

The tragic death of Mr. B. West occurred shortly before he was to lead the Society round the bush. Our condolences were conveyed to his family, who very kindly said they would lead the outing, and turned out in force to do this - including nonagenarian Mr. West, who went all the way round with us.

We left the bus at the end of the metal and walked down the clay road to the right through manuka scrub, leaving for a track dropping down to the gully a short way on the left. Here we passed through Kauri rickers, with tanekaha common, both toro and toru (*Myrsine salicina* and *Persoonia*), *Phebalium*, ake-ake and both *Cyathodes* (*C. fascicularis* and *C. juniperina*) associated.

By the track there were numerous orchids in flower, *Pterostylis trullifolia* var. *gracilis*, *P. graminea* and *Acianthus reniformis* var. *oblongus* were common, and leaves of *Corybas trilobus*, later found in fruit. In the gully was *Elatostema*, along with nikau.

We stopped for lunch by one of the few surviving large kauris, which had an abundance of regeneration beneath it, including its own kind. Beyond was a bare taraire patch with some puriri and nikaus.

Some went a detour along a ridge track through low manuka scrub to see the Maori pa site, and were well rewarded also in seeing a number of plants not seen earlier, some of which could have come with the Maoris. The pa was made no doubt as a defensive lookout, being on two small hills trenched, and connected by a sharp ridge. The odd towai was there, with seedlings being very like *Ackema*. Several ferns not seen elsewhere were common on the banks including *Eyrosia*, *Adiantum* and *Polystichum*. Orchids clothed the banks too, all those mentioned earlier being present, with the rare fruit of *C. trilobus*.

On the track on the way out to the road again an exceptionally large specimen of a *Hypolepis* fern was collected from a swampy patch, and was climbing to six feet. Miss Crookes took some for further study, and it took some arranging to get into the press.

Out on the clay road we were greeted by the kumeraho, with a profusion of attractive yellow flowers, bright in the sun. Manuka was in good flower too, and they went well together. We went down the road a little further through the pines, some looking deficient, and then turning off at the fork down an overgrown track to the left to see the kawakas. These were found by the Wests earlier when taking kauri out. There were a few small trees to about twenty feet at the head of the gully, and with kauris below running down the ridge. Under these I first caught the scent of and then saw some fine *Alseuosmia macrophylla* in flower. There were tawa and taraire too in places, *Corokia buddleioides* and the terrestrial *Senecio kirkii*.

We were very much indebted to the West family for showing us round their bush. On the way out we stopped briefly at the stream, one of us to see the Niggerhead sedge (*Carex secta*), and myself to see the alien waterweed *Aponogeton distachyus*, with its white flowers prominent.