Vegetation and flora of North Cove, Sandy Bay and Vivian Bay, Kawau Island

Mike Wilcox, Maureen Young, Jessica Beever and Rick Kooperberg

Introduction

John Buchanan, FLS, gave the first account of plant life on Kawau Island (Buchanan 1876). At that time Kawau Island was owned by Sir George Grey who had by then already introduced many exotic plants and animals and had cleared some bush and established pastures for sheep grazing. Buchanan recorded the presence of tea tree scrub as the after-growth of fire, and extensive patches of bush, and particularly mentioned abundance the of pohutukawa (Metrosideros excelsa), taraire (Beilschmiedia tarairi), puriri (Vitex lucens), tawapou (Pouteria costata), and rewarewa (Knightia excelsa).

The area of the island is 2058 ha and lies 8.4 km from Sandspit and 1.5 km from the Tawharanui Peninsula (Figure 1). It is in Rodney District and is mostly privately owned. The two highest points are Grey Heights (182 m) in the south and Mt Taylor (164 m) in the north between Bon Accord Harbour and North Cove.

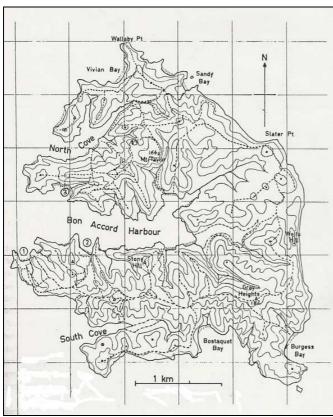


Figure 1. Map of Kawau Island.

Geologically most of the island is composed of very hard, somewhat metamorphosed greywackes, argillites and interbedded volcanics of the Waipapa Group (Late Jurassic) similar to those of nearby Cape Rodney and Takatu Point, and also the Hunua Ranges, most of Motutapu Island, and Waiheke Island (Edbrooke 2001). This rock weathers to give soft, white to yellowish-brown clay soils. At the north end of Sandy Bay and at a few other sites on the southern end and eastern side of the island are sandstone cliffs of the Waitemata Group (Figure 2). The oldest, lowermost of the Waitemata rocks are basal greywacke conglomerates and breccia, with interbedded pebbly sandstone and grit, constituting the Cape Rodney Formation of Early Miocene age (20 million years). Above this is the Pakiri Formation of thick-bedded volcanic-rich sandstone and siltstone.



Figure 2. Waitemata Sandstone cliffs at the northern end of Sandy Bay, 18/10/03 (MDW).

Wallabies

Wallabies need to be highlighted because of their profound influence on the vegetation (Taylor 1990; Esler 1993; Shaw & Pierce 2002). There are four species of wallaby on Kawau Island – all introduced by Sir George Grey- and they have been much studied there (Wodzicki & Flux 1967; Kinloch 1973; Vujcich M.V. 1979; Vujcich V.C. 1979; Warburton 1986; Warburton & Sadleir 1990;).

Macropus eugenii (Desmarest)

Dama wallaby or dammar wallaby, "silver grey" wallaby (Kawau). This is a small grey-brown wallaby. In Australia it is restricted to SW Western Australia and southern South Australia, including Kangaroo Island. In New Zealand it occurs on Kawau Island and at Rotorua. During the day it generally stays in cover and feeds at night on grassy clearings and pasture. It is primarily a grazer. On Kawau grasses are the main diet, although kanuka leaves are also eaten. It is largely nocturnal and is the most numerous species on Kawau, especially the southern end.

Macropus parma Waterhouse

Parma wallaby, white-throated wallaby, "small brown" wallaby (Kawau). This is the smallest wallaby in New Zealand, and is uniformly light brown. In Australia it is

a rare species, found in the Great Dividing Range of NSW. In New Zealand it is found only on Kawau Island where it is plentiful at the northern end, frequenting kanuka during the day, and sometimes visiting gardens in Vivian Bay at night. It feeds mainly on grasses and herbs.

Petrogale penicillata penicillata Griffith

Brush-tailed rock wallaby, rock wallaby, black-tailed rock wallaby. In Australia it is common from Victoria to Queensland. This wallaby is found on Kawau Island, but has been eliminated from Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands where it was once common. Distinguished by bushy tail and rufous coloured rump. It frequents cliff faces and rocky ground. On Kawau it is found in the pine forests of Bon Accord Harbour, and on the eastern cliffs. It feeds by grazing on grass, but will also browse on pohutukawa leaves. This is an agile, gregarious animal and it can climb trees.

Wallabia bicolor (Desmarest)

Swamp wallaby, wallaroo, black wallaby. This is the biggest of the wallabies on Kawau Island. It has a dark-grey back and yellow-buff belly. In Australia it ranges from Queensland to Victoria. It frequents thick undergrowth, and on Kawau is found mainly in the northern end, though it is rather solitary and not so common. It is a browser rather than a grazer. They feed at all times of the day and night and prefer a habitat with a dense understorey.

Features of Kawau's flora and vegetation

Exotic trees

Sir George Grey introduced many unusual tree species to Kawau and these can be seen particularly at Mansion House Bay (Gardner 1993; Goffart-Hall 1997). Prominent there still are hoop pine (Araucaria cunninghamii), Cook pine (Araucaria columnaris), bunya (Araucaria bidwillii), Mexican weeping pine (Pinus patula), Canary Island pine (Pinus canariensis), radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*), maritime pine (*Pinus* pinaster), macrocarpa (Cupressus macrocarpa), swamp cypress (Taxodium distichum), Japanese cedar (Cryptomeria japonica), camphor laurel (Cinnamomum camphora), bay laurel (Laurus nobilis), holly (Ilex aguifolium), Norfolk Island hibiscus (Lagunaria patersonia), loquat (Eriobotrya japonica), brush cherry (Syzygium australe), blush bloodwood (Baloghia inophylla), Moreton Bay fig (Ficus macrophylla), blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*), flooded gum (Eucalyptus grandis), swamp mahogany (Eucalyptus robusta), Australian frangipani (Hymenosporum flavum), sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus), English oak (Quercus robur), coast erythrina (Erythrina caffra), Australian cabbage palm (Livistona australis), phoenix palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), Chinese fan palm (Trachycarpus fortunei), Chilean wine palm (Jubaea chilensis), black bamboo (Phyllostachys nigra) and borak bamboo (Bambusa balcooa). Another of Grey's introductions, Furcraea foetida, has become

thoroughly naturalised, and box (*Buxus sempervirens*) and tree privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) are also commonly naturalised.

Grey's planting activities did not extend to northern Kawau. However, in Vivian Bay are several fine specimens of coral tree (*Erythrina Xsykesii*), and two Norfolk Island pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*), and there are veteran *Pinus radiata* scattered about, and one prominent stand above Moana Cove. One property up the Starboard arm has a number of coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*).

South African weeds

Several of the most widespread and prominent weeds on Kawau Island hail from South Africa – a probable legacy again of Grey who was at one time Governor of the Cape Province. Kawau residents refer to bone seed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) as Kawau daisy. This yellow-flowered shrub is very abundant on the coastal cliffs and headlands all around Kawau and is a spectacular sight in August – early October when in flower (Figure 3). It tolerates infertile soils, drought, and salt spray, and produces large numbers of seeds that are spread by birds and possums, and can remain viable in the soil for ten years. Honey flower (*Melianthus major*) (Figure 4) and sweet pea shrub (*Polygala myrtifolia*) are commonly seen on coastal fringes (McSweeney 1997).

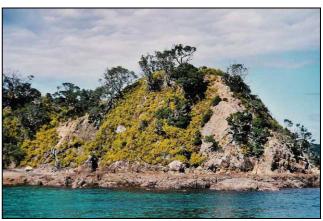


Figure 3. Boneseed or "Kawau daisy" clothing the greywacke cliffs, Little Vivian Bay, 7/10/03 (MDW).



Figure 4. Honey flower (*Melianthus major*), North Cove, 7/10/03 (MDW).

Agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*) occurs on cliffs and in clearings, stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*) occupies the margins of clearings, and arum lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*) forms dense colonies in wetlands (Figure 5). Creeping sage or kruipsalie (*Salvia repens*) is an aromatic herbaceous species very common in the northern part of Kawau, spreading by both seed and rhizomes (Webb *et al.* 1994; Yeo 1995; Goldplatt & Manning 2000). It also occurs on the nearby Takatu Point.



Figure 5. Dense colony of arum lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*) in wetlands at the head of North Cove, 19/10/03 (MDW).

Kanuka forest

Forest of kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) dominates much of Kawau Island and is the most prominent feature of the vegetation. Much of it is even-aged over large areas and is probably mostly c. 60-70 years old, having regenerated since the abandonment of farming in the 1920s and 30s, though some protected enclaves approach 100 years of age. It is a monotonous monoculture on the ridges and drier slopes, with a canopy of kanuka trees 8-14 m tall (Figure 6), and also manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*). Since kanuka is not palatable to wallabies it has grown unchecked. In the 1930s and 40s there was a thriving kanuka firewood cutting business. There is hardly a trace now of the formerly cleared land in North Cove and Vivian Bav.

There is no understorey to speak of in the kanuka forest except for occasional bushes of mingimingi (Leucopogon fasciculatus and Leptocophylla juniperina), akepiro (Olearia furfuracea), some mapou (Myrsine australis) and patches of silver fern (Cyathea dealbata). Rocky outcrops are commonly covered in the lichen Canoparmelia texana, whilst foliose lichens such as Pseudocyphellaria carpoloma, P. crocata and Sticta latifrons (Figure 7) occur at the base of kanuka trees. In places there are colonies of the herbs Lagenifera lanata, Veronica plebeia and Galium divaricatum, and the introduced Australian wallaby grass (*Rytidosperma racemosum*) is very prominent.

The ground cover in this forest is of particular interest. The soil is covered in an extensive and diverse carpet of mosses (Figure 8). Thirteen species of moss were recorded here, the most abundant being *Dicranoloma billardierei*, *Campylopus clavatus*, *Leucobryum candidum* and *Ptychomnion aciculare*, with a few patches of the large liverwort *Chandonanthus squarrosus*. In addition large areas of the lichens *Cladina confusa*, *Cladia aggregata* and *Cladia retipora* cover the forest floor.



Figure 6. Open kanuka forest (*Kunzea ericoides*) on hills above North Cove, 7/10/03 (MDW).



Figure 7. A large foliose lichen, *Sticta latifrons*, found on the bark of kanuka, 15/04/04 (RK).



Figure 8. Wallaby-induced cryptogamic grazing lawn under kanuka forest (MDW).

Wallaby-induced cryptogamic grazing lawns

There is evidence from Australian studies that the indigenous marsupials of that country cause less mechanical disruption of the soil surface than do the mammals introduced to Australia for animal husbandry (Eldridge & Tozer 1997; Bennett 1999). It is thought that the relatively sharp-edged hooves and high pressures exerted on the ground by ungulates disrupt the surface-binding cryptogamic cover of the soil, and are thus a prime cause of erosion in Australia.

The vegetation of Kawau has been under intense pressure from introduced vertebrates. However, the animals involved are primarily Australian marsupials, rather than goats and deer, which have caused major modification to forests elsewhere in New Zealand. On Kawau unusually diverse cryptogamic grazing lawns have been induced (Figure 8). The cryptogamic plants are successful in this habitat, not as competitors *sensu stricto*, but as superior tolerators of stress (Grime *et al.* 1990). The vascular plants with the significant exceptions of kanuka and manuka, have ineffective defences against the stress of herbivory.

It has been suggested (see discussion p 209 of Worthy & Holdaway 2002) that introduced herbivores may to some extent mimic the earlier browsing effects of the moa. During a brief 'interregnum between the moas departing and the deer arriving' the New Zealand vegetation lacked significant herbivore pressure (Caughley 1989). With European contact came a suite mammalian herbivores from the northern hemisphere, reinforced by selected marsupials from across the Tasman, which resulted in the New Zealand vegetation being once again heavily browsed and grazed. It may well be that the wallaby's foot structure, gait, and ratio of body weight to foot contact area is more similar to that of a moa, than it is to that of ungulates. Under the 'regime of defoliation enforced by moas' (Caughley 1989) it is possible that truly natural grazing lawns, dominated by cryptogams, occurred in New Zealand. What we observe on Kawau today should perhaps, then, be interpreted, not as a highly degraded vegetation but as one containing significant structural elements of the pre-human forest vegetation.

Native bush remnants

Native bush is confined to a few gully heads, stream banks, and the flanks of Mt Taylor where it was protected from past fires. Taylor (1990) has given a good account of this. The main forest tree species are taraire (Beilschmiedia tarairi), puriri (Vitex lucens), pohutukawa (Metrosideros excelsa), and kauri (Agathis australis), together with tawaroa (Beilschmiedia tawaroa), white maire (Nestegis lanceolata), nikau sapida), (Rhopalostylis karaka (Corynocarpus laevigatus), pigeonwood (Hedycarya arborea), hinau (*Elaeocarpus dentatus*), miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*) and towai (Weinmannia silvicola). Much more rarely may be encountered kowhai (Sophora microphylla),

tawapou (*Pouteria costata*), matai (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*) and kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*). There are a few scattered trees of hard beech (*Nothofagus truncata*) on bush-clad promontories in North Cove. Interestingly there does not now seem to be any rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) or totara (*Podocarpus totara*) on Kawau, other than a few planted specimens. Because of wallabies, the understorey is very sparse or absent in the bush remnants. However, where wallabies have been excluded from fenced exclosures, *Coprosma rhamnoides*, *C. arborea* and *Myrsine australis* become prominent.

Domestic gardens

The influence of wallabies in maintaining a grazing lawn was also seen in the clearings around houses. Dominant plants in the turf are Axonopus fissifolius, Oxalis exilis, Dichondra repens, **Euchiton** gymnocephalus, Callitriche muelleri, Ranunculus parviflorus, Hydrocotyle heteromeria, H. moschata, H. tripartita, Hypericum japonicum, and Carex inversa. Common mosses were Kindbergia praelonga, and in more shaded sites, *Hypopterygium rotulatum*.

Wetlands

Several small streams drain from the hills into the bays on the western side of Kawau Island. Wetlands occupy the lower reaches and floodplains of these streams. Some streams also drain to the east, such as at Sandy Bay. Typical plants here are Zantedeschia aethiopica, Carex virgata, bulrush (Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani), raupo (Typha orientalis), Polygonum salicifolium, and Ranunculus amphitrichus.

Coastal vegetation

Pohutukawa on the coast of Kawau Island was once in a very sorry state because of severe defoliation by possums (Trichosurus vulpecula). In Bostaquet Bay in the far south of Kawau Island, the pohutukawa trees had a skeleton appearance in the early 1960s. In 1988-89, the survey done on the health of pohutukawa on the Northland, Auckland and Coromandel coasts drew attention to the situation on Kawau, describing it as the worst affected of all. Today the trees seem to have made a good recovery in response to severe reduction in the possum population. The vegetation on the eastern coastal cliffs is nonetheless in a poor state, with just sparse pohutukawa interspersed with boneseed and pampas grass, and completely lacking the usual coastal shrub species (like Pseudopanax lessonii and Pittosporum crassifolium).

Conglomerate/sandstone cliffs at the north end of Sandy Bay have colonies of *Arthropodium cirratum, Lachnagrostis billardierei, Poa anceps, Lagenifera pumila, Ranunculus reflexus, Epilobium nummularifolium* and *Lobelia anceps,* and *Disphyma australe* occurs above Stony Bay. We noted too, a single plant of the dwarf form of *Cortaderia splendens*. The dunes support a fine, thriving population of pingao

(*Desmoschoenus spiralis*) and spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*), with plentiful *Cakile edentula* and shore bindweed (*Calystegia soldanella*). The reddish-coloured sedge *Carex testacea* abounds towards the back of the dunes. At Sandy Bay can be commonly found the native annual herb *Parietaria debilis*, and in North Cove are populations of New Zealand spinach (*Tetragonia tetragonioides*) and New Zealand celery (*Apium prostratum*).

The upper, sheltered part of the Starboard Arm of North Cove has a narrow belt of mangroves (Avicennia marina ssp. australasica), in the lee of which is salt marsh dominated by shore ribbonwood (Plagianthus divaricatus), saltwort (Sarcocornia quinqueflora), sea primrose (Samolus repens), Selliera radicans, Cotula coronopifolia, Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae. Chenopodium ambiguum, Atriplex prostratum, rush (Juncus krausii var. maritimus), oioi (Apodasmia similis), salt marsh needle tussock (Austrostipa stipoides), knob sedge (Ficinia nodosa), Baumea and local patches of marsh club-rush iuncea (Bolboschoenus medianus). There are also several plants of Juncus acutus - a fearsome giant rush otherwise best known in our region from the Kaipara Harbour and Manukau Heads.

Bot Soc visit of 18 October 2003

The Group: Mike Wilcox (leader), Colleen Crampton, Jan Riddick, Peter Riddick, Doug Shaw, Pat Seyb, Rick Kooperberg, Patsy Schwabe, Ross Beever, Jessica Beever, Jan Butcher, Juliet Richmond, Carol McSweeney, Gary McSweeney, Maureen Young, Enid Asquith, Bénédicte Lebas, Arnaud Blouin, Ségolere Lebas, Sandra Jones, Harry Beacham, Leslie Haines, Peter White, Elaine Marshall, Bernie Salmon, Derryl Hayman, Lawre Taylor, Stan West (local resident).

The visit commenced with the trip by the Kawau Kat from Sandspit, and we landed at the Starboard Jetty in North Cove. Once ashore we immediately found a patch of wild New Zealand spinach (Tetragonia tetragonioides) with shore celery (Apium prostratum) beside it. Amongst the shore needle grass (Austrostipa stipoides), which was in flower, were several giant clumps of Juncus acutus. Our first major foray was up the valley behind the McKenzie property. We made a thorough investigation of the wallaby turf (a kind of self-mowing lawn) and stream banks choked with numerous invasive monocots such as Zantedeschia aethiopica, Iris foetidissima and Agapanthus praecox. The ferns Hypolepis ambigua and Deparia petersenii were prominent. The kanuka forest, more or less bare of understorey, and with an impressive carpet of mosses, was a stark introduction to the reality of Kawau's forest ecology. Nonetheless there were treasures to be discovered, the most noteworthy here being the orchid *Drymoanthus adversus*, high up on a kanuka tree, and with the hornwort Dendroceros granulatus (Campbell 1986) on the lower trunk. Three herbs — Lagenifera lanata, Veronica plebeia, and Euchiton gymnocephalus — were frequently seen amongst the mosses. A pleasant lunch spot was kindly provided for us in the garden of John & Shirley Pettit.

Our visit continued with a walk to the upper reaches of the Starboard Arm, taking in mangrove and salt marsh vegetation. Turf vegetation on damp, peaty margins kept us occupied, and we found *Isolepis cernua*, *Triglochin striata*, *Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae*, *Euchiton delicatus*, *Centella uniflora* and *Cotula australis*. There was a nice suite of rushes beside the track – *Juncus pallidus*, *J. edgariae*, *J. usitatus* and *J. australis*.

In the kanuka forest along the stream which drains into the Starboard Arm we came across an interesting patch of ferns. In one place we found Blechnum filiforme, B. novae-zelandiae and B. membranaceum. Normally this would not rate as a startling discovery, but here it was because no *Blechnum* species had been recorded on the previous species lists since Buchanan (1876). Other ferns noted here were Pneumatopteris pennigera, Hymenophyllum dilatatum, Trichomanes reniforme, and Grammitis ciliata. Further up the stream were a couple of nice kahikatea (Dacrycarpus dacrydioides), several puriri (Vitex lucens), taraire (Beilschmiedia tarairi), a lacebark populnea), (Hoheria and several tawaroa (Beilschmiedia tawaroa). Even deep into this bushy gully the main plant lining the stream bank was Zantedeschia aethiopica.

Stan West led us up a kanuka ridge, on the way viewing a fine remnant stand of kauri (*Agathis australis*) where trees of both matai and miro could also be seen (Figure 9). Among the nice botanical discoveries in this area was a big isolated patch of umbrella fern (*Gleichenia dicarpa*), several orchids (*Corybas cheesemanii, Acianthus sinclairii, Thelymitra* sp., *Nematoceras triloba*, and *Petalochilus bartlettii*), and the diminutive ferns *Lindsaea linearis* and *Schizaea fistulosa*. The sundew (*Drosera auriculata*) was in flower and fairly common on bare clay areas. Another prominent plant in flower was *Pomaderris* aff. *phylicifolia*, which grows as a sprawling bush on the ridges.

Above Stony Bay we noted the cliff vegetation of pohutukawa and boneseed, and in one area where the kanuka had died and poroporo (*Solanum aviculare*) and a narrow-leaved fireweed (*Senecio diaschides*) had invaded. On the descent to Vivian Bay we noted the massive regeneration of kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*) from trees originally planted there by Stan West, and thriving patches of *Carex flagellifera*.

Follow-up visit 15 April 2004

Mike Wilcox, Maureen Young, Enid Asquith and Rick Kooperberg visited the area again to further substantiate the plant records. Our route was from Vivian Bay over the hill into the head of North Cove, to Sandy Bay (Figure 10), returning via the Starboard Arm of North Cove and thence across the bay (by dinghy) to the northern bush slopes on North Cove, and returning to Vivian Bay by the main ridge. Significant discoveries were patches of the threatened native annual herb *Centipeda minima* subsp. *minima* (Walsh 2001, de Lange *et al.*, 2004), a lone flowering plant of *Metrosideros fulgens*, abundant colonies of the weedy Australian sedge (*Carex longebrachiata*), some fine specimens of hard beech (*Nothofagus truncata*), a hinau tree (*Elaeocarpus dentatus*), and large, lone tawapou (*Pouteria costata*).

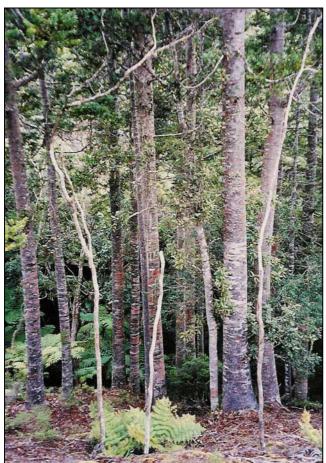


Figure 9. Regenerating grove of kauri (*Agathis australis*) in a gully at head of North Cove, 18/10/03 (MDW).



Figure 10. Sandy Bay, with pingao (*Desmoschoenus spiralis*) and pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), 15/04/04 (MDW).

Conclusion

The northern part of Kawau Island has a complete vegetation cover, with no cleared land except for small private gardens. Despite the continued presence of wallabies, which have browsed out the undergrowth, there is still much of botanical interest to be observed, such as the native herbs Lagenifera lanata, Centipeda *minima* subsp. *minima*, and *Parietaria debilis* – seldom encountered on the mainland. The kanuka forest is generally very bare and open, with a spectacular moss carpet, but there are pockets of bush with the nucleus of canopy species still in good condition. What has largely been lost or greatly reduced by browsing are palatable understorey and coastal shrub species of Coprosma, Pseudopanax and Pittosporum, and any effective advanced regeneration of canopy trees, including kauri. The three most widespread and prolific exotic weeds are boneseed, pampas grass, and arum lily, with Australian sedge, agapanthus and Jerusalem cherry locally prevalent. These weeds now have to be accepted as part of northern Kawau's ecology. Creeping sage is of particular interest as it is little known elsewhere in New Zealand.

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Plant species list for North Cove-Sandy Bay-Vivian Bay, Kawau Island

Compiled by Mike Wilcox, 29/3/03 and 7/10/03, Auckland Botanical Society group, 18/10/03, and MW, MY, RK and Enid Asquith, 15/4/04

* (introduced species)

(Taylor) = recorded in Taylor (1990)

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Amandinea punctata (Hoffm.) Coppins & Scheid. (1993) cru

Arthonia nigrocincta C. Knight & Mitt. (1860)

Brigantiaea chrysosticta (Hook.f. & Taylor) Hafellner & Bellemére (1982)

Caloplaca allanii Zahlbr. (1934)

Canoparmelia texana (Tuck.) Elix & Hale (1986)

Chrysothrix candelaris (L.) J.R.Laundon (1981)

Cladia aggregata (Sw.) Nyl. (1876) Cladia retipora (Labill.) Nyl. (1876)

Cladina confusa (R.Sant.) Follmann & Ahti *in* Follmann (1981)

Cladonia ochrochlora Flörke (1828)

Colema fasciculare var. fasciculare (L.) Weber ex Wigg. (1780)

Collema laeve Hook.f. & Taylor (1844) Collema kauaiense H. Magn. (1943)

Heterodermia microphylla (Kurok.) Swinscow & Krog (1996)

Hyperphyscia adglutinata (Flörke) H.Mayrhofer & Poelt (1979)

Lecanora sp. Ach. (1810)

Leptogium azureum (Sw.) Mont. (1840)

Leptogium cyanescens (Rabenh.) Körb. (1855)

Lobaria dictyophora (Müll. Arg.) D.J.Galloway (1983)

Megalospora gompholoma subsp. gompholoma (Müll.

Arg.) Sipman (1993)

Menegazzia aucklandica (Zahlbr.) P.James & D.J. Galloway (1983)

crustose, on *Bougainvillea* stems on *Oleander* bark in a garden on dry decaying branch

on coastal greywake on rock outcrops

in dry habitats, corticolous terricolous in clearings terricolous in clearings terricolous in clearings

terricolous in clearings corticolous in kanuka forest

corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest

on Bougainvillea twigs in garden

corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest

on trunks and small branches

Normandina pulchella (Borrer) Nyl. (1861)

Pertusaria sp. DC. (1805)

Phaeographis mucronata (Stirt.) Zahlbr. (1923) Pseudocyphellaria carpoloma (Delise) Vain. (1898) Pseudocyphellaria crocata (Müll. Arg.) Malme (1899)

Pseudocyphellaria montagnei (C. Bab.) D.J.Galloway & P.

James (1980)

Pseudocyphellaria multifida (Nyl.) D.J.Galloway & P. James

Pseudocyphellaria pickeringii (Tuck.) D.J.Galloway (1988)

Pseudocyphellaria poculifera (Müll Arg.) D.J.Galloway & P.

James (1980)

Pyrenula cyrtospora (Stirt.) Müll. Arg. (1894)

Pyxine subcinerea Stirt. (1898)

Ramalina celastri (Spreng.) Krog & Swinscow (1976)

Rimelia austrocetrata (Elix & J.Johnst.) Hale & A.Fletcher

(1990)

Rimelia sp. Hale & Fletcher (1990)

Stereocaulon ramulosum (Sw.) Räuschel (1797)

Sticta fuliginosa (Hoffm.) Ach. (1803)

Sticta latifrons A. Rich (1832)

Sticta squamata D.J. Galloway (1983) Sticta subcarperata (Nyl.) Nyl. (1888)

Teloschistes chrysophthalmus (L.) Th. Fr.(1861) *Teloschistes sieberianus* (Laurer) Hillm. (1930) Usnea nidifica Taylor (1847) (syn. *U. societatis*)

Usnea sp. Dill. ex Adans. (1763)

Xanthoria parietina (L.) Th. Fr. (1860)

scarce, in low light conditions

on decorticated wood crustose near coast

corticolous and terricolous in kanuka forest corticolous and terricolous in kanuka forest

corticolous in kanuka forest

corticolous in kanuka forest

corticolous in kanuka forest

corticolous in more open areas near water

crustose, on smooth bark

scarce, on twigs

on trees and man-made structures, confined to

coast

on trunks of pohutukawa

on trees and rocks, mostly coastal

saxicolous and terricolous in open areas of kanuka

forest. dry, bare clay banks

corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest corticolous in kanuka forest

on low divaricated shrubs on exposed stream bank on low divaricated shrubs on exposed stream bank

on trunks of pohutukawa

corticolous, hanging from higher branches in open

areas

on rocks and man-made structures, confined to

coast

Mosses (compiled by Jessica Beever)

Achrophyllum dentatum

Barbula calycina Bryum billardierei

Bryum campylothecium

Bryum sp.

Camptochaete pulvinata

Camptochaete?arbuscula Campylopus clavatus Campylopus introflexus Campylopus pyriformis Dicranoloma billardierei

Dicranolomoa fasciatum

Dicranoloma menziesii

Didymodon torquatus Echinodium hispidum

Entosthodon acaulis

Fissidens asplenioides

Fissidens pallidus Fissidens taxifolius

Hypnodendron sp.

Hypnum chrysogaster Hypnum cupressiforme

Hypopterygium rotulatum *Kindbergia praelonga (syn. Stokesiella

praelonga)

Leptostomum macrocarpon

Leucobryum candidum

wet soil beside stream in grazing lawn under kanuka

sloping exposed soil on cliff top grazing lawn under kanuka

exposed site in grazing lawn at back of beach

disturbed soil

exposed tree roots and cabbage tree trunk

grazing lawn under kanuka ground in kanuka forest soil on ridge in animal track grazing lawn under kanuka

ground in kanuka forest; a major carpet moss

rotting wood

ground in kanuka forest, and on cabbage tree trunks

on concrete path on exposed root

disturbed soil on root plate of a fallen tree

on vertical soil on vertical soil on soil under kanuka

on damp soil

epiphytic on manuka grazing lawn under kanuka dampish, shady glades

grazing lawns in gardens and under kanuka; epiphytic on

cabbage tree

nikau trunks, and also on ground

ground in kanuka forest, and on rotten wood

Macomitrium gracile epiphytic on trunks of cabbage tree

Macomitrium submucronifolium epiphytic on kanuka

Orthorrhynchium elegans epiphytic

at base of cabbage tree and on soil Pendulothecium punctatum Ptychomnion aciculare grassy glades and kanuka forest Racopilum robustum on grazing lawn under kanuka

Rhaphidorrhynchium amoenum Sematophyllum homomallum

Thuidium furfurosum on grazing lawn under kanuka

Tortula muralis on concrete path Weissia patula exposed site, on soil

Liverworts and hornworts

ground in kanuka forest Chandonanthus squarrosus Dendrocerus granulatus epiphytic on kanuka Lepidolaena taylorii rocks on steep slopes

Lunularia cruciata wallaby turf and stream edge, North Cove

Marchantia berteroana wetland margin, North Cove

Monoclea forsteri rocks in damp, shaded stream beds in bush remnants

on exposed rock

Symphyogyna hymenophyllum damp bank, kanuka forest

Trichocolea mollissima damp sites above head of Starboard Arm, North Cove

Ferns and fern allies

Adiantum cunninghamii cliffs at Sandy Bay Adiantum diaphanum banks in forest remnants Adiantum hispidulum common on dry banks Asplenium flaccidum terrestrial, North Cove coastal cliff areas, Vivian Bay Asplenium haurakiense

Asplenium oblongifolium uncommon Asplenium polyodon low epiphyte

Blechnum discolour very occasional small plants

Blechnum filiforme uncommon

Blechnum membranaceum uncommon, damp banks in bush remnant uncommon, damp banks and wetland Blechnum novae-zelandiae the most abundant fern in kanuka forest Cyathea dealbata

plentiful at head of North Cove Cyathea medullaris

Deparia petersenii damp gully heads and on stream alluvium Diplazium australe damp gully heads and on stream alluvium

Dicksonia squarrosa rare

Doodia australis coastal banks

Gleichenia dicarpa some colonies in open glades near kauri forest

Grammitis billardierei rare, on rocks in kanuka forest

rare, banks Grammitis ciliate

Histiopteris incise plentiful on swampy margins high epiphytic on puriri Huperzia varia very uncommon, shaded banks Hymenophyllum dilatatum

Hvmenophvllum rarum very uncommon

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum rare, on rocks in kanuka forest Hypolepis ambigua abundant in glades, unpalatable

Lastreopsis glabella bush remnants

Lindsaea linearis occasional in kanuka forest

Lygodium articulatum occasional in kauri- taraire-puriri forest

terrestrial, head of North Cove Microsorum pustulatum Microsorum scandens terrestrial, head of North cove

*Nephrolepis cordifolia colonies at Vivian Bay Paesia scaberula patches in kanuka forest

Pellaea rotundifolia very uncommon

uncommon, dampish shaded places Pneumatopteris pennigera

Polystichum neozelandicum subsp. coastal cliffs, Vivian Bay

neozelandicum

Pteridium esculentumcoastal cliffs, Vivian BayPteris macilentaoccasional, Vivian BayPteris tremulafrequent on disturbed sitesPyrrosia eleagnifoliaterrestrial and low epiphyte

*Schizaea fistulosa uncommon, amongst moss carpet in kanuka forest extensive colonies near exclosures, North Cove

Trichomanes reniforme damp banks, kauri forest

Conifers

Agathis australis several groves of trees in North Cove

*Araucaria heterophylla planted, Vivian Bay

*Cupressus macrocarpa North Cove

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides several at head of North Cove

Dacrydium cupressinum planted, Vivian Bay Phyllocladus trichomanoides planted, Camp Bentzon

*Pinus pinaster Horner Reserve, (P. White pers. comm.)

*Pinus radiata several big trees, and a prominent tall stand above Little

Vivian Bay

Podocarpus totara planted, Camp Bentzon

Prumnopitys ferrugineabush remnants, head of North CovePrumnopitys taxifoliakauri bush, head of North Cove

*Sequoia sempervirens planted, North Cove

Dicot trees, shrubs & climbers

*Abelia X grandiflora North Cove

*Acacia longifolia Horner Reserve, (P. White pers. comm.)

*Acacia mearnsii North Cove

*Acmena smithii young trees in bush remnants

Alseuosmia macrophylla (Taylor)

Avicennia marina subsp. australasica Mangroves, sheltered arms of North Cove Beilschmiedia tarairi the commonest tree in bush remnants

Beilschmiedia tawaroa occasional in bush remnants

Brachyglotttis repanda rar

*Carica pubescens naturalised at Vivian Bay Carmichaelia australis gullies above Sandy Bay

*Cestrum nocturnum Vivian Bav

*Chrysanthemoides monilifera abundantly naturalised on the coast Clematis paniculata occasional liane in kanuka forest

Coprosma arborea taraire-puriri forest, northern side of North Cove

Coprosma rhamnoides frequent shrub in wallaby exclosures

Coprosma robusta planted, Vivian Bay

*Cotynocarpus laevigatus occasional in bush remnants
*Cotoneaster glaucophyllus coastal rocky cliffs in North Cove

Dysoxylum spectabile (Taylor)

*Echium candicans cultivated , Vivian Bay

Elaeocarpus dentatus with hard beech, northern side of North Cove

Entelea arborescens planted, bush above Vivian Bay *Erythrina x sykesii planted, several at Vivian Bay

*Eucalyptus cinerea planted, Vivian Bay
Geniostoma ligustrifolium frequent in bush remnants

Griselinia lucida (Taylor)

*Hakea salicifolia planted, Camp Bentzon
Hebe macrocarpa cliffs at Sandy Bay

Hedycarya arborea common in understorey of bush remnants

Hoheria populnea bush gullies at head of North Cove; planted at Sandy Bay

*Impatiens sodenii Vivian Bay

Knightia excelsafairly common, but very stunted on ridgesKunzea ericoidesthe dominant tree over large areasLaurelia novae-zelandiaeseveral groves in Mt Taylor valleyLeptecophylla juniperinaunderstorey in kanuka forest

Leptospermum aff. *scoparium* (prostrate form) common associate of kanuka

Leptospermum scoparium eastern cliffs

understorey in kanuka forest Leucopogon fasciculatus *Lupinus arboreus naturalised on beach, Vivian Bay

*Melianthus major common on coastal margins near houses

occasional in understorey Melicope ternata

Melicytus ramiflorus bush remnants Meryta sinclairii planted, Sandy Bay

Metrosideros excelsa coastal cliffs and bush remnants

Metrosideros fulgens on Dicksonia squarrosa, head of North Cove

Metrosideros perforata common liane in bush remnants

Muehlenbeckia complexa Vivian Bay

Myoporum laetum planted, Sandy Bay

Myrsine australis common in bush remnants and kanuka

*Nerium oleander planted, North Cove

fairly common in bush remnants Nestegis lanceolata Nothofagus truncata bush on northern side of North Cove

Olearia furfuracea in kanuka forest Olearia rani North Cove, in bush

*Paraserianthes lophantha common on the beach margins, Vivian Bay Parsonsia heterophylla

*Passiflora edulis wild at Sandy Bay and North Cove

Pittosporum crassifolium planted, Camp Bentzon

(Taylor) Pittosporum eugenioides Pittosporum tenuifolium (Taylor)

planted, Vivian Bay (S. West) Pittosporum umbellatum Plagianthus divaricatus salt marsh, North Cove *Polygala myrtifolia coastal banks, North Cove Pomaderris kumeraho planted, Camp Bentzon Pomaderris aff. phylicifolia common in kanuka forest *Populus nigra cv `Ítalica' planted, North Cove

large tree above Vivian Bay Pouteria costata

Pseudopanax arboreus (Taylor) Pseudopanax crassifolius (Taylor) Pseudopanax discolor (Taylor) Pseudopanax lessonii (Taylor) Rhabdothamnus solandri bush gullies

Rubus cissoides very scarce in kanuka forest

Schefflera digitata planted?, Vivian Bay

*Senecio mikanioides Vivian Bay

*Senna septemtrionalis commonly naturalised, North Cove

Solanum aviculare recently disturbed forest margins and clearings

*Solanum mauritianum common weedy small tree in wetlands

*Solanum pseudocapsicum abundant on damp sites at head of North Cove,

Sophora microphylla or S. chathamica (Taylor)

*Tecomaria capensis naturalised at Vivian Bav

Vitex lucens dominant tree in bush; some very large specimens Weinmannia silvicola (Taylor), Horner Reserve (P. White pers comm.)

Dicot herbs

Acaena novae-zelandiae grassy glades, Vivian Bay, Sandy Bay

*Ageratina adenophora Vivian Bay

Apium prostratum coast at North Cove and Sandy Bay *Anagallis arvensis abundant near the shore, North Cove *Atriplex prostrata salt marsh, North Cove; dunes at Sandy Bay

*Cakile edentula sand dunes, Sandy Bay, Vivian Bay

abundant in wallaby turf Callitriche muelleri

Sandy Bay Calystegia soldanella

Cardamine debilis damp areas, head of North Cove beaches in North Cove and Vivian Bay *Carpobrotus edulis

North Cove *Centaurium erythraea

Centipeda minima subsp. minima

Centella uniflora

*Cerastium glomeratum

Chenopodium ambiguum *Cirsium vulgare *Conyza albida

*Conyza albida Cotula australis Cotula coronopifolia *Crassula multicava *Crepis capillaris *Cymbalaria muralis Dichondra repens

Dichondra repens Disphyma australe Drosera auriculata *Epilobium ciliatum

Epilobium nummularifolium
*Erechtites valerianifolia
*Erigeron karvinskianus
Euchiton delicatus
Euchiton gymnocephalus

Euchiton gymnocephalus
*Euphorbia peplus
*Fumaria muralis
*Galium divaricatum
*Gamochaeta coarctatis
*Gamochaeta simplicicaulis

Geranium solanderi "coarse hairs"

Gonocarpus incanus Gonocarpus micranthus Haloragis erecta

*Geranium homeanum

*Helminthotheca echioides Hydrocotyle heteromeria Hydrocotyle moschata *Hydrocotyle tripartita Hypericum japonicum *Hypochoeris radicata Lagenifera lanata Lagenifera pumila

*Leontopodium taraxacoides Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae

*Linum trigynum Lobelia anceps *Ludwigia palustris

*Ludwigia peploides subsp. montividensis

*Lythrum hyssopifolia *Mentha pulegium *Mentha spicata *Modiola caroliniana *Myosotis sylvatica Oxalis exilis

*Oxalis incarnata *Oxalis pes-caprae Oxalis rubens Parietaria debilis Peperomia urvilleana *Physalis peruviana *Phytolacca octandra Polygonum salicifolium

Polygonum salicifolium *Pratia pedunculata

Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum Ranunculus amphitrichus wetland fringes, North Cove salt marsh fringes, North Cove

North Cove

salt marsh, North Cove

wallaby turf and disturbed sites

dunes at Sandy Bay North Cove, turf salt marsh, North Cove

naturalised in North Cove near houses

(Taylor)

stony sites, North Cove abundant, grazing lawns

cliffs, Stony Bay

clay slopes above Sandy Bay wetland, head of North Cove

cliffs at Sandy Bay

North Cove

North Cove, rocky banks peaty turf, North Cove

grazing lawns North Cove Vivian Bay

common in kanuka forest, North Cove

(Taylor) (Taylor)

North Cove (J. & S Pettit property); Vivian Bay

coastal fringes, Sandy Bay, North Cove

(Taylor), Horner Reserve, (P. White pers comm.)

(Taylor) Vivian Bay (Taylor) wallaby turf wallaby turf wallaby turf

kanuka forest and wallaby turf

(Taylor)

common on rocky banks, kanuka forest

coastal cliffs, Sandy Bay Sandy Bay, Vivian Bay

wetland and salt marsh, North Cove North Cove, near shore; Vivian Bay coastal cliffs, salt marshes, wetlands

wetland, North Cove

(Taylor)

wetland, North Cove

(Taylor)

a patch at Sandy Bay

abundant weed near houses, North Cove

abundant in wallaby turf garden walls, North Cove

Vivian Bay Vivian Bay beach

coastal forest and glades, Sandy Bay

rocks in bush , North Cove

Vivian Bay Vivian Bay

wetland, head of North Cove

wallaby turf, North Cove (J. & S. Pettit property)

(Taylor)

wetland, North Cove

*Ranunculus parviflorus wallaby turf

Ranunculus reflexus coastal cliffs, Sandy Bay
*Rumex brownii Starboard Arm, North Cove

*Sagina procumbens Sandy Bay

*Salvia repens this weed is unpalatable to wallabies

Samolus repens salt marsh, North Cove Sarcocornia quinqueflora salt marsh, North Cove

Selliera radicans Horner Reserve, (P. White pers comm.)

*Senecio angulatus Vivian Bay

*Senecio bipinnatisectus common in upper North Cove

*Senecio diaschides dense colonies on recently disturbed site above Stony Bay

Senecio hispidulus North Cove, beside track in upper Starboard arm

Senecio lautuscliff tops above Stony BaySenecio minimuscommon in wetlands, North Cove*Senecio jacobaeabeside track, head of North Cove

*Senecio petasitis (syn. Roldana petasitis) North Cove

*Senecio skirrhodon

*Solanum nigrum (Taylor)

*Sonchus oleraceus

*Taraxacum officinale (Taylor)

Tetragonia tetragonioides a patch near shore in North Cove

*Trifolium repens wallaby turf

*Veronica arvensis Horner Reserve, (P. White pers comm.); J. & S. Pettit property

*Veronica plebeia common in kanuka forest, eaten by wallabies

*Vicia tetrasperma Vivian Bay Wahlenbergia violacea Vivian Bay

Monocots

Acianthus sinclairii in kanuka forest, head of North Cove

*Agapanthus praecox very common near houses *Agave americana North Cove and Vivian Bay

*Alocasia brisbanensis North Cove, in damp, shaded places

*Aloe arborescens Vivian Bay

Apodasmia similis salt marsh, North Cove

*Aristea ecklonii North Cove

Arthropdium cirratum coastal cliffs, Sandy Bay

*Arum italicum Vivian Bay *Arundo donax Vivian Bay

*Asparagus asparagoides established at Sandy Bay and Vivian Bay

Austrostipa stipoides salt marsh, North Cove

*Axonopus fissifolius a common grass in wallaby lawns Baumea juncea sedge vegetation in salt marsh

Baumea tenax North Cove

Bolboschoenus medianus a few colonies in North Cove

*Bromus diandrus beach at Vivian Bay

*Bromus willdenowiii Vivian Bay Carex breviculmis (Taylor)

*Carex divulsa gardens at Vivian Bay
Carex flagellifera gullies above Vivian Bay
Carex inversa wallaby turf, North Cove

*Carex longebrachiata common in kanuka above Vivian Bay; wild, but some has been

planted

Carex pumilasandy beach, Vivian BayCarex testaceaback of dunes, Sandy Bay,

Carex virgata wetland and drier slopes, head of North Cove

Collospermum hastatum epiphyte in bush and on pohutukawa

*Colocasia esculenta wetland, head of North Cove

*Cortaderia selloana abundant near the shore, in wetlands, and in kanuka

Cortaderia splendens (dwarf form) cliffs at north end of Sandy Bay

Cordyline australis frequent large trees at head of North Cove
Corybas cheesemanii (Taylor), Horner Reserve, (P. White pers comm.)

*Cyperus brevifolia Cyperus ustulatus Cyrtostylis oblonga Desmoschoenus spiralis Deyeuxia avenoides Dianella nigra *Digitaria sanguinalis Drymoanthus adversus Earina mucronata Ficinia nodosa Frevcinetia banksii

*Gahnia lacera
*Gladiolus undulatus
*Iris foetidissima
Isolepis cernua
Isolepis inundatus
Isolepis reticularis
*Juncus acutus
Juncus australis

Juncus effusus

Juncus edgariae

Juncus kraussii var. australiensis

Juncus pallidus Juncus planifolius Juncus usitatus

Lachnagrostis billardierei

*Lagurus ovatus Lemna minor

Lepidosperma laterale Microlaena stipoides Morelotia affinis Nematoceras triloba Oplismenus imbecillis Petalochilus bartlettii

Poa anceps
*Poa annua
Phormium tenax
Pterostylis graminea
Pterostylis trullifolia
Rhopalostylis sapida
*Rytidosperma racemosum

Rytidosperma unarede Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani

Schoenus maschalinus Schoenus tendo Spinifex sericeus

*Sporobolus indicus var. capensis *Stenotaphrum secundatum

Thelymitra sp. Triglochin striata Typha orientalis

*Watsonia borbonica subsp. ardernei

*Watsonia marginata *Zantedeschia aethiopica common in wallaby turf

wetlands (Taylor) Sandy Bay (Taylor)

Vivian Bay, cliffs

(Taylor)

occasional high epiphyte on kanuka, North Cove

epiphytic on taraire, North Cove generally common near the sea

a few large colonies in shaded stream heads, North Cove

bush remnants

sandy sites, Vivian Bay, Sandy Bay extensive in glades, North Cove

salt marsh

edge of wetland, North Cove

damp areas in forest, head of North Cove a few clumps near shore, North Cove

(Taylor)

frequent in North Cove

wetland fringes , Starboard Arm, North Cove; common also on

slopes in bush remnants

wetland fringes, Starboard Arm, North Cove salt marsh, Starboard Arm, North Cove wetland fringes, Starboard Arm, North Cove

(Taylor)

wetland fringes, North Cove, Sandy Bay

cliffs at Sandy Bay dunes at Sandy Bay standing water in wetlands coastal cliffs, Stony Bay

coastal cliffs, Stony Bay

(Taylor)

kanuka forest, heavily grazed by wallabies

amongst moss, kanuka forest

coastal banks, Vivian Bay and North Cove

North Cove, in grassy turf

coastal banks, Sandy Bay and wetlands, North Cove

(Taylor) (Taylor)

common in bush remnants abundant in kanuka forest

to be confirmed wetland at Sandy Bay

dampish spots in kanuka forest occasional in kanuka forest dunes at Sandy Bay

Sandy Bay

Sandy Bay

moss carpets under kanuka forest

freshwater margins and salt marsh, North Cove wetland, Sandy Bay and head of North Cove

North Cove, near houses North Cove, near houses

abundant in wetlands and glades

Fungi (by Petra White)

Along the foreshore growing on driftwood we found a collection of a tiny black fungus. A sample was collected and later identified by Landcare scientist Peter Johnston from its characteristics in culture as *Nemania maritima*, a species described by Ju and

Rogers (2002) and supposedly confined to mangrove wood. This is the first time the species has been recorded in New Zealand and has previously only been reported from Taiwan.

Reference

Ju, Y.M.; Rogers, J.D. (2002): The genus Nemania (Xylariaceae), Nova Hedwigia 74: 75-120.

Fungi

* = exotic

(L) = previously recorded as present by Landcare Research

Agaricus sp.
Aleurodiscus ochraceoflavus
Amanita muscaria* (Lyn Hume
pers. comm.)
Amanita sp. (black cap under
Kunzea)
Antrodia vaillantii (L)
Antrodiella zonata
Asbolisia sp. (L)
Biscogniauxia capnodes var.
rumpens
Chaetomium trigonosporum (L)

Asbolisia sp. (L)
Biscogniauxia capnodes var.
rumpens
Chaetomium trigonosporum (L)
Coltricia cinnamomea (L)
Coltricia strigosa (L)
Cyclomyces tabacinus
Echinochaete russiceps (L)
Eutypella sp. (L)
Ganoderma ?cf. applanatum

Glomerella cinqulata (L) Hymenochaete villosa (L) Hyphodontia barba-jobi (L) Hysterangium neotunicatum Lanzia sp. (L) Lycoperdon perlatum (L) Meliolina leptospermi (L) Nemania maritima (on driftwood) *Nemania* sp. (on pine wood) Phellinus wahlbergii Phlebia livida (L) Plectania rhytidia (L) Pleurotus australis (L) Pleurotus djamor Podospora anserina (L) *Polyporus arcularius* (L) Polyporus citreus (L)

Gloeoporus dichrous (L)

Porostereum fulvum (L) Pycnoporus coccineus Rosellinia radiciperda (L) Schizopora radula (L) Scleroderma sp. Septoria passifloricola (L) Stereum hirsutum (L) Stereum illudens Stereum ostrea (L) Stereum vellereum (L) Suillus granulatus* Thelephora terrestris* Trametes versicolor Trametes zonata (L) Tremella fuciformis (L) Trichoglossum hirsutum Wentiomyces melioloides

Field Trip: New Caledonia. 30/11/03 - 11/12/03

Mike Wilcox

Sixteen people from the Auckland Botanical Society visited New Caledonia from 30 November to 11 December 2003. Our objective was to see some of the famous and curious plants of the Territory, and to gain an appreciation of the main features of the flora on acidic (schist), ultramafic (peridotite), and calcareous (coral limestone) substrates. Specialists in the group were able to pursue their particular interests, and there were good opportunities for photography. The weather was mostly fine and pleasant. We concentrated on plants, but there was much to interest the general naturalist and zoologist as well, with many beautiful butterflies, a rich forest birdlife and very plentiful lizards (skinks).

The members of the group were Jessica Beever, Ross Beever, Ewen Cameron, Colleen Crampton, Pam Dale, Geoff Davidson, Anne Fraser, Graeme Hambly, Peter Johnston, Helen Preston-Jones, Jill Rapson, Juliet Richmond, Alison Wesley, Barbara White, Mike Wilcox (Leader) and Maureen Young.

Central West Coast

Sunday 30 November: Auckland to Tontouta (Aircalin SB 411). We had three minibuses awaiting us which were to be our reliable transport for the next nine days. By way of introduction, the journey north from Tontouta to La Foa is notable mainly for the dry open rangeland of *Heteropogon contortus* (Poaceae), extensive woodland of niaouli Melaleuca quinquenervia (Myrtaceae), thickets of ironwood Casuarina collina (Casuarinaceae) and Acacia spirorbis (Fabaceae: Mimosoideae), and hedgerows of the introduced Pithecellobium thorny tree dulce (Fabaceae: Mimosoideae). Furcraea foetida (Agavaceae) was also much in evidence. Five colourful ornamental flowering trees were commonly seen in the towns - Bauhinia *monandra* (Fabaceae: Caesalpinioideae), Cassia javanica (Fabaceae: Caesalpinioideae), Delonix regia Caesalpinioideae), (Fabaceae: Samanea saman (Fabaceae: Caesalpinioideae), and Spathodea spathulata (Bignoniaceae). At one spot near Boulouparis was a small lake infested with water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*).