

## DAY 1 SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2016

### ARRIVAL

Gillian Giller

We arrived at Puriri Bay, Arapawa Island by water taxi and private boat from Picton in the afternoon of the 13<sup>th</sup> February and spent the balance of the day settling in. Those attending were Arthur Adcock, Jason Butt, Raviv Carasuk, Miles and Gillian Giller, Aiden King, Paul Maurice, Colin Meurk, Margaret and George Ridgen, Joy Talbot and Jonet Ward. Everyone appreciated the quad bike with trailer driven by Arthur to ferry our gear from the jetty to the house where we would stay for the next few days. This left us with plenty of energy to make the inevitable forays into the surrounding vegetation and along the shoreline later that afternoon. We were deafened by the cicadas as we admired the numerous stick insects on the kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*). There were two tall nikau palms and a gnarled ngaio growing close by the house (Fig. 1). A puriri (*Vitex lucens*) had been planted. The Persian walnut tree at the back of the house apparently provides food for opportunistic pigs in the autumn. The day finished with a shared meal. The view from the deck was very restful and we were lulled to sleep by the sound of the sea.



**Figure 1** The Puriri Preservation accommodation house and Puriri Bay (photo Paul Maurice).