

Raphanus raphanistrum *
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum *
 (syn. *Nasturtium officinale*)
Rumex acetosella *
Rumex conglomeratus *
Rumex crispus *
Rumex obtusifolius *
Rumex pulcher *
Sagina procumbens *
Senecio bipinnatisectus
Senecio esleri
Senecio hispidulus
Senecio skirrhodon *
Senecio sylvaticus *
Senecio vulgaris *

Sherardia arvensis *
Sisymbrium officinale *
Solanum chenopodioides *
Solanum nigrum *
Solanum nodiflorum
Soliva sessilis *
Sonchus asper *
Sonchus oleraceus *
Spergula arvensis *
Spergularia rubra *
Stachys arvensis *
Symphyotrichum subulatum *
Stellaria media *
Taraxacum officinale *
Torilis arvensis *

Trifolium dubium *
Trifolium micranthum *
Trifolium pratense *
Trifolium repens *
Trifolium subterraneum *
Tropaeolum majus *
Verbena bonariensis *
Verbena incompta *
Veronica anagallis-aquatica *
Veronica arvensis *
Veronica persica *
Vicia sativa *
Vinca major *
Viola odorata *

A Kaipatiki Christmas at the Eskdale Reserve Network, 2 December 2017

Bec Stanley

Participants: Jenny Andrew, Fabrice Barras, Colleen Brewer, Warren Brewer, Maureen Burke, Ewen Cameron, Lisa Clapperton, Derek Craig, Brian Cumber, Neil Davies, Frances Duff, Leslie Haines, Peter Moosberger, Helen Preston-Jones, Dhahara Ranatunga, Juliet Richmond, Joshua Salter, Ian Smith, Lydia Smith, Bec Stanley, Adrienne Stanton, Alison Wesley, Mike Wilcox and Maureen Young.

This is the second time Bot Soc has visited the Eskdale Reserve network on Auckland's North Shore, the first being sixteen years ago (16th June 2001) on a day that we also visited Smiths Bush (led by Steve Cook). A report of this first visit never quite made it to publication but I've included a record of it, by Mike Wilcox, as an appendix (Appendix 1).



Fig. 1. The slow start as we gather around the Clover dodder. All photos by author on the trip.

Our December trip each year is usually combined with a shared lunch and we were pleased to be able to use the facilities of the Kaipatiki Project, based at the Eskdale Reserve. For the past twenty years this project has coordinated restoration of the reserve and provided environmental education based at their centre, teaching garden and nursery. We were hosted (and led) by Kaipatiki volunteer Fabrice Barras and Restoration Manager Derek Craig. After lunch they gave us a tour of their nursery facility.

This patch of bush is an amalgam of eight gazetted reserves, covering 63 ha, set in a highly urban context. As parcels of land were acquired each was given its own unique name. The council's management plan refers to them collectively as the "Eskdale Reserve Network" which seems the most helpful way of describing the place we visited (Eskdale Bush Reserve, Birkenhead Domain, Hiwihau Reserve and Lauderdale Reserve). The first parts of this network were protected almost 140 years ago (1880). It's had a complicated history of clearance and use (including as milling and gum-digging and later, market gardens). This patchwork of acquisitions has left a range of ages of secondary forest. Botanically this mixed aged forest, surrounding several valleys, provides habitat for a diverse range of plants. The reserve network as a whole is kauri-podocarp-broadleaved forest with patches of taraire/tawa-podocarp forest, wetland and gumland scrub.

Our walk got off to a slow start in the pasture outside the bush when we encountered the curious (exotic) rootless parasitic clover dodder, *Cuscuta epithymum* (Convolvulaceae) (Fig. 1). Its masses of tiny white flowers were tangled up with their distinctive thread like stems. It only winds around its host plant counter-clockwise.

Just inside the bush, on the trackside, we noticed parsley dropwort (*Oenanthe pimpinelloides*) which Bot Soc has been noting popping up more and more in our lists. It was mostly in the pasture alongside the reserve, however, and not in shaded bush.

A botanical highlight of the day was seeing a magnificent grove of swamp maire (*Syzygium maire*), the most abundant population we know of on the North Shore. Mike Wilcox described it, with its pink breathing roots (pneumatophores), as NZ's "freshwater mangrove" which seems to me very apt (Fig. 2). We hoped that the recent arrival of myrtle rust doesn't affect this already regionally uncommon tree. Here it grows beside, and in, a slow-moving stream which flattens into a small wetland.

In total we recorded 142 plants on this trip which, bolstered by the records from Gardner et al. (1981), totals 171 plants listed in this report for this reserve, 51 (one third) of which are exotic (Appendix 2). I note that we did not traverse much of the bush, the result of a combination of our typical botanical pace, great conversations and the keenness to enjoy a shared lunch to celebrate another successful year of botanising and botanical company.

Acknowledgements

Our thanks to Fabrice Barras and Derek Craig for hosting and leading the trip, and for use of the Kaipatiki Project facilities.



Fig. 2. The 'freshwater mangrove' *Syzygium maire*.

References

- Cameron, E.K. 2017. The correct spelling of the specific epithet to towai/tawhero (*Weinmannia*). *NZ Bot Soc Newsletter* 129: 7
Gardner, R.O., Court, D.J., Esler, A.E. 1981: Scenic Reserves of lower North Auckland land district: a botanical survey of scenic reserves of the lower North Auckland land district. New Zealand. Department of Lands and Survey. Wellington, N.Z. 212 p.

Appendix 1. Unpublished notes from the 2001 Bot Soc trip to this reserve, by Mike Wilcox (pers. comm.).

16 June 2001:

Eskdale Reserve has mixed pole stands of kahikatea, matai, totara, and tanekaha, with prevalent large kowhai. Other plants of interest are the magnificent populations of swamp maire (*Syzygium maire*) along the course of a creek, several weeds (wild ginger, climbing asparagus, elaeagnus), and rich gumland communities, with abundant umbrella fern (*Gleichenia microphylla*) and toru (*Toronia toru*). Some sedges of note were *Gahnia xanthocarpa*, *Morelotia affinis*, *Uncinia banksii*, *Lepidosperma australe*, and *Schoenus tendo*. Judy Tehiwi has set up an archive of weaving flax cultivars. Some Japanese walnut (*Juglans ailantifolia*) grow along a stream, and there are frequent large radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*). Above the flax archives are some large black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) and two fine specimens of karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*).

Appendix 2. Plant Species List recorded by Ewen Cameron, Maureen Young and Bec Stanley.

Plants not seen by us are denoted by an AK number and collector name (specimens from Auckland Museum herbarium) or referenced as Gardner et al. 1981 (recorded by D J Court in a 1975 Lands and Survey inventory).

p = planted; p? = probably planted; asterisk (*) denotes an exotic species.

	Noted by Gardner et al. 1981	specimen in Auckland Museum herbarium		#	
FERNS & LYCOPHYTES (48)					
<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>			<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>		
<i>Adiantum raddianum</i> *			<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i> *		
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>			<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>		
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>			<i>Tmesipteris tannensis</i>		
<i>Asplenium gracillimum</i>			<i>Trichomanes elongatum</i>		P J de Lange, 2017, AK363572
<i>Asplenium lamprophyllum</i>	#		<i>Trichomanes endlicherianum</i>		P J de Lange, 2016, AK367241
<i>Asplenium × lucrosum</i>		P J de Lange, 2017, AK363573	<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>		
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>			CONIFERS (9)		
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>			<i>Agathis australis</i>		
<i>Austroblechnum lanceolatum</i> (<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>)			<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>		
<i>Austroblechnum membranaceum</i> (<i>Blechnum membranaceum</i>)			<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>		
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>			<i>Phyllocladus trichomanoides</i>		
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>			<i>Pinus pinaster</i> *		
<i>Deparia petersenii</i>			<i>Pinus radiata</i> *		
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>			<i>Podocarpus totara</i>		
<i>Doodia australis</i> (<i>Blechnum parrisiae</i>)			<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>		
<i>Gleichenia microphylla</i>			<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>		
<i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i>	#		MONOCOTS (57)		
<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>	#		<u>Grasses (11)</u>		
<i>Hymenophyllum revolutum</i>	#		<i>Aira caryophyllaea</i> *		
<i>Icarus filiformis</i> (<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>)			<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> *		
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>	#		<i>Cortaderia selloana</i> *		
<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>			<i>Deyeuxia avenoides</i>		
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>	#		<i>Microlaena avenacea</i>		
<i>Lindsaea linearis</i>			<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	#	
<i>Lindsaea trichomanoides</i>	#		<i>Opismenus hirtellus</i>		
<i>Loxogramme dictyopteris</i>			<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>		M L Creamer, 1990, AK278529
<i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>			<i>Poa anceps</i>	#	
<i>Lycopodium volubile</i>	#		<i>Rytidosperma biannulare</i>	#	
<i>Lygodium articulatum</i>			<i>Setaria palmifolia</i> *		
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i>			<u>Sedges and rushes (22)</u>		
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>			<i>Carex banksiana</i>		
<i>Notogrammitis billardiarei</i>	#		<i>Carex dissita</i>		
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	#		<i>Carex geminata</i> agg. [incl. <i>C. lessoniana</i>]		
<i>Parablechnum novae-zelandiae</i> (<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>)			<i>Carex lambertiana</i>		
<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>		D J Court, 1975, AK182095	<i>Carex ochrosaccus</i>	#	
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>			<i>Carex virgata</i>	#	
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>			<i>Carex solandri</i>		
<i>Pteris macilenta</i>	#		<i>Carex uncinata</i>		
<i>Pteris tremula</i>			<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i> *		
<i>Pyrrosia elaeagnifolia</i> [see NZ Bot Soc Newsletter 129: p.8, 2017]			<i>Cyperus ustulatus</i>		
			<i>Gahnia lacera</i>		
			<i>Gahnia pauciflora</i>		
			<i>Gahnia setifolia</i>		
			<i>Gahnia xanthocarpa</i>		
			<i>Isolepis reticularis</i>		P J de Lange, 2016, AK367251
			<i>Lepidosperma australe</i>		

<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	#		<i>Coprosma arborea</i>	#	
<i>Machaerina tenax</i>			<i>Coprosma areolata</i>		
<i>Machaerina rubiginosa</i>			<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>		
<i>Morelotia affinis</i>			<i>Coprosma lucida</i>		
<i>Schoenus maschalinus</i>	#		<i>Coprosma macrocarpa</i>		
<i>Schoenus tendo</i>			<i>Coprosma rhamnoides</i>		
Other monocots (24)			<i>Coprosma robusta</i>		
<i>Allium triquetrum</i> *			<i>Coprosma spathulata</i>		
<i>Apodasmia similis</i> (p)			<i>Coriaria arborea</i>	#	
<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i> *			<i>Corokia buddleioides</i>	#	
<i>Aristea ecklonii</i> *			<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>		
<i>Astelia hastata</i>			<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	#	
<i>Cordyline australis</i>			<i>Dracaena draco</i> * (seedling)		
<i>Cordyline banksii</i>			<i>Dracophyllum sinclairii</i>		
<i>Cordyline pumilio</i>			<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>		
<i>Corybas cheesemanii</i>			<i>Elaeagnus × reflexa</i> *		
<i>Crocasmia × crocosmiflora</i> *			<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> *		
<i>Dianella nigra</i>			<i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> * (p)		
<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>			<i>Euonymus japonicus</i> *		
<i>Hedychium flavescens</i> *			<i>Fatsia japonica</i> *		
<i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i> *			<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>		
<i>Libertia grandiflora</i>		D J Court, 1975, AK182128	<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolia</i>		
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> *			<i>Hakea sericea</i> *		
<i>Phormium tenax</i>			<i>Hebe stricta</i>		D J Court AK180754
<i>Pterostylis graminea</i>			<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>		
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>			<i>Hoheria populnea</i>		
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>			<i>Juglans ailantifolia</i> *		
<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i> *			<i>Knightia excelsa</i>		
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i> *			<i>Kunzea linearis</i> × <i>K. robusta</i>		
<i>Typha orientalis</i>			<i>Kunzea robusta</i>		
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopicum</i> *			<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i> (p)		
CLIMBERS (10)			<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> subsp. <i>juniperina</i>		
<i>Asparagus scandens</i> *			<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> (p?)		
<i>Metrosideros colensoi</i> p?		P J de Lange, 2016, AK367259	<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>		
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>			<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> *		
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>			<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> *		
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>			<i>Litsea calicaris</i>	#	
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>		E K Cameron, 1996, AK230042	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> *		
<i>Passiflora tetrandra</i>	#		<i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i>	#	
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>			<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> *		P J de Lange, 2016, AK367249
<i>Rubus australis</i>			<i>Melicope ternata</i>	#	
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>			<i>Melicytus macrophyllus</i>	#	
			<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>		
DICOT TREES, SHRUBS & WOODY (78) (18 exotic)			<i>Mida salicifolia</i>		
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>			<i>Myrsine australis</i>		
<i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>			<i>Nestegis lanceolata</i>		
<i>Alseuosmia quercifolia</i>			<i>Olearia furfuracea</i>		
<i>Beilschmiedia tarairi</i>			<i>Olearia rani</i> var. <i>rani</i>		
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>			<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i> *		
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>			<i>Piper excelsum</i>		
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i> *			<i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i> (p)		
<i>Carmichaelia australis</i>		P J de Lange, 2016, AK367248	<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i> (p?)		
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>			<i>Pomaderris amoena</i>		
			<i>Pomaderris kumeraho</i>		
			<i>Prunus campanulata</i> *		E K Cameron, 1997, AK234343

<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>		<i>Calystegia silvatica</i> subsp. <i>disjuncta</i>	A E Esler, 1979, AK217687
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>		<i>Centella uniflora</i>	
<i>Pseudopanax lessonii</i>		<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i> *	
<i>Rhabdothamnus solandri</i>		<i>Gamochaeta coarctata</i> *	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> *		<i>Haloragis erecta</i>	
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>		<i>Hydrocotyle novae-zeelandiae</i>	A E Esler, 1983, AK170750
<i>Sophora chathamica</i>	#	<i>Lobelia anceps</i>	
(recorded as <i>Sophora microphylla</i>)		<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i> *	
<i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>		<i>Mentha</i> × <i>piperita</i> var. <i>piperita</i> *	D J Court, 1975, AK182174
<i>Syzygium maire</i>		<i>Nertera dichondrifolia</i>	
<i>Syzygium smithii</i> *		<i>Nertera depressa</i>	
<i>Toronia toru</i>		<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i> *	
<i>Ulex europaeus</i> *		<i>Oxalis purpurea</i> *	M L Creamer, 1990, AK278989
<i>Vitex lucens</i>		<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> *	
<i>Weinmannia sylvicola</i> [see NZ Bot Soc Newsletter 129: p.7, 2017]		<i>Plantago major</i> *	
DICOT HERBS (20)			
<i>Bellis perennis</i> *		<i>Potentilla indica</i> *	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> × <i>C. silvaticum</i> *		<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> *	
(pale pink fls)		<i>Ranunculus repens</i> *	

South Island trip to NW Westland, 12–19 January 2018

Ewen K. Cameron (editor)

Introduction

Participants: Karen and Paul Asquith, Yumiko Baba, Jan Butcher, Ewen Cameron (field trip organiser), Lisa Clapperton, Bev and Geoff Davidson, Gael Donaghy, Anne Fraser, Leslie Haines, Graeme Jane, Sandra Jones, Cameron Kilgour, John Millett, Helen Preston Jones (bookings officer), Dhahara Ranatunga, Juliet Richmond, John and Stella Rowe, Jenni Shanks, Cheryl Taylor, Alison Wesley, Anthony Wright (leader), Maureen Young, and for the weekend, Department of Conservation (DoC) staff based at Hokitika Joy Comrie and Chris Woolmore.

All photographs were taken during the trip by: Karen Asquith (KA), Yumiko Baba (YB), Ewen Cameron (EC), Bev Davidson (BD), Sandra Jones (SJ), Cam Kilgour (CK), Dhahara Ranatunga (DR), Cheryl Taylor (CT) and Alison Wesley (AW).

Only 14 of the 25 members of the Auckland Botanical Society on the trip arrived in Westport from Christchurch via the hired two 10-seater vans and a 4WD ute. The rest made their own way there from various holiday destinations. Our accommodation for the week was the modern and comfortable University of Canterbury's field station in suburban Westport. Because of the long dry spell, a drought had been declared for the West Coast just before our trip and this was immediately followed by torrential rain with

much flooding. The weather forecast for the week was bleak, but little of the forecasted rain eventuated and we ended up with mainly sunny weather and only one wet morning.

This NW Westland trip was the ninth trip in continuation of the two-yearly Auckland Bot Soc trips to the South Island since 2002: Molesworth (Benham, 2002), Lake Ohau, Central Otago (Bodmin 2004), Golden Bay (Wilcox 2006), Kaikoura (Cameron 2008), Central Otago (Young 2010), Arthur's Pass (Preston Jones 2012), Catlins (Young 2014) and Molesworth (Young 2016).

The West Coast has had a history of exploitive industries. In the early years of European settlement gold brought prospectors flocking into the area. After the gold ran out, many of those who remained turned to pastoral farming and forestry, and, in northern Westland, coal mining. During our visit coal was being mined from the Stockton mine at the rate of four coal trains per day (5 days/week), each with c.30 hopper wagons and two DX diesel engines that pulled it to Lyttelton. Before the 2017 elections the former Government was revealed to be looking into reviving coal mining on the West Coast, with parts of the Denniston Plateau under consideration. However, the new Government has stated it is going to strengthen protection for public conservation land