

Botanically the main items were the Pterostylis alobula and Acianthus fornicatus var. sinclairii (now seeding) and three or four trees at the edge of the creek which proved to be Plagianthus betulinus.

As John Horsman found Yoania australis in Kirk's Bush about nine years ago, it seems possible that it could occur on the slopes at Clevedon. Perhaps we might find it this December.

MURIWAI LAKES - 20th. September

Mrs. B. WORMALD

On Saturday, 20th. September, our monthly outing was to the Muriwai Lakes. To most of us this part of the area was new, as on former trips we went further north.

Alighting from our bus we climbed up the side of the road and through rough scrub which had been slashed down, into a pine forest where the going was easy. Quite a few native plants were regenerating under the pines - Coprosma crassifolia, C. rhamnoides and C. australis, Macropiper excelsum (kawakawa), Brachyglottis repanda (rangiora), Geniostoma ligustrifolium, Melicope ternata, Podocarpus totara, Carmichaelia australis and Phormium tenax. Muehlenbeckia complexa draped itself over many low branches of the pines and we also found a few vines of Parsonsia heterophylla trying to establish themselves. A few ferns scattered under the trees were Asplenium lucidum and A. falcatum, Polypodium diversifolium and Pteris tremula.

Following down a forest road we climbed over a fence and made our way across a field to the edge of a small lake, which had quite a large population of frogs by the sound of croaking which greeted us. A few of the party decided to stop here as we had several difficult fences to climb. The rest of us skirted the lake where there was much more vegetation. Several young kauris were growing together with kahikatea, totara, (puriri and kowhai both in bloom), rewarewa, karaka, ngaio also in flower, Cordyline australis and Griselinia lucida. Metrosideros perforata and Rhabdothermus solandri with its orange bells grew under the canopy of Earina autumnalis and Collospermum hastatum perched on branches. The few ferns were Pteris saxatilis and P. tremula, Adiantum fulvum, Doodia media and the tree fern Cyathea medullaris.

In the afternoon we visited Muriwai beach and as the tide was out climbed round the rocks for a view of the cliff formations in Maori Bay.