

ROTOMA SCENIC RESERVE FIELD TRIP

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In February 2010 I visited a small patch (4.5 ha) of forest in the Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve on the north side of Lake Rotoma, sandwiched between Manawahe Road and the northern boundary of the Rotorua Lakes Ecological District, extending east of Hamilton Road for approximately 660 metres. I was so impressed with this piece of bush that I thought it should be shared with others, so when the opportunity came up to lead a Rotorua Botanical Society field trip in mid-winter I thought that this would be an ideal place to visit.

With a record turnout for many years (seventeen members plus one local) the party entered the bush off Hamilton Road. The forest throughout was fairly open due to the dense nature of the canopy of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*), pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*) and mangeao (*Litsea calicaris*) with occasional rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*). The shrub layer consisted of konono (*Coprosma grandifolia*), treeferns - (*Cyathea dealbata*), wheki (*Dicksonia squarrosa*) and young trunkless nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*). Ground cover was of considerable areas of *Hymenophyllum demissum* and *Blechnum filiforme*, with scattered crown fern (*Blechnum discolor*). Supplejack (*Rhipogonum scandens*) slowed progress occasionally.

On a low ridge not far from Hamilton Road a single specimen of *Lophomyrtus obcordata* along with several saplings of *Mida salicifolia* were noted. Further east was a lone very large rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*).

A short break was taken around 11:30 am at the northern fence line to discuss amongst other things the amount of Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) along the fence line (soon to be dealt with by the Department of Conservation), tree fuchsia (*Fuchsia excorticata*) and the large leaves of pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia australis*).



At the Rotoma Scenic Reserve fenceline. Photo: Julia Martin

Back on the move several new species were encountered; of particular note was titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*). The crowns of occasional recently wind-thrown trees were examined for epiphytes resulting in the finding of the hanging clubmoss (*Phlegmariurus varius*), and the green fleshy orchid (*Drymoanthus adversus*). On the lower slopes of a nearby gully some patches of *Adiantum fulvum*, were noted and the differences between this species and *A. viridescens* were discussed; also two species of *Lastreopsis* – *L. glabella* and *L. hispida*. Miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*) saplings were common but rimu saplings were quite scattered.

At about 1:30 pm we emerged from the bush onto Manawahe Road where we spread out on the now reasonably dry grass to eat our lunches in the sunshine. Returning to Hamilton Road along Manawahe Road, several weeds such as tutsan (*Hypericum androsaemum*), stone-parsley (*Sison amomum*), water figwort (*Scrophularia auriculata*) and herb

Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) were seen. *Gunnera monoica* made an attractive ground cover on some roadside banks.

Back at Hamilton Road we made a brief foray into the bush to the west of the road noting with great interest the large number of huge pukatea with their large buttress roots (see photo below). Keen eyes spotted some *Pittosporum cornifolium* growing from amongst a *CollospERMUM* clump in one of these large pukatea.

All in all, the day lived up to expectations and was capped off by our local guest showing those interested where we could expect to see some *Metrosideros carminea* flowering in the coming season.



Laurelia novae-zelandiae with large buttress roots extending across the forest floor at Rotoma Scenic Reserve. Photo: Nick Miller

**List for that part of Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve
from Hamilton Road eastwards for 660 metres,
north of Manawahe Road**

* = naturalised species

Ferns & Fern Allies

<i>Adiantum fulvum</i>	fulvous maidenhair fern, huruhuru tapairu
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	hen and chickens fern, moku
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i> subsp. <i>flaccidum</i>	hanging spleenwort, makawe
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>	shining spleenwort, huruhuruwhenua
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort, petako
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>	lance fern, nini
<i>Blechnum discolor</i>	crown fern, petipeti
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>	climbing hard fern, panako
<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>	kiokio
<i>Blechnum vulcanicum</i>	mountain hard fern, korokio
<i>Cyathea cunninghamii</i>	gully tree fern, ponga
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	silver fern, ponga
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	black tree fern, mamaku
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	harsh tree fern, wheki
<i>Diplazium australe</i>	southern ladyfern
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	water fern, matata
<i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i>	drooping filmy fern, irirangi
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>	blood-scented filmy fern, piripiri
<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>	smooth shield fern
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>	rough shield fern
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>	single crepe fern, heruheru
<i>Lycopodium scariosum</i>	creeping clubmoss, matukutuku
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> subsp. <i>pustulatum</i>	hound's tongue fern, kawaowao
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>	fragrant fern, mokimoki
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	lace fern, matata
<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>	button fern, tarawera
<i>Phlegmariurus varius</i>	hanging clubmoss, iwituna
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>	gully fern, pakau
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken, rahurahu
<i>Pteris macilenta</i>	sweet fern, turawera
<i>Pyrrosia eleagnifolia</i>	leather-leaf fern
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>	veined filmy fern

Gymnosperms

<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	red pine, rimu
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	miro

Dicotyledons

<i>Acaena anserinifolia</i>	bidibid, piripiri
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i> subsp. <i>excelsus</i>	titoki
<i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>	toropapa
<i>Aristolelia serrata</i>	wineberry, makomako
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	tawa
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	bushman's friend, rangiora
* <i>Buddleja davidii</i>	buddleia
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	marbleleaf, putaputaweta
* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Scotch thistle
<i>Clematis cunninghamii</i>	clematis, ngakau-kiore
* <i>Conyza sumatrensis</i>	broad-leaved fleabane
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	large-leaved coprosma, kanono
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	shining karamu
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Coriaria arborea</i> var. <i>arborea</i>	tutu
* <i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>	Franchet's cotoneaster
* <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	broom
* <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove
<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>	kohekohe
<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i> var. <i>dentatus</i>	hinau
<i>Epilobium rotundifolium</i>	round-leaved willowherb
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	tree fuchsia, kotukutuku
* <i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers
<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	hangehange
* <i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb Robert
<i>Griselinia lucida</i>	puka
<i>Gunnera monoica</i>	solitary gunnera
<i>Haloragis erecta</i> subsp. <i>erecta</i>	shrubby haloragis, toatoa
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood, porokaiwhiri
* <i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	tutsan
* <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	catsear
* <i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	ragwort
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	NZ honeysuckle, rewarewa
* <i>Lapsana communis</i>	nipplewort
<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>	pukatea
* <i>Leontodon taraxacoides</i>	hawkbit
* <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	soft mingimingi
* <i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet
<i>Litsea calicaris</i>	mangeao
<i>Lobelia angulata</i>	pratia, panakenake
<i>Lophomyrtus obcordata</i>	rohutu
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	lotus

<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i> subsp. <i>ramiflorus</i>	whiteywood, mahoe
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	white climbing rata, akatea
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>	scarlet rata
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>	white rata, akatea
<i>Mida salicifolia</i>	mida, willow-leaved maire
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>	pohuehue
* <i>Mycelis muralis</i>	wall lettuce
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	red matipo, mapou
<i>Olearia rani</i> var. <i>colorata</i>	heketara
<i>Parsonsia capsularis</i>	NZ jasmine, akakiore
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>	NZ jasmine, akakaikiore
* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	inkweed
<i>Piper excelsum</i> subsp. <i>excelsum</i>	pepper tree, kawakawa
<i>Pittosporum colensoi</i>	Colenso's kohuhu
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	kohuhu
* <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	narrow-leaved plantain
* <i>Plantago major</i>	broad-leaved plantain
* <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	selfheal
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	five finger, whaupaku
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	lancewood, horoeka
* <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	bush lawyer, tataramoa
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	blackberry
* <i>Rumex acetosella</i>	sheep's sorrel
* <i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	clustered dock
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	pate
* <i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	water figwort
* <i>Sison amomum</i>	stone parsley
* <i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	hedge woundwort
* <i>Trifolium pratense</i>	red clover
* <i>Trifolium repens</i>	white clover
* <i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse
* <i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	turf speedwell
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	kamahi

Monocotyledons

* <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	browntop
* <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernal
<i>Astelia solandri</i>	perching lily, kaiwharawhara
<i>Carex geminata</i>	cutty grass, rautahi
* <i>Carex ovalis</i>	oval sedge
<i>Collospermum hastatum</i>	tank lily, kahakaha
* <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	pampas
* <i>Crocasmia ×crocosmiiflora</i>	montbretia
* <i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	umbrella sedge

* <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cocksfoot
<i>Drymoanthus adversus</i>	green fleshy orchid
<i>Earina mucronata</i>	spring orchid, peka-a-waka
<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>	kiekie
<i>Gabnia pauciflora</i>	cutting sedge
* <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	bluebell
<i>Microlaena avenacea</i>	bush rice grass
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	forest rice grass, patiti
* <i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan fairy grass
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	nikau
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	supplejack, kareao
<i>Thelymitra longifolia</i>	white sun orchid, maikuku
* <i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	tradescantia
<i>Uncinia uncinata</i>	common bastard grass, kamu