

Paths & visitor assistance (continued)

Some trees have identification placards and information notices are present at the entrances but these could be supplemented by an informative leaflet which could be available free or for a small charge. The leaflet could give a brief account of the history and botany of the bush and perhaps key up with a "nature trail" marked by sturdy posts. It would help to encourage locals to take a pride in "their" bush.

5. Neighbours

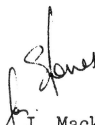
The bush is fortunate in having relatively short boundaries with neighbours. Unfortunately some of these do still regard the bush as a rubbish tip. Apart from the untidy appearance such rubbish is a source of weeds. Perhaps the margin of the bush could be marked with conspicuous pegs and neighbours contacted to ask for their cooperation and assistance.

6. Rubbish/vandals

These are ubiquitous hazards. The small amount of rubbish noted on a recent visit suggests that clearing is being carried out. Some vandalism of silver fern (*Cyathea dealbata*) was noted and remnants of huts seen, but it was considered relatively minor. Perhaps some local residents could be encouraged to act as "on the spot" rangers.

We hope these comments may be of help to your Board.

Yours sincerely


J. Mackinder
President

Asplenium polyodon - RIGHT OR WRONG?

E.D. Hatch

In 1769, in the *Primitiae Florae* (MS. p.1538) Solander described a fern from the forest areas of Tolaga Bay and Whitianga, as *Asplenium polypodon*, the specific name from the Greek, meaning 'many-footed'.

Solander's work was of course never published and it was left to George Forster to legitimise this name in his *Florulae Insularum Australium Prodromus* (literally 'A preliminary note on the little Floras of the southern islands') in 1786 p.80 n.428. Whether due to a slip on Forster's part, or to a printer's error, the name came through as *polyodon*, without the 'p'. According to article 82 of the Code (my copy is the 1952 edition which could conceivably be out of date) 'The original spelling of a name or epithet must be retained, except typographic or orthographic errors' (my emphasis). The examples following article 82 suggest that this fern's name should properly be *Asplenium polypodon* Forst.f.