

Gonocarpus incanus
Hydrocotyle novae-zelandiae
Hypericum pusillum (*H. japonicum*)
Ileostylus micranthus, mistletoe
Knightia excelsa, rewarewa
Kunzea ericoides, kanuka
Leptocophylla juniperina, prickly mingimingi
Leptospermum scoparium, manuka
Leucopogon fasciculatus, mingimingi
Lobelia anceps
Macropiper excelsa, kawakawa
Melicytus ramiflorus, mahoe
Muehlenbeckia complexa, wire vine
Myoporum laetum, ngaio
Myrsine australis, mapou
Nertera depressa
Nestegis montana, mountain maire, narrow-leaved maire
Olearia albida, tree daisy
Olearia furfuracea, akepiro, tree daisy
Olearia solandri, saltmarsh tree daisy
Parsonsia heterophylla, native jasmine
Persicaria decipiens, willow weed
Plagianthus divaricatus, saltmarsh ribbonwood
Pomaderris amoena, tauhinu
Pomaderris kumeraho, kumarahou
Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum, cudweed
Pseudopanax lessonii, houpara, coastal five finger
Ranunculus reflexus, hairy buttercup
Rubus cissoides, bush lawyer
Samolus repens
Sarcocornia quinqueflora, glasswort
Selliera radicans, remuremu
Solanum nodiflorum, nightshade
Sophora chathamica, kowhai
Spergularia sp., sea spurrey
Suaeda novae-zelandiae, sea blite
Veronica plebeia

Monocotyledons

Apodasmia similis, oiioi, jointed wire rush
Astelia banksii, shore kowharawhara
Austrostipa stipoides, needlegrass

Baumea articulata, jointed twig-rush
Baumea juncea
Baumea rubiginosa
Baumea tenax
Baumea teretifolia
Bolboschoenus fluviatilis, marsh clubrush
Carex flagellifera, trip-me-up
Carex ochrosaccus
Carex secta, pukio
Carex solandri
Carex virgata
Cordyline australis, cabbage tree
Cordyline pumilio, dwarf cabbage tree
Cyperus ustulatus
Dianella nigra, blueberry
Eleocharis acuta, sharp spike sedge
Eleocharis sphacelata, giant spike sedge
Ficinia nodosa, knobby club rush
Gahnia lacera, cutty grass
Isachne globosa, swamp millet
Isolepis cernua
Isolepis prolifera
Isolepis reticularis
Juncus edgariae
Juncus kraussii, sea rush
Juncus pallidus
Juncus planifolius, leafy rush
Juncus sarophorus
Lachnagrostis filiformis, wind grass
Lemna minor, duckweed
Lepidosperma australe, square sedge
Lepidosperma laterale, sword sedge
Microlaena stipoides, meadow rice grass
Oplismenus hirtellus, bush panic grass
Phormium tenax, harakeke, flax
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani, lake clubrush
Schoenus maschalinus
Triglochin striata, arrow grass
Typha orientalis, raupo
Wolffia australiana, watermeal

Trip Report: Mt Pleasant Bush, Pine Valley Road, Silverdale, 19 June 2010

Lisa Clapperton

Those attending were: *Lisa Clapperton* (leader), *Brian Cumber*, *Neil Davies*, *Hamish Dublon*, *Michelle Dublon*, *Anne Grace*, *Sharon Graham*, *Joe Gregg*, *Richard Hursthouse*, *Peter Hutton*, *Sandra Jones*, *James Luty*, *Christine Major*, *John Millett*, *Juliet Richmond*, *Josh Salter*, *Gorakh Silvester*, *Harold Waite*, *Mike Wilcox*, *Dave Wilson*, *Philip Wrigley*, *Maureen Young*.

The Mt Pleasant property is owned by Bob and Molly Crawford and has been the family farm for a number of generations, as a dairy farm and more latterly raising dairy calves and heifers. The fascinating homestead is 103 years old, with the bush having been milled about 1890.

The area of bush covers about 25 ha on the south facing slope visible to the north of Pine Valley Road, Silverdale. Weiti Stream runs along the toe of the slope forming a natural boundary between the pasture and the bush as it makes its way east to the Wade (Weiti) River running from Silverdale out to the sea at the southern base of the Whangaparaoa Peninsula. From a distance stands of kauri (*Agathis australis*) rickers emerge from the general canopy containing a wide range of climax species (Fig. 1).

We followed a spur up to the main skyline ridge which runs west to east separating Pine Valley Road from the Wainui Valley. We were all kept busy observing and recording the plants and were impressed by the good quality and tree variety of the forest so progress was slow right from the start. Kauri, tanekaha

(*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*), with some rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) were the main trees at first. We later made our way through *Pomaderris kumeraho*, *Alseuosmia quercifolia*, *Schizaea dichotoma*, amongst dense growth of cutty grass (*Gahnia xanthocarpa*). One of the small "kauri" orchids, *Diplodium brumalum*, was in full flower, and the hook sedges *Uncinia banksii* and *U. zotovii* were plentiful. A blue mushroom (*Entoloma hochstetteri*)



Fig. 1. Kauri and tanekaha pole forest on ridge with *Gahnia xanthocarpa*. Photo: Mike Wilcox, 19 June 2010.

was looking particularly eye-catching as the slope steepened on our way up the ridge, and there were several patches of the forest floor herb *Nertera dichondrifolia*, nicely in fruit.

The south-facing slopes supported a broadleaved forest with the canopy dominated by taraire (*Beilschmiedia tarairi*), with some kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*), and puriri (*Vitex lucens*), and abundant tree ferns in places though generally very open underneath (Fig. 2). A number of less common plants were noted; among these were *Pimelea longifolia*, *Nestegis montana*, *Toronia toru*, *Streblus heterophyllus*, *Mida salicifolia*, *Meliccytus micranthus*, *M. macrophyllus*, *Corokia buddleoides*, *Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *angustior*, *Grammitis rawlingsii*, and

Schizaea dichotoma. We stopped for lunch amongst *Grammitis rawlingsii* with a few plants of *Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *angustior* with remnant flowerheads near by.

Unusually, kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*) grew along the main ridge with native broom (*Carmichaelia australis*) and *Coprosma areolata*. Pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*) was also found just down from the top of the ridge, and one fine specimen of *Griselinia lucida* was much admired.



Fig. 2. Taraire forest on southern slopes. Photo: Mike Wilcox, 19 June 2010.

An historical slip provided a window for wineberry (*Aristotelia serrata*) to establish with the typically thick supplejack (*Ripogonum scandens*) vines in the gullies. Along the stream bank by the entrance to the bush there were carpets of parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*), pate (*Schefflera digitata*) and plentiful *Blechnum chambersii*.

We timed it beautifully back to the cars just as the rain set in after a most enjoyable ramble in an area of surprisingly diverse bush. Many thanks to the Crawford family for the privilege of being able to visit their well-cared-for native bush.

Native vascular plant species list for Mt Pleasant Bush - recorded by Lisa Clapperton & Mike Wilcox on 19 May 2010, & Sandra Jones, Maureen Young and the Bot Soc group on 19 June 2010

Lycopods

Huperzia billardierei
Lycopodium deuterodensum
Lycopodium volubile

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii
Asplenium bulbiferum
Asplenium flaccidum
Asplenium oblongifolium
Asplenium polyodon
Blechnum chambersii
Blechnum discolor

Blechnum filiforme
Blechnum fraseri
Blechnum membranaceum
Blechnum novae-zelandiae
Cardiomanes reniforme
Cyathea dealbata
Cyathea medullaris
Deparia petersenii
Dicksonia squarrosa
Grammitis rawlingsii
Hymenophyllum demissum
Hymenophyllum dilatatum
Hymenophyllum revolutum

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum
Lastreopsis hispida
Lindsaea trichomanoides
Loxogramme dictyopteris (Anarthropteris lanceolata)
Lygodium articulatum
Microsorium pustulatum
Microsorium scandens
Paesia scaberula
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris tremula
Schizaea dichotoma
Tmesipteris elongata
Tmesipteris tannensis

Conifers

Agathis australis
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides
Dacrydium cupressinum
Phyllocladus trichomanoides
Podocarpus hallii
Podocarpus totara
Prumnopitys ferruginea
Prumnopitys taxifolia

Dicots

Alectryon excelsus
Alseuosmia quercifolia
Aristolelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tarairi
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior
Carmichaelia australis
Carpodetus serratus
Clematis cunninghamii
Clematis paniculata
Coprosma areolata
Coprosma grandifolia
Coprosma lucida
Coprosma rhamnoides
Coprosma robusta
Coprosma spathulata
Corokia buddleioides
Dysoxylum spectabile
Elatostema rugosum
Geniostoma ligustrifolium
Griselinia lucida
Hedycarya arborea
Knightia excelsa
Kunzea ericoides
Laurelia novae-zelandiae
Leptecophylla juniperina
Leucopogon fasciculatus
Melicytus macrophyllus
Melicytus micranthus

Melicytus ramiflorus
Metrosideros diffusa
Metrosideros fulgens
Metrosideros perforata
Mida salicifolia
Muehlenbeckia australis
Myrsine australis
Myrsine salicina
Nertera dichondrifolia
Nestegis lanceolata
Nestegis montana
Olearia furfuracea
Olearia rani
Parsonsia heterophylla
Pimelea longifolia
Pittosporum tenuifolium
Pomaderris kumeraho
Pseudopanax arboreus
Pseudopanax crassifolius
Rubus australis
Rubus cissoides
Schefflera digitata
Streblus heterophyllus
Toronia toru
Vitex lucens

Monocots

Acianthus sinclairii
Astelia solandri
Astelia trinervia
Carex dissita
Carex solandri
Collospermum hastatum
Cordyline australis
Cordyline banksii
Cordyline pumilio
Cyrtostylis oblonga
Dianella nigra
Diplodium brumale
Earina mucronata
Freycinetia banksii
Gahnia pauciflora
Gahnia setifolia
Gahnia xanthocarpa
Ichthyostomum pygmaeum
Microlaena avenacea
Oplismenus hirtellus
Ripogonum scandens
Rhopalostylis sapida
Schoenus maschalinus
Schoenus tendo
Uncinia banksii
Uncinia uncinata
Uncinia zotovii
Winika cunninghamii