

## Nash QEII Covenant - Woodlands Road, Waihi

Gael Donaghy & Graeme Jane

The visit to the recently established QEII covenant on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 was a combined field trip with Waikato Botanical Society, with a good turnout, mainly from the Waikato. The location at the end of Woodlands Road south of Waihi and Waimata caused some confusion as it used to be continuous with the similarly named Woodland Road near Katikati and one party arrived late having made the mistake. We were accompanied by the owner Colin Nash who had a keen interest in getting to know his forest. The drizzly day restricted our options and perhaps shortened the trip.

Stock have only been fenced out of the area since 2015. Over the years goats have also been removed by the current owner. Prior to 1928 the forest had been logged for kauri and rimu, and puriri and totara had been taken for posts to use on the farm. The area was strikingly free from the usual weeds such as *Carex divulsa* and *Selaginella krausiana*, although small patches were present along with montbretia. *Tradescantia fluminense* was thankfully absent.

On the upper slope near the entrance, the somewhat broken main canopy contained tawa, kohehohe, mahoe, hinau, pigeonwood and mapou along with regenerating puriri, miro and mangeo. Rimu, rewarewa and the odd northern rata were prominent emergents. Mature kohekohe had prominent immature fruiting spikes sticking out from the stem, a sign of effective pest control. On the fringes, a large mature milk tree was an unusual sight, not easily identified with its different shaped mature leaves.

As a result of the openness, the edges of the area had dense swards of *Microlaena stipoides* with just a few new seedlings and saplings under the main forest. A range of climbers and epiphytes included a good population of *Metrosideros carminea*, and one tree fern on which four species of climbing rata were within reach.

We followed an old vehicle track along a broad ridge which turned into a rough trap line along the ridge. As the track descended into the creek, kauri had obviously been present as there were the odd small kauri and patches of tanekaha, toru and kanuka with manuka being crowded out. Here a variety of orchids included *Drymoanthus adversus*, *Earina muconata* and *Corybas acuminatus* in flower as well as *C. oblongus* in bud.

A few medium-sized kauri on the slope must have been too small to log at the time. Here *Alseuosmia macrophylla* and *Brachyglottis kirkii* formed a low shrub tier apparently a few years ahead of the fringe areas. They probably came in after the goats had gone and were too far in for the stock to penetrate. Under the large kauri a mass of *Pterostylis agathicola* had the odd plant still in flower. On many of the slopes the extensive areas of tree ferns such mamaku, wheki and silver fern were broken by patches of supplejack or keikei. These damper areas supported a good variety of ferns including 10 species of filmy ferns.

A deeply entrenched little creek wound its way at the foot of the slope through a rocky gorge under a dense canopy with little marginal vegetation. Here we found *Trichomanes elongatum* on its shaded banks, but few other ferns. On a narrow oxbow spur several large old radiata pines accompanied similar-sized kauri and tanekaha, apparently isolated from pests but sheltering no new species.

The area has a wide variety of species and several different vegetation types so although it has only recently been protected it has promise to be a very valuable area in the future.

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**Nash QEII Woodlands Road species list**

G Jane & G Donaghy

**Visit Date:** 12-11-2017; **Map:** BC36 **Grid Ref:** 1855568 5847097

\* = naturalised species

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|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| * <i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>                | <i>Astelia solandri</i>                             |
| <i>Acianthus sinclairii</i>                    | <i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>                           |
| <i>Agathis australis</i>                       | <i>Blechnum chambersii</i>                          |
| <i>Alectryon excelsus</i> ssp. <i>excelsus</i> | <i>Blechnum discolor</i>                            |
| <i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>                  | <i>Blechnum filiforme</i>                           |
| * <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>                 | <i>Blechnum fluviatile</i>                          |
| <i>Aristotelia serrata</i>                     | <i>Blechnum fraseri</i>                             |
| * <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>                | <i>Blechnum membranaceum</i>                        |
| <i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>                    | <i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>                     |
| <i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>                     | <i>Brachyglottis kirkii</i> var. <i>angustior</i>   |
| <i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>                 | <i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>                        |
| <i>Asplenium polyodon</i>                      | * <i>Bromus catharticus</i> var. <i>catharticus</i> |
| <i>Astelia hastata</i>                         | <i>Bulbophyllum pygmaeum</i>                        |

|   |                                                             |   |                                                        |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------|
|   | <i>Carex imbecilla</i>                                      |   | <i>Gonocarpus incanus</i>                              |
| * | <i>Carex punctata</i>                                       |   | <i>Griselinia lucida</i>                               |
|   | <i>Carex solandri</i>                                       |   | <i>Haloragis erecta</i> ssp. <i>erecta</i>             |
|   | <i>Carex uncinata</i>                                       |   | <i>Hedycarya arborea</i>                               |
|   | <i>Centella uniflora</i>                                    |   | <i>Histiopteris incisa</i>                             |
|   | <i>Chiloglottis cornuta</i>                                 | * | <i>Holcus lanatus</i>                                  |
| * | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>                                      |   | <i>Hydrocotyle dissecta</i>                            |
|   | <i>Clematis paniculata</i>                                  |   | <i>Hydrocotyle moschata</i> var. <i>moschata</i>       |
|   | <i>Coprosma arborea</i>                                     |   | <i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i>                          |
|   | <i>Coprosma crassifolia</i>                                 |   | <i>Hymenophyllum dilatatum</i>                         |
|   | <i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>                                 |   | <i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>                       |
|   | <i>Coprosma lucida</i>                                      |   | <i>Hymenophyllum frankliniae</i>                       |
|   | <i>Coprosma robusta</i>                                     |   | <i>Hymenophyllum multifidum</i>                        |
|   | <i>Cordyline pumilio</i>                                    |   | <i>Hymenophyllum nephrophyllum</i>                     |
|   | <i>Corybas acuminatus</i>                                   |   | <i>Hymenophyllum rarum</i>                             |
|   | <i>Corybas oblongus</i>                                     |   | <i>Hymenophyllum revolutum</i>                         |
|   | <i>Corybas trilobus</i>                                     |   | <i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>                    |
| * | <i>Crocasmia crocosmiiflora</i> X                           |   |                                                        |
|   | <i>Cyathea cunninghamii</i>                                 | * | <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>                            |
|   | <i>Cyathea dealbata</i>                                     |   | <i>Hypolepis distans</i>                               |
|   | <i>Cyathea medullaris</i>                                   | * | <i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>                               |
|   | <i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>                             |   | <i>Knightia excelsa</i>                                |
|   | <i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>                                |   | <i>Kunzea robusta</i>                                  |
| * | <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>                                   |   | <i>Lagenophora pumila</i>                              |
|   | <i>Dendrobium cunninghamii</i>                              |   | <i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>                            |
|   | <i>Deparia petersenii</i> ssp. <i>congrua</i>               |   | <i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>                             |
|   | <i>Dianella nigra</i>                                       |   | <i>Lastreopsis microsora</i> ssp. <i>pentangularis</i> |
|   | <i>Dichondra repens</i>                                     |   | <i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>                        |
|   | <i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>                                  |   | <i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> ssp. <i>juniperina</i> |
| * | <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>                                   |   | <i>Leptolepia novae-zelandiae</i>                      |
|   | <i>Diplazium australe</i>                                   |   | <i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>                    |
|   | <i>Drymoanthus adversus</i>                                 |   | <i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> var. <i>scoparium</i>    |
|   | <i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>                                 |   | <i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>                         |
|   | <i>Earina autumnalis</i>                                    |   | <i>Lindsaea linearis</i>                               |
|   | <i>Earina mucronata</i>                                     |   | <i>Litsea calicaris</i>                                |
|   | <i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i> var. <i>dentatus</i>            |   | *                                                      |
| * | <i>Erica caffra</i>                                         |   | <i>Lonicera japonica</i>                               |
|   | <i>Euchiton japonicus</i>                                   |   | <i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i>                             |
|   | <i>Freycinetia banksii</i>                                  |   | <i>Loxogramme dictyopteris</i>                         |
| * | <i>Gamochaeta coarctata</i>                                 |   | <i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>                        |
|   | <i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i> |   | <i>Lycopodium volubile</i>                             |

|   |                                                         |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|   | <i>Lygodium articulatum</i>                             | * | <i>Potentilla indica</i>        |
| * | <i>Medicago lupulina</i>                                |   | <i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>   |
|   | <i>Melicytus micranthus</i>                             |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i> ssp.<br><i>ramiflorus</i>   |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Metrosideros carminea</i>                            |   | <i>Prunus campanulata</i>       |
|   | <i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>                             |   | <i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>     |
|   | <i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>                             |   | <i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i> |
|   | <i>Metrosideros perforata</i>                           |   | <i>Pseudowintera axillaris</i>  |
|   | <i>Metrosideros robusta</i>                             |   | <i>Pteridium esculentum</i>     |
|   | <i>Microlaena avenacea</i>                              |   | <i>Pteris macilenta</i>         |
|   | <i>Microlaena stipoides</i>                             |   | <i>Pteris tremula</i>           |
|   | <i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> ssp.<br><i>pustulatum</i> |   | <i>Pterostylis agathicola</i>   |
|   | <i>Microsorium scandens</i>                             |   | <i>Pterostylis alobula</i>      |
|   | <i>Microtis unifolia</i>                                |   | <i>Pterostylis banksii</i>      |
|   | <i>Mida salicifolia</i>                                 |   | <i>Pterostylis trullifolia</i>  |
|   | <i>Morelotia affinis</i>                                |   | <i>Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia</i>   |
|   | <i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>                          |   | <i>Quintinia serrata</i>        |
| * | <i>Mycelis muralis</i>                                  |   | <i>Raukaua edgerleyi</i>        |
|   | <i>Myrsine australis</i>                                |   | <i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>     |
|   | <i>Myrsine salicina</i>                                 |   | <i>Ripogonum scandens</i>       |
|   | <i>Nertera dichondrifolia</i>                           |   | <i>Rubus cissoides</i>          |
|   | <i>Nestegis lanceolata</i>                              |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Notogrammitis ciliata</i>                            |   | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>         |
|   | <i>Notogrammitis heterophylla</i>                       |   | <i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>    |
|   | <i>Olearia rani</i> var. <i>colorata</i>                |   | <i>Rytidosperma gracile</i>     |
|   | <i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> ssp. <i>imbecillis</i>      |   | <i>Schefflera digitata</i>      |
|   | <i>Paesia scaberula</i>                                 |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Parsonsia capsularis</i> var. <i>capsularis</i>      |   | <i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>   |
|   | <i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>                           |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Peperomia urvilleana</i>                             |   | <i>Senecio bipinnatisectus</i>  |
|   | <i>Phlegmariurus varius</i>                             |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Phyllocladus trichomanoides</i>                      |   | <i>Sherardia arvensis</i>       |
|   | <i>Piper excelsum</i> ssp. <i>excelsum</i>              |   | *                               |
|   | <i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>                          |   | <i>Solanum mauritianum</i>      |
| * | <i>Plantago australis</i>                               |   | <i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>   |
| * | <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>                              |   | *                               |
| * | <i>Plantago major</i>                                   |   | <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>     |
|   | <i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>                         |   | <i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>     |
| * | <i>Poa pratensis</i>                                    |   | <i>Tmesipteris lanceolata</i>   |
|   | <i>Podocarpus laetus</i>                                |   | <i>Tmesipteris sigmatifolia</i> |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Tmesipteris tannensis</i>    |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Toronia toru</i>             |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Trichomanes elongatum</i>    |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Trichomanes venosum</i>      |
|   |                                                         | * | <i>Ulex europaeus</i>           |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Veronica plebeia</i>         |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Vitex lucens</i>             |
|   |                                                         |   | <i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>      |