

Whangapoua weekend

Graeme Jane and Gael Donaghy

The weather was not promising and a week before the trip a storm closed the road between Whitianga and Whangapoua at Kuaotunu for five weeks, necessitating a change in accommodation for some who had planned to stay in Whitianga. We were spread around three baches and the motor camp at Te Renga. As it often turns out, the most we got was the odd light shower lasting only a few moments. We visited two rather different areas not a kilometre apart.

On the first day we headed out from the Graeme family's house near the Whangapoua wharf. At first we cut through several remnant gullies on a trap line across slope, gradually climbing to the ridge over several properties sharing the same covenant, back to original property's boundary, then descending steeply back to the bach. The gullies contained remnant puriri forest with nikau, the odd regenerating rimu, miro or tawa. The understorey was quite dense with mangemange and mingimingi and occasionally dense supplejack. On the intervening ridges tall kanuka prevailed with tanekaha, the odd kauri or totara and odd-looking kamahi typical of this transitional area where kamahi grades into the more northern towai. At one point there were hybrids of five-finger and lancewood. Lunch found us in the only clearing on an old midden site surrounded by kowhai, now almost finished flowering, and the Australian sedge. After lunch we reached the main ridge where dense *Pinus pinaster* saplings and old trees on the neighbouring property marked the boundary. The vegetation was quite open from the gaps created by the felled pine trees on the Graeme's property, with only scattered mingimingi or short kanuka, *Pomaderris kumeraho* and *P. amoena* (both in flower). Just off the ridge were a pair of adult *Pittosporum virgatum* in flower and fruit. They were of similar age and there were questions whether they had been planted about the time the sections were sold. No seedlings were found in spite of the abundance of fruit.

The steep descent to the house along a spur was mainly through tall kanuka with a mingimingi or hangehange understorey and ferns such as *Microsorium pustulatum*. *Deparia petersonii* and *Diplazium australe* appeared along the creek but there were few new species. Only a few species were added to the list provided by Meg Graeme, most notably quite a few orchids including spring flowering *Pterostylis banksii* and *P. alobula*. That evening there was a barbeque at the Graeme's to the

chorus of bellbirds and tuis and flapping and crashing of fat pigeons all feeding on the nearby kowhai. There were a few plants near the house, which had been planted, and on one tree was a *Drymoanthus adversus* in good bud.

The next morning we visited the lower part of a nearby QEII covenant, following an old bulldozer track to a solitary kawaka. The track was through tall kanuka with a wide variety of regenerating species, including kohekohe, matai, kahikatea and hinau. Understorey plants included akeake and *Brachyglottis kirkii*. Highlights were *Schizaea fistulosa*, *S. bifida* and *Caladenia atradenia* in flower. Weeds were much more prominent, especially near the start, and included the Australian sedge, mistflower and the blue iris, *Aristea ecklonii*. From the kawaka we diverted to a stream and the surrounding flat where there were kahikatea, scattered kauri rickers, the odd mature kohekohe or pukatea and scattered seedlings of loquat and karaka which were invading

After lunch many people departed but a smaller group visited Opera Point Historic Reserve, an early occupation site for Maori and a former kauri mill site which was grazed till relatively recently. Much of the area, especially on the main ridge, is still open in kikuyu and near the Point one large patch of *Vinca major* prevails over an area of perhaps several hectares. But there are large old pohutukawa, dense patches of *Pinus pinaster* and areas of kanuka only 4-5 m tall. We followed the shore track out to the dunes and spit near the harbour mouth. The initial part of the track was through pine forest with scattered *Pittosporum umbellatum* in flower, mingimingi and *Coprosma rhamnoides*, *Pterostylis alobula* and *Acianthus sinclairii* on the track banks. The track then descended to the shore where it was lined with pohutukawa and more *P. umbellatum*, then crossed the spit to the harbour mouth through *Vinca*, *Watsonia* and grasses to a *Spinifex*-lined shore with occasional patches of planted pingao.

Whangapoua Covenants species lists

G Jane & G Donaghy

Visit Date: 6 October 2019

First x: Waipipi loop

Second x: Lineham-White bulldozer track

*= naturalized exotic species

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

- xx *Agathis australis*
- xx *Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*
- _x *Dacrydium cupressinum*
- _x *Libocedrus plumosa*
- xx *Phyllocladus trichomanoides*
- _x * *Pinus pinaster* ssp. *pinaster*
- x_ *Podocarpus totara* var. *totara*
- xx *Prumnopitys ferruginea* (*Podocarpus ferrugineus*)
- xx *Prumnopitys taxifolia* (*Podocarpus spicatus*)

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

- xx *Cordyline pumilio*
- xx *Rhopalostylis sapida*

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

- xx * *Ageratina adenophora* (*Eupatorium adenophorum*)
- xx *Alseuosmia macrophylla*
- xx *Beilschmiedia tarairi*
- xx *Beilschmiedia tawa*
- _x *Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *angustior*
- xx *Brachyglottis repanda*
- _x *Carmichaelia australis* agg.
- xx *Carpodetus serratus*
- xx *Coprosma arborea*
- xx *Coprosma grandifolia*
- xx *Coprosma lucida*
- xx *Coprosma macrocarpa* ssp. *minor*
- xx *Coprosma rhamnoides* agg.
- xx *Coprosma robusta*
- xx *Coprosma spathulata* ssp. *spathulata*
- _x *Coprosma tenuicaulis*
- x_ *Coriaria arborea* var. *arborea*

- xx *Corokia buddleioides*
- xx *Corynocarpus laevigatus*
- _x *Dodonaea viscosa*
- xx *Dysoxylum spectabile*
- xx *Elaeocarpus dentatus* var. *dentatus*
- x_ *Entelea arborescens*
- _x * *Eriobotrya japonica*
- _x *Gaultheria antipoda*
- xx *Geniostoma ligustrifolium* var. *ligustrifolium*
- xx * *Hakea sericea*
- x_ *Hebe pubescens* ssp. *pubescens*
- xx *Hedycarya arborea*
- xx *Knightia excelsa*
- xx *Kunzea linearis*
- _x *Kunzea robusta*
- x_ *Laurelia novae-zelandiae*
- xx *Leptecophylla juniperina* ssp. *juniperina*
- x_ *Leptospermum scoparium* var. *scoparium*
- xx *Leucopogon fasciculatus*
- x_ *Melicope ternata*
- xx *Melicytus ramiflorus* ssp. *ramiflorus*
- x_ *Metrosideros excelsa*
- x_ *Metrosideros excelsa* x *M. robusta*
- xx *Mida salicifolia*
- xx *Myrsine australis*
- x_ *Myrsine salicina*
- xx *Nestegis lanceolata*
- xx *Olearia furfuracea*
- xx *Olearia rani* var. *rani*
- xx *Piper excelsum* ssp. *excelsum*
- x_ *Pittosporum eugenioides*

_x *Pittosporum tenuifolium* agg.
 x_ *Pittosporum umbellatum*
 x_ *Pittosporum virgatum*
 xx *Pomaderris amoena*
 xx *Pomaderris kumeraho*
 x_ * *Prunus domestica* X
 xx *Pseudopanax arboreus* agg.
Pseudopanax arboreus x *P.*
 x_ *crassifolius*
 x_ *Pseudopanax crassifolius*
 x_ * *Solanum mauritianum*
 xx *Sophora microphylla* ss.
 x_ *Syzygium maire*
 xx * *Ulex europaeus*
 x_ *Vitex lucens*

Monocotyledonous lianes

xx *Freycinetia banksii*
 xx *Ripogonum scandens*

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

xx *Clematis paniculata*
 x_ *Metrosideros diffusa*
 xx *Metrosideros perforata*
 x_ *Muehlenbeckia complexa*
 x_ *Parsonsia heterophylla*
 _x *Rubus australis*
 xx *Rubus cissoides*
 _x * *Rubus fruticosus* agg.

Psilopsids, Lycopods & Quillworts

_x *Lycopodiella cernua*
 xx *Lycopodium deuterodensum*
 xx *Lycopodium volubile*
 xx *Phlegmariurus varius*

Ferns

xx *Adiantum cunninghamii*
 xx *Asplenium flaccidum* ss.
 x_ *Asplenium oblongifolium*
 xx *Asplenium polyodon*

xx *Blechnum chambersii*
 xx *Blechnum filiforme*
 xx *Blechnum fraseri*
 xx *Blechnum novae-zelandiae*
 xx *Blechnum parrisiae*
 xx *Cyathea dealbata*
 xx *Cyathea medullaris*
 x_ *Deparia petersenii* ssp. *congrua*
 _x *Gleichenia microphylla*
 _x *Hymenophyllum demissum*
 xx *Hymenophyllum dilatatum*
 xx *Hymenophyllum flabellatum*
 x_ *Hymenophyllum nephrophyllum*
 x_ *Hymenophyllum rarum*
 _x *Hymenophyllum revolutum*
 x_ *Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum*
 xx *Hymenophyllum scabrum*
 xx *Lindsaea linearis*
 xx *Lygodium articulatum*
 _x *Microsorium pustulatum* ssp.
pustulatum
 _x *Notogrammitis ciliata* (*Grammitis*)
 _x *Paesia scaberula*
 x_ *Pneumatopteris pennigera*
 x_ *Pteridium esculentum*
 x_ *Pteris tremula*
 x_ *Ptisana salicina*
 xx *Pyrrosia eleagnifolia*
 _x *Schizaea bifida*
 xx *Schizaea fistulosa* ss.
 xx *Tmesipteris elongata*
 xx *Tmesipteris lanceolata*
 xx *Tmesipteris sigmatifolia*
 x_ *Tmesipteris tannensis*

Orchids

x_ *Acianthus sinclairii*
 x_ *Bulbophyllum pygmaeum*)
 xx *Caladenia atradenia*
 x_ *Corybas oblongus*

x_ *Earina mucronata*
x_ *Microtis unifolia*
xx *Orthoceras novae-zeelandiae*
xx *Pterostylis alobula*
x_ *Pterostylis banksii*
_x *Pterostylis trullifolia*
_x *Thelymitra carnea*
_x *Thelymitra longifolia*
_x *Thelymitra pauciflora*

Grasses

_x * *Agrostis capillaris*
xx * *Anthoxanthum odoratum*
_x * *Axonopus fissifolius*
_x * *Cenchrus clandestinus*
xx * *Cortaderia selloana*
x_ *Echinopogon ovatus*
x_ * *Ehrharta erecta*
_x * *Entolasia marginata*
x_ *Isachne globosa*
x_ * *Lagurus ovatus*
_x *Microlaena avenacea*
xx *Microlaena stipoides*
xx *Oplismenus hirtellus* ssp. *imbecillis*
x_ * *Paspalum dilatatum*
xx * *Paspalum urvillei*
x_ * *Poa annua*
_x *Rytidosperma clavatum*
xx * *Rytidosperma penicillatum*
_x * *Sporobolus africanus*

Sedges

x_ *Bolboschoenus medianus*
x_ *Carex banksiana* (*Uncinia banksii*)
x_ *Carex breviculmis*
x_ *Carex flagellifera*
_x *Carex lambertiana*
xx * *Carex longebrachiata*
x_ *Carex solandri*
x_ *Carex spirostris*
xx *Carex uncinata* (*Uncinia*)
x_ * *Cyperus eragrostis*
xx *Gahnia lacera*
xx *Gahnia setifolia*

_x *Gahnia xanthocarpa*
x_ *Isolepis prolifera*
x_ *Machaerina juncea*
x_ *Machaerina rubiginosa*
xx *Morelotia affinis*
_x *Schoenus apogon*
_x *Schoenus maschalinus*
xx *Schoenus tendo*

Rushes and allied plants

x_ * *Juncus articulatus*)
_x * *Juncus effusus* var. *effusus*

Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

x_ * *Allium triquetrum*
_x * *Aristea ecklonii*
x_ *Astelia hastata*
xx *Dianella nigra*
x_ *Libertia grandiflora*
x_ *Typha orientalis*

Daisy-like herbs

xx *Euchiton japonicus*
_x * *Gamochaeta coarctata*
x_ * *Helminthotheca echioides*
_x * *Hypochaeris radicata*
_x * *Jacobaea vulgaris*
x_ *Lagenophora petiolata* ss.
_x *Lagenophora pumila*
x_ *Microseris scapigera*
x_ *Senecio hispidulus*
x_ * *Senecio vulgaris*
x_ * *Sonchus oleraceus*
x_ * *Taraxacum officinale*

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Daisies

x_ * *Acaena novae-zeelandiae*
x_ *Callitriche petriei* ssp. *petriei*
x_ * *Callitriche stagnalis*
x_ * *Centaurium erythraea*
xx *Centella uniflora*
x_ * *Daucus carota*
xx *Drosera auriculata*
x_ * *Epilobium ciliatum*

x_ * *Euphorbia peplus*
x_ * *Fragaria vesca*
x_ * *Galium palustre*
xx *Galium perpusillum* ss.
x_ *Geranium retrorsum*
xx *Gonocarpus incanus* agg.
xx *Haloragis erecta* ssp. *erecta* agg.
x_ * *Lamium amplexicaule*
_x *Lobelia anceps*
_x *Lobelia angulata*
xx * *Lotus pedunculatus*
x_ * *Lycopus europaeus*
x_ * *Medicago nigra*
x_ * *Mentha arvensis*
x_ * *Modiola caroliniana*
xx *Nertera depressa* agg.
xx *Nertera dichondrifolia*
_x * *Phytolacca octandra*
x_ * *Plantago australis*
xx * *Plantago lanceolata*
x_ * *Plantago major*
xx * *Potentilla indica*
x_ * *Prunella vulgaris*
x_ *Ranunculus reflexus*
x_ * *Trifolium dubium*
x_ * *Trifolium repens*
xx * *Verbena bonariensis*
x_ * *Veronica persica*
xx *Veronica plebeia*
x_ * *Vicia sativa*

Opera (Te Rehutae) Point track

Graeme Jane and Gael Donaghy

Visit dates: 30 August 2009; 6 October 2019

Map: BA35

Grid Ref: 1834421 932765

* = naturalized exotic species

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Agathis australis

* *Pinus pinaster* ssp. *pinaster*

* *Pinus radiata*

Podocarpus totara var.
totara

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis

Cordyline pumilio

Rhopalostylis sapida

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

* *Ageratina adenophora*

Alseuosmia macrophylla

Alseuosmia quercifolia

Brachyglottis repanda

Coprosma cunninghamii x

(*C. propinqua* x *C.*
robusta)

Coprosma macrocarpa ssp.
minor

Coprosma rhamnoides agg.

Coprosma robusta

Corynocarpus laevigatus

Dysoxylum spectabile

* *Eriobotrya japonica*

* *Ficus carica*

Geniostoma ligustrifolium
var. *ligustrifolium*

Hebe macrocarpa ss.

Hebe pubescens ssp.

pubescens

Hebe stricta var. *stricta* ss.

Hedycarya arborea

Helichrysum lanceolatum
agg.

* *Hypericum androsaemum*

Knightia excelsa

Kunzea linearis

Leptecophylla juniperina ssp.
juniperina

Leptospermum scoparium
var. *scoparium*

Leucopogon fasciculatus

Leucopogon fraseri

* *Ligustrum lucidum*

* *Lupinus arboreus*

Melicope ternata

Melicytus ramiflorus ssp.
ramiflorus

Metrosideros excelsa

Myrsine australis

Olearia furfuracea

Olearia rani var. *rani*

Pimelea urvilleana ssp.
nesica

Piper excelsum ssp. *excelsum*

Pittosporum crassifolium

Pittosporum tenuifolium agg.

Pittosporum umbellatum

* *Prunus serrulata*

Pseudopanax lessonii

* *Quercus petraea*

* *Solanum mauritianum*

Sophora chathamica

Calystegia tuguriorum
Metrosideros perforata
Muehlenbeckia complexa
* *Rubus fruticosus* agg.
* *Senecio angulatus*
* *Vinca major*

Psilopsids, Lycopods & Quillworts

Phlegmariurus varius

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii
Adiantum hispidulum
Asplenium flaccidum ss.
Asplenium oblongifolium
Blechnum chambersii
Blechnum filiforme
Blechnum novae-zelandiae
Blechnum parrisiae
Cyathea dealbata
Cyathea medullaris
Deparia petersenii ssp. *congrua*
Dicksonia squarrosa
Microsorium pustulatum
ssp. *pustulatum*
Microsorium scandens
Paesia scaberula
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum neozelandicum
ssp. *neozelandicum*
Polystichum wawranum
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris comans
Pteris macilenta
Pteris tremula
Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia
Tmesipteris elongata

Orchids

Acianthus sinclairii
Dendrobium cunninghamii
Genoplesium pumilum
Microtis unifolia
Pterostylis alobula
Pterostylis banksii
Thelymitra longifolia

Grasses

* *Agrostis stolonifera*
* *Anthoxanthum odoratum*
* *Axonopus fissifolius*
* *Bromus catharticus* var
catharticus
* *Cenchrus clandestinus*
* *Cortaderia selloana*
* *Dactylis glomerata*
Echinopogon ovatus
* *Holcus lanatus*
Lachnagrostis billardierei ssp.
billardierei
* *Lagurus ovatus*
* *Lolium arundinaceum*
Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus hirtellus ssp.
imbecillis
* *Paspalum dilatatum*
* *Paspalum vaginatum*
Poa anceps ssp. *anceps*
* *Poa annua*
Poa billardierei
* *Rytidosperma penicillatum*
Spinifex sericeus
* *Sporobolus africanus*
* *Stenotaphrum secundatum*
* *Vulpia myuros* var. *myuros*

- * *Lotus pedunculatus*
- * *Lycopus europaeus*
- * *Lysimachia arvensis*
 ssp. arvensis var. *arvensis*
- * *Medicago arabica*
- * *Modiola caroliniana*
- * *Myosotis sylvatica* ssp. *sylvatica*
 Nertera dichondrifolia
 Oxalis exilis ss.
 Oxalis rubens or *O. perenans*
 Peperomia urvilleana
- * *Physalis peruviana*
- * *Plantago australis*
- * *Plantago lanceolata*
- * *Plantago major*
- * *Prunella vulgaris*
- * *Ranunculus parviflorus*
 Ranunculus reflexus
- * *Rumex crispus*
- * *Sagina procumbens*
 Salicornia quinqueflora
 ssp. quinqueflora
 Samolus repens var. *repens*
 Scandia rosifolia
 Selliera radicans
- * *Solanum nigrum*
 Solanum nodiflorum
- * *Torilis arvensis*
- * *Trifolium repens*
- * *Verbena bonariensis*
- * *Veronica serpyllifolia*
- * *Vicia sativa*

Sedges

Carex breviculmis

- * *Carex divulsa*
 Carex flagellifera
 Carex pumila
 Carex solandri
 Carex testacea
 Carex uncinata (Uncinia)
- * *Cyperus eragrostis*
 Cyperus ustulatus
 Ficinia nodosa
 Ficinia spiralis
 Gahnia lacera
 Gahnia setifolia

Rushes and allied plants

- * *Juncus effusus* var. *effusus*
 Juncus pallidus

Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

- * *Agapanthus praecox* ssp. *orientalis*
- * *Allium neapolitanum*
- * *Allium triquetrum*
- * *Aristea ecklonii*
 Arthropodium cirratum
 Astelia banksii
 Astelia hastata
 Dianella nigra
- * *Hedychium gardnerianum*
 Phormium tenax
- * *Sparaxis tricolor*
- * *Watsonia meriana* var. *bulbillifera*
- * *Zantedeschia aethiopica*

Daisy-like herbs

- * *Bellis perennis*
- * *Cirsium vulgare*

- * *Crepis capillaris*
- * *Dimorphotheca fruticosa*
- * *Erigeron sumatrensis*
Euchiton involucratus
Euchiton japonicus
- * *Gamochaeta coarctata*
- * *Helminthotheca echioides*
- * *Hypochaeris radicata*
- * *Jacobaea vulgaris*
- * *Leucanthemum vulgare*
- * *Senecio bipinnatisectus*
- * *Senecio esleri*
Senecio glomeratus ssp. *glomeratus*
- * *Sonchus asper*
- * *Sonchus oleraceus*
- * *Taraxacum officinale*

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Daisies

- Acaena anserinifolia*
x *A. novae-zelandiae*
- * *Acaena novae-zelandiae*
- Apium prostratum*
spp. *prostratum* var. *filiforme*
- * *Cakile maritima* ssp. *maritima*
- * *Cardamine hirsuta* agg.
- * *Centaureum erythraea*
Centella uniflora
- * *Cerastium glomeratum*
- * *Daucus carota*
Dichondra repens
- * *Digitalis purpurea*
- * *Euphorbia peplus*
- * *Foeniculum vulgare*
- * *Galium aparine*
Geranium homeanum

- Haloragis erecta* ssp. *erecta* agg.
- Lobelia anceps*
- * *Lotus pedunculatus*
- * *Lycopus europaeus*
- * *Lysimachia arvensis*
ssp. *arvensis* var. *arvensis*
- * *Medicago arabica*
- * *Modiola caroliniana*
Myosotis sylvatica ssp. *sylvatica*
- Nertera dichondrifolia*
- Oxalis exilis* ss.
- Oxalis rubens* or *O. perenans*
- * *Peperomia urvilleana*
- * *Physalis peruviana*
- * *Plantago australis*
- * *Plantago lanceolata*
- * *Plantago major*
- * *Prunella vulgaris*
Ranunculus parviflorus
- * *Ranunculus reflexus*
- * *Rumex crispus*
Sagina procumbens
- Salicornia quinqueflora*
ssp. *quinqueflora*
- Samolus repens* var. *repens*
- Scandia rosifolia*
- * *Selliera radicans*
Solanum nigrum
- * *Solanum nodiflorum*
- * *Torilis arvensis*
- * *Trifolium repens*
- * *Verbena bonariensis*
- * *Veronica serpyllifolia*
Vicia sativa