

## MIMIHA STREAM HEADWATERS

Jo Bonner

In the week before the trip, the Eastern Bay of Plenty was once again hit by an intense weather system, causing Herepuru Road, Manawahae to be closed by slips. Fortunately, at the eleventh hour we were spared a long drive around an alternate route, as the road reopened the Saturday before our Sunday trip. Despite a poor forecast, with strong winds and heavy rain predicted that afternoon, a group of hardy souls used to fickle weather was keen to continue.

The block of native bush in the Mimiha Stream headwaters is one of several areas on the Mountfort's 'Puriri Farm' that have been placed under a QE II covenant. After meeting Chris and Antoinette Mountfort and their son Brent at the farm and hearing Puriri Farm history, we were lead by car convoy about ten minutes up a metal road to the top end of the farm. After crossing a paddock we dropped down into the gully as a native pigeon sat in the puriri tree above us keeping an eye on proceedings. This area had been planted by the Mountforts some time earlier and included cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*), wineberry (*Aristotelia serrata*), akeake (*Dodonaea viscosa*), and flax (*Phormium tenax*). Chris admitted to some of us that the akeake should not have been planted as it was not found naturally in the area. A large amount of white rata vine (*Metrosideros perforata*) had finished flowering, the seed capsules dominating the plants indicating that the flowering must have been an amazing sight!

We were given the option to go upstream into area that had been previously grazed or downstream into relatively virgin bush. The latter sounded more interesting and we descended further into the gully. Large pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zealandiae*) trees lined the stream bank and their unusual fluffy seed covered the ground like a carpet in places (pretty exciting for any plant propagator in the group). Highlights alongside the stream included kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*), an abundance of fern species including

*Hymenophyllum* spp. and *Microsorium* spp. John found several plants of the flat-leaved rush (*Juncus planifolius*) on a small slip on side of the stream, unusual in that it had proliferous fruiting heads. Just before lunch, Gail showed us the difference between mamaku (*Cyathea medullaris*) and gully tree fern (*C. cunninghamii*). Prepare to be tested on this at future trips! After lunch, Graeme spotted on the stream bank a clump of bordered panic grass (*Entolasia marginata*), an exotic scrambling grass which can be aggressive and troublesome in pastures.



Lunch beside the Mimiha Stream (Photo: J. Hobbs)

The force of nature was ever present with a huge amount of debris in the stream. A lot of large trees had fallen, many across the gully, forcing us to cross the stream in many places. At one point a huge rata tree spanned the stream with one botanist keen to walk the length of the trunk from one side to the other. It took a little persuasion from Paul to convince them otherwise, that possibly they wouldn't be able to land a rescue helicopter in the gully, and that the Society had had a reasonably good Health and Safety record until now!

Our walk out of the streambed started off easily enough, but as we rose out of the gully the side become steeper and vegetation thicker. We then passed into an area that had been grazed and the comment was made that this was “good *Pimelea tomentosa* country”. Within five minutes, Graeme had found three plants! On exiting up to a felled pine plantation, we could appreciate the height we had climbed out of the gully and how little of the area we had covered. There is plenty more to explore another time.

We were invited (and accepted with thanks) a post-foray afternoon tea and de-brief with Chris and Antoinette at the farmhouse.

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### MIMIHA STREAM HEADWATERS

G. Jane, G. Donaghy and J. Hobbs

\* denotes naturalised species

#### Ferns and fern allies

<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>	common maiden hair fern
<i>Adiantum viridescens</i>	maiden hair fern
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	hen and chickens fern
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>	hanging spleenwort
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>	shining spleenwort
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>	nini
<i>Blechnum discolor</i>	crown fern
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>	climbing hard fern; thread fern
<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>	kiokio
<i>Cyathea cunninghamii</i>	gully tree fern
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	ponga; silver fern
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	mamaku
<i>Cyathea smithii</i>	soft tree fern
<i>Deparia petersenii</i> subsp. <i>congrua</i>	
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	wheki; harsh tree fern
<i>Diplazium australe</i>	
<i>Doodia australis</i>	rasp fern
<i>Huperzia varia</i>	hanging clubmoss
<i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i>	piripiri; irirangi
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>	blood-scented filmy fern

<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>	felted fern
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>	hairy fern
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>	single crepe fern; heruheru
<i>Loxogramme dictyopteris</i>	lance fern
<i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>	puakarimu
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> subsp. <i>pustulatum</i>	hound's tongue
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>	fragrant fern
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	scented fern; matata; ring fern
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>	gully fern
<i>Polystichum wawranum</i>	common shield fern
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken
<i>Pteris macilenta</i>	sweet fern
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	turawera
<i>Pyrrosia eleagnifolia</i>	leather-leaf fern
<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>	butcher's fern
<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>	common fork fern
<i>Tmesipteris lanceolata</i>	fork fern
<i>Tmesipteris sigmatifolia</i>	fork fern
<i>Trichomanes endlicherianum</i>	rock mat fern
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>	veined filmy fern

### Gymnosperms

<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	rimu, red pine
* <i>Pinus patula</i>	weeping Mexican pine
* <i>Pinus radiata</i>	radiata pine

### Dicotyledonous plants

<i>Acaena anserinifolia</i>	bidibid
* <i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	red bidibid; piripiri
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i> subsp. <i>excelsus</i>	titoki
* <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> var. <i>arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel
<i>Aphanes inexpectata</i>	parsley piert
<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	wineberry; makomako
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	tawa
* <i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>	barberry
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	rangiora; bushman's friend
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	
* <i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	starwort
<i>Calystegia tuguriorum</i>	NZ bindweed
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	wavy bitter cress
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	putaputaweta; marbleleaf
<i>Centella uniflora</i>	
* <i>Cerastium fontanum</i> subsp. <i>vulgare</i>	mouse-ear chickweed
* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Scotch thistle

<i>Clematis cunninghamii</i>	scented clematis; pokopoko
<i>Clematis foetida</i>	scented clematis
* <i>Conyza sumatrensis</i>	broad-leaved fleabane
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	kanono
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	shining karamu
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Coriaria arborea</i> var. <i>arborea</i>	tree tutu
* <i>Crepis capillaris</i>	hawksbeard
* <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	akeake
<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>	kohekohe
<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	hinau
<i>Entelea arborescens</i>	whau
<i>Epilobium pedunculare</i>	long-stalked willowherb
<i>Epilobium rotundifolium</i>	round-leaved willowherb
* <i>Erechtites hieraciifolia</i>	American fireweed
* <i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Spanish heath
<i>Euchiton involucratus</i>	creeping cudweed
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	fuchsia; kotukutuku
* <i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers
* <i>Gamochaeta coarctata</i>	
<i>Gaultheria antipoda</i>	snowberry
<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	hangehange
<i>Griselinia lucida</i>	puka
<i>Haloragis erecta</i> subsp. <i>erecta</i>	toatoa
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood
<i>Hydrocotyle dissecta</i>	
<i>Hydrocotyle moschata</i> var. <i>moschata</i>	
<i>Hydrocotyle novae-zeelandiae</i> var. <i>novae-zeelandiae</i>	common pennywort
* <i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	tutsan
* <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	catsear
* <i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	ragwort
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	rewarewa; NZ honeysuckle
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i> var. <i>ericoides</i>	kanuka; white teatree
<i>Laurelia novae-zeelandiae</i>	pukatea
<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> subsp. <i>juniperina</i>	prickly mingimingi
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> var. <i>scoparium</i>	manuka; red teatree
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi
<i>Leucopogon fraseri</i>	patotara
<i>Litsea calicaris</i>	mangeo
<i>Lobelia angulata</i>	panakenake
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	lotus major

<i>Macropiper excelsum</i> subsp. <i>excelsum</i>	kawakawa; pepper tree
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe
* <i>Mentha pulegium</i>	pennyroyal
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	white climbing rata
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>	scarlet rata; winter rata
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>	aka; small white rata
<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>	northern rata
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>	pohuehue
* <i>Mycelis muralis</i>	wall lettuce
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	red matipo; mapou
<i>Nertera depressa</i>	common nertera
* <i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	horned oxalis
<i>Oxalis exilis</i>	creeping oxalis
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>	NZ jasmine; kaihu; kaiwhiria
<i>Peperomia urvilleana</i>	wharanui
<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>	swamp willow weed
* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	inkweed
<i>Pimelea tomentosa</i>	
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	black matipo; kohuhu
* <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	narrow-leaved plantain
* <i>Plantago major</i>	broad-leaved plantain
<i>Pomaderris amoena</i>	tauhinu
* <i>Potentilla indica</i>	Indian strawberry
* <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	selfheal
<i>Ranunculus reflexus</i>	hairy buttercup, maruru
* <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	bush lawyer; tataramoa
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	blackberry
<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	clustered dock
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	pate; patae; kotete
* <i>Senecio bipinnatisectus</i>	Australian fireweed
* <i>Sison amomum</i>	stone parsley
* <i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	woolly nightshade
<i>Solanum nodiflorum</i>	small-flowered nightshade
* <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	sow thistle; puha; puka
* <i>Stellaria media</i> subsp. <i>media</i>	chickweed
<i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>	turepo; milk tree
* <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	dandelion
* <i>Trifolium repens</i>	white clover
* <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	purple-top
* <i>Veronica persica</i>	scrambling speedwell
<i>Vitex lucens</i>	pururi; kauere
<i>Wahlenbergia violacea</i>	blue harebell; rimu-roa
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	kamaha; towai; tawhero

## Monotyledonous plants

* <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	browntop
* <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernal
<i>Astelia solandri</i>	kowharawhara
<i>Astelia trinervia</i>	kauri grass
<i>Carex dissita</i>	forest sedge
* <i>Carex divulsa</i>	grey sedge
<i>Carex forsteri</i>	Forster's sedge
<i>Carex geminata</i>	rautahi
<i>Carex lambertiana</i>	
<i>Carex solandri</i>	Solander's sedge
<i>Carex virgata</i>	swamp sedge
<i>Collospermum hastatum</i>	
<i>Collospermum microspermum</i>	
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree; ti kouka
<i>Cordyline banksii</i>	forest cabbage tree; ti ngahere
* <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	pampas
* <i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	umbrella sedge
<i>Cyperus ustulatus</i> f. <i>ustulatus</i>	coastal cutty grass
* <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cocksfoot
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	blueberry; turutu
<i>Drymoanthus adversus</i>	green fleshy orchid
<i>Earina mucronata</i>	spring orchid; peka-a-waka
* <i>Entolasia marginata</i>	bordered panic grass
<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>	kiekie
<i>Gahnia setifolia</i>	gahnia
* <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog
<i>Isolepis habra</i>	
<i>Isolepis sepulcralis</i>	
* <i>Juncus effusus</i> var. <i>effusus</i>	soft rush
<i>Juncus planifolius</i>	flat-leaved rush
<i>Libertia grandiflora</i>	large-flowered libertia
<i>Luzula picta</i> var. <i>picta</i>	wood rush
<i>Microlaena avenacea</i>	bush rice grass; oat grass
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	forest rice grass
* <i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan fairy grass
<i>Morelotia affinis</i>	
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> subsp. <i>imbecillis</i>	creeping beard grass
* <i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	paspalum
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	flax; harakeke
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	nikau
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	supplejack; kareao
* <i>Rytidosperma racemosum</i>	

<i>Schoenus maschalinus</i>	
<i>Schoenus tendo</i>	
* <i>Sporobolus africanus</i>	needle grass; ratstail
<i>Uncinia uncinata</i>	watu
<i>Winika cunninghamii</i>	bamboo orchid

**Planted species:**

<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	wineberry; makomako
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree; ti kouka
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	akeake
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	flax; harakeke
<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	ribbonwood

### UPDATED NEWSLETTER INDEX

A REVISED newsletter index for all the RBS newsletters ever published from No. 1 in 1984 to No.50 in 2008 has been produced.

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