

Pennantia corymbosa (Pae o te Rangi)
Pittosporum tenuifolium
Pseudopanax crassifolius
Rhabdothamnus solandri
Rubus cissoides
Sophora microphylla
Vitex lucens

Pittosporum cornifolium (in bud)
Pseudopanax arboreus
Ranunculus reflexus
Rubus australis
Schefflera digitata
Toronia toru

Monocots excl. grasses & orchids

Astelia solandri
Carex dissita
Cordyline australis
Cordyline pumilio
Dianella nigra
Gahnia lacera
Gahnia setifolia
Isolepis reticularis
Machaerina sinclairii
Phormium tenax
Ripogonum scandens
Schoenus tendo
Uncinia uncinata

Astelia trinervia
Collospermum hastatum
Cordyline banksii
Cyperus ustulatus (Pae o te Rangi)
Freycinetia banksii
Gahnia pauciflora
Gahnia xanthocarpa
Juncus planifolius
Phormium cookianum
Rhopalostylis sapida
Schoenus maschalinus
Uncinia banksii

Orchids

Acianthus oblongus (in bud)
Bulbophyllum pygmaeum
Drymoanthus adversus
Earina mucronata
Pterostylis "rubricaulis" (in flower & bud)
Thelymitra longifolia (leaf only)

Acianthus sinclairii (in flower & seed)
Dendrobium cunninghamii
Earina autumnalis
Pterostylis brumalis (in flower)
Pterostylis trullifolia (leaf only)

Grasses

Microlaena avenacea
Oplismenus imbecillis

Microlaena stipoides (Pae o te Rangi)
Poa anceps

A brief background to J. J. Bishop (1865-1933)

P. J. de Lange

Recently de Lange (1996) clarified the taxonomic status of *Hebe bishopiana* (Petrie) Hatch. This taxon, perhaps the only truly endemic vascular plant to the Waitakere Ranges, was originally described as the hybrid *Veronica x bishopiana* by Petrie (1926). The epithet "*bishopiana*" commemorates the discovery of this uncommon plant by J. J. Bishop, whom Petrie (1926) tells us first recognised this *Hebe* as distinct and grew it in his garden at Titirangi.

While the taxonomic position of Petrie's nothotaxon has now been resolved it seems that we know very little about the man whose name was given to this beautiful *Hebe*. Recently, I made enquires into the life of J. J. Bishop, and the following information provided by Mia (granddaughter) and Tom Stein (great grandson), may be of interest to society members. The bracketed annotations are my own.

"John Joseph Bishop was the youngest son of Elizabeth Macleod [sic] and John Bishop. John Bishop senior was a ship's carpenter who settled briefly in Australia and then [went] in[to] partnership with a Mr Henderson who ran a timber mill in Freeman's Bay, Auckland. Around 1848 both moved to West

Auckland, John Bishop senior to Titirangi and Mr Henderson to the area now named after him. John Bishop senior owned a block of land that ran from the present day Rangiwai Road to Landing Road, across to and including the area now known as Waima. Mt Atkinson was formerly known as Bishop's Hill.

John Joseph Bishop, (who was known as "Chappie" to friends and family), was the youngest of 8 children and was born [on the 2 July 1865] a few months after his father died in the 1860s. He married around 1890, lived on the family farm in Titirangi and had 6 children.

John J. Bishop's family survived on subsistence farming and a cash income obtained by selling firewood, Jew's ear fungi, native plants and gathering sphagnum moss in the Waitakere Ranges. John and his brother also shared the mail run to Huia. J. J. Bishop was a keen botanist and a good friend of early botanists such as Thomas Cheeseman and Lucy Cranwell. Often visiting botanists would ask John to show them whatever flora they wished to see as he had an intimate knowledge of the Waitakere forests. He read all the scientific papers of the time, his collection of which has recently been donated to the Titirangi Library. He maintained an interesting collection of native plants around his home (Dunvegan) at 25 Huia Road, Titirangi.

He was a quiet, gentle man, and the family have never heard a harsh comment about him. He died on the 13 November 1933 after contracting pneumonia whilst suffering from cancer."

Tom Stein has told me that J. J. Bishop's garden at Titirangi is still extant, and is now owned by Tom's sister. Apparently many of the trees planted by J. J. Bishop are still there.

Regarding the botanical collections of J. J. Bishop, I have been unable to trace many of his specimens, and indeed I am quite uncertain how much of a collector Bishop was, although it seems unlikely that he ever kept a personal herbarium. Locating genuine Bishop specimens is also problematic, for like B. C. Aston (Adams 1980), Bishop's collection details appear to have been written on scrap paper, verbally communicated and/or contained within letters, so that they were invariably relabelled when they were assimilated into other collector's herbaria. Because of this, confident recognition of Bishop collections is not easy, particularly when the collector has been noted merely as "Bishop".

So far, ten collections definitely attributable to J. J. Bishop have been located in AK and WELT. Nine of these collections have been labelled either by Petrie, Cheeseman, Cranwell, or by an unrecognised hand (P. J. Brownsey *pers. comm.* 1996), presumably from details provided by J. J. Bishop (see above). The tenth specimen appears to have retained an original J. J. Bishop label, this is a Waitakere collection of *Pittosporum ellipticum* (AK 4640) (Figure 1), whose label, although I cannot be certain, is I suspect in Bishop's handwriting. I believe this is so because the script matches examples of his handwriting preserved within copies of his botanical literature held in the Titirangi Public Library.

In conclusion it would seem that J. J. Bishop, although well versed in indigenous plants, preferred to grow plants rather than collect them.

Acknowledgments

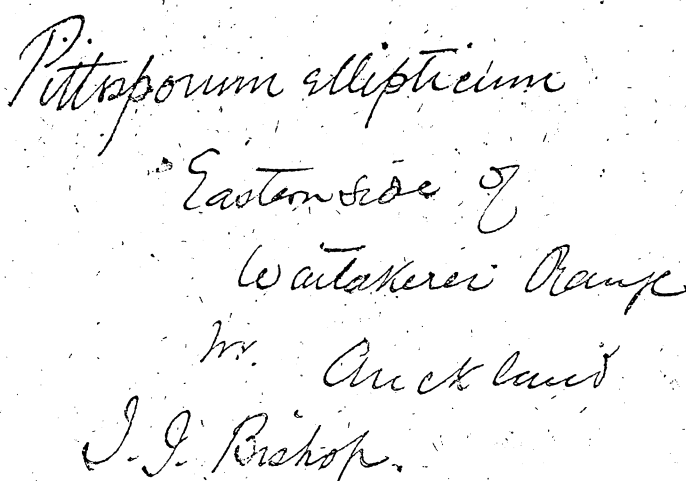
I would like to thank Mia and Tom Stein for their information on J. J. Bishop. Fiona Pitt assisted with locating the type folder of *Hebe bishopiana* in WELT. P.J. Brownsey discussed handwriting styles on specimens collected by J. J. Bishop. Doug Rogan and Stephen McCraith searched the databased AK holdings for Bishop specimens. My gratitude is also extended to the staff of the Titirangi Library for their assistance with the J. J. Bishop papers.

References

- Adams, N. A. 1980: The botanical excursions of B. C. Aston. *Tuatara* 24: 49-58.
de Lange, P. J. 1996: *Hebe bishopiana* (Scrophulariaceae) - an endemic species of the Waitakere Ranges, west Auckland, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 34: 187-194.

Petrie, D. 1926: Descriptions of new native plants. *Transactions of the New Zealand Institute* 56: 6-16.

Figure 1. A possible example of J. J. Bishop's handwriting. Handwriting specimen taken from a Waitakere collection of *Pittosporum ellipticum* (AK 4640). The label is written in blue ink on the back of an old envelope.



Pittosporum ellipticum
Eastern side of
Waitakere Range
N. Auckland
J. J. Bishop

John MacGillivray and William Milne, Plant Collectors in New Zealand, 1854

Rhys Gardner

HMS "Herald", under command of Captain Henry Mangles Denham, a naval hydrographer of considerable experience, was sent to the South-west Pacific Ocean in 1852 for general surveying work around Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, and Tonga. The "Herald" returned to England in 1861 after an absence of just over nine years, perhaps the longest surveying voyage on record.

In 1862 a memoir of the voyage was published by order of the Council of the Royal Geographical Society, including a list of its scientific accomplishments. However, no detailed journals were ever published, and it is only very recently that a full history of the voyage has been made available (David 1994). The following material is taken more or less verbatim from that book.

Following consultation with Sir William Hooker at Kew, the Admiralty appointed John MacGillivray as the "Herald" naturalist. Particularly interested in birds, he had already made two voyages to the Pacific. William Milne, a gardener from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh, was appointed botanical collector. The third 'scientist', James Glen Wilson, was principally the official artist. He was responsible for some photographic equipment, and the "Herald" may have been the first ship in the Pacific to carry cameras, though this seems to have been an unsuccessful venture.

MacGillivray promised Sir William Hooker that he would send him his collection of plants, but hoped to make a duplicate set for the British Museum to be presented to them after he had written up the results of the voyage. He was especially looking forward to collecting in Fiji, and also in New Caledonia, where the only previous work had been by the Forsters and Labillardiere. His detailed journal is now deposited at the Public Record Office, Kew.