guide your learning throughout the trip. The field course runs 22-29 February, 2004 on Norfolk Island. The flight to Norfolk Island departs from Auckland International Airport.

Please contact Scott Gemmill for more information on course booking. Phone 07 858 5207 or email scottg@waikato.ac.nz. For further details refer to the website

<http://www.conted.waikato.ac.nz/flora.shtml>