

WAIROA STREAM FIELD TRIP

Graeme Jane

A select group excitedly headed up the Wairoa Stream, near Katikati, under dubious weather conditions. We decided to concentrate on ferns and orchids and were soon pausing to note common ferns such as hounds tongue, bracken and kiokio. The first section of track had recently been re-routed away from the fence on to the stream bank under rewarewa, kohuhu and kamahi. Here a pigeonwood was almost in flower showing a mass of buds.

As we descended to the stream near the bridge *Pterostylis banksii* appeared for the first time and soon became common all along the track. Just over the treacherous bridge was a fine patch of *Lastreopsis microsora* with its creeping stems and distinctive pale green fronds. After crossing the old logging road, last used in the 1990s to remove a stand of radiata pine, the track kept close to the stream through a patch of silver fern and wheki where we saw a first lot of *Tmesipteris lanceolata* with its small, shiny flattened fronds. A little further on Cynthia drew our attention to a good example *Blechnum filiforme* that could be traced from the ground up a tree in its varied forms.

Next came the only difficult part of the track along the rocky stream bank. As we descended the first rocky piece there were patches of *Nematoceras* (*Corybas*) "Kaimai", the pale version of *N. rivulare* (of the river), in good flower in its typical habitat. Along the rocky river edge *Anaphalioides trinervis*, *Epilobium nerteroides* were common and in flower. Barer areas had mats of *Schoenus maschalinus*. At the end of the difficult bit we found ourselves in a wet area with three different sedges (*Carex geminata*, *C. virgata* and *Cyperus ustulatus*). And we were soon back into swathes of *P. banksii*. Gael pointed out several other orchids in quick order: *Drymoanthus adversus* on a fallen stem, *Diplodium* (*Pterostylis*) *alobulum* and *Nematoceras trilobum* beneath. Now we were on the well-formed former tramway in tawa, kamahi and hard beech

forest. For some distance kauri saplings up to 3 m tall, each marked with a peg, had obviously been planted.

Hymenophyllum demissum formed dense mats especially along the rocky banks where the track was close to the stream, along with kidney fern and perched colonies of *Diplodinium alobulum* and *Acianthus sinclairii* both of which had finished flowering. Here where the vegetation was more open kanuka, snowberry and a patch of *Singularybas* (*Corybas*) *oblongus* were just coming into flower. We settled for lunch under the largest kahikatea on the track. As we rose from lunch Mike spotted a sapling puriri that must have been seeded in by a pigeon as no adults could be seen.

Not long after lunch, a high bank alongside the track brought *Alseuosmia macrophylla* (in flower), *Brachyglottis kirkii* and a few new filmy ferns including *Hymenophyllum rarum*, *H. revolutum* and a nice patch of *H. flabellatum* (the fan filmy fern). Atop the bank were a few ricker kauri, possibly up to 100 years old and the answer to Cynthia's (insistent?) earlier question of how to distinguish Hall's and lowland totara (by the bark as well as buds). Just below the kauri were numerous *Pterostylis agathicola* in full flower. We scrambled up the bank in search of *Ichthyostomum* (*Bulbophyllum*) *pygmaeum* but were soon amid a mass of browsed *Alseuosmia macrophylla* and a confusion of hinau, rewarewa and tawari seedlings and carpets of kidney fern. Gael spotted the target *I. pygmaeum* but Eila found a great lot of *Drymoanthus adversus* with flower buds. A little further on we reached the first main ford where an orchid prompted a heated discussion on the differences between *P. banksii* and *P. cardiostigma*. I think Gael won. At this point we turned for home, not desiring wet feet and well satisfied with our finds. On the way home we paused in Katikati for a long black and to go over the list, discussing the finds of the day.

WAIROA STREAM TO FIRST MAIN FORD

Map: T13 Grid Ref: 27630 64055

Graeme Jane

* = naturalised

Psilopsids, Lycopods & Quillworts

Huperzia varia

Lycopodium volubile

* *Selaginella kraussiana*

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii

Adiantum fulvum

Adiantum viridescens

Asplenium bulbiferum

Asplenium flaccidum

Asplenium hookerianum var.

hookerianum

Asplenium oblongifolium

Asplenium polyodon

Blechnum chambersii

Blechnum colensoi

Blechnum filiforme

Blechnum fluviatile

Blechnum minus

Blechnum novae-zealandiae

Cardiomanes reniforme

Ctenopteris heterophylla

Cyathea dealbata

Cyathea medullaris

Dicksonia squarrosa

Doodia australis

Grammitis ciliata

Hymenophyllum demissum

Hymenophyllum dilatatum

Hymenophyllum flabellatum

Hymenophyllum rarum

Hymenophyllum revolutum

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum

Lastreopsis hispida

Lastreopsis microsora ssp.

Leptopteris hymenophylloides

Lygodium articulatum

Microsorium pustulatum ssp.

pustulatum

Microsorium scandens

Paesia scaberula

Pneumatopteris pennigera

Pteridium esculentum

Pteris macilentia

Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia

Tmesipteris elongata

Tmesipteris lanceolata

Trichomanes venosum

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Agathis australis

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides

Dacrydium cupressinum

Phyllocladus trichomanoides

* *Pinus patula*

* *Pinus pinaster*

* *Pinus radiata*

Podocarpus hallii

Podocarpus totara var. *totara*

Prumnopitys ferruginea

Prumnopitys taxifolia

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus ssp. *excelsus*

Alseuosmia macrophylla

Aristotelia serrata

Beilschmiedia tawa

Brachyglottis kirkii var. *kirkii*

Brachyglottis repanda

Carpodetus serratus

Coprosma grandifolia

Coprosma lucida

Coprosma robusta var. *angularis*

Coriaria arborea var. *arborea*

Elaeocarpus dentatus

Fuchsia excorticata
Gaultheria antipoda
Geniostoma ligustrifolium var.
ligustrifolium
Hebe stricta var. *stricta*
Hedycarya arborea
Ixerba brexioides
Knightia excelsa
Kunzea ericoides var. *ericoides*
Laurelia novae-zelandiae
Leptecophylla juniperina ssp.
juniperina
Leucopogon fasciculatus
* *Leycesteria formosa*
Litsea calicaris
Macropiper excelsum ssp.
excelsum
Melicytus ramiflorus
Myrsine australis
Nothofagus truncata
Olearia furfuracea
Olearia rani var. *colorata*
* *Paraserianthes lophantha*
Pittosporum tenuifolium
Pseudopanax arboreus
Rhabdothamnus solandri
Schefflera digitata
* *Ulex europaeus*
Vitex lucens
Weinmannia racemosa

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis paniculata
Metrosideros diffusa
Metrosideros fulgens
Metrosideros perforata
Muehlenbeckia australis
Parsonsia heterophylla
Passiflora tetrandra
Rubus australis
Rubus cissoides
* *Rubus fruticosus*

Daisy-like herbs

Anaphalioides trinervis
* *Cirsium vulgare*
* *Conyza sumatrensis*
* *Crepis capillaris*
* *Hypochoeris radicata*
* *Jacobaea vulgaris*
* *Taraxacum officinale*

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Acaena anserinifolia
* *Barbarea intermedia*
* *Digitalis purpurea*
Drosera auriculata
Epilobium nerteroides
Epilobium pedunculare
Galium perpusillum
Gonocarpus incanus
Haloragis erecta ssp. *erecta*
Hydrocotyle dissecta
Lobelia angulata
* *Lotus pedunculatus*
Nertera depressa
Oxalis magellanica
* *Prunella vulgaris*
Ranunculus reflexus
* *Ranunculus repens*
Stellaria parviflora

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline banksii
Rhopalostylis sapida

Monocotyledonous lianes

Freycinetia banksii
Ripogonum scandens

Sedges

Baumea rubiginosa
Carex forsteri
Carex geminata
Carex solandri
Carex spinirostris
Carex virgata
Cyperus ustulatus f. *ustulatus*

Gahnia lacera
Gahnia setifolia
Isolepis subtilissima
Morelotia affinis
Schoenus maschalinus
Schoenus tendo
Uncinia banksii
Uncinia ferruginea
Uncinia uncinata

Rushes and allied plants

- * *Juncus articulatus*
- * *Juncus tenuis* var. *tenuis*
- Luzula picta* var. *picta*

Grasses

- * *Anthoxanthum odoratum*
- * *Cortaderia selloana*
- * *Dactylis glomerata*
- * *Holcus lanatus*
- Microlaena avenacea*
- Microlaena stipoides*
- * *Miscanthus nepalensis*
- Oplismenus hirtellus* ssp. *imbecillis*

Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

Astelia solandri
Astelia trinervia
Collospermum hastatum
Collospermum microspermum
Dianella nigra

Phormium cookianum ssp. *hookeri*
Phormium tenax

Orchids

Acianthus sinclairii
Diplodinium alobulum
Diplodinium trullifolium
Drymoanthus adversus
Earina autumnalis
Earina mucronata
Ichthyostomum pygmaeum
Microtis unifolia
Nematoceras "Kaimai"
Nematoceras trilobum
Pterostylis agathicola
Pterostylis banksii
Singularybas oblongus