

The Northward March of *Pterostylis cardiostigma* D. Cooper

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On 24.11.90 a Forest and Bird field trip was held in a patch of privately owned bush on the Mahurangi Peninsula near Warkworth. The bush has been fenced for 15 years and occupies a series of gullies. The canopy is largely kanuka, with some puriri, tawa and miro.

About a dozen plants of *P. cardiostigma* were found at quite widely spaced intervals along the track. Most of the flowers were withering, but two were still in their prime. The plants had the unmistakable look of the species - strong growth form with reddish stems, reddish midribs to the leaves, and narrow, upward pointing flowers with short, red lateral sepals. The largest plant was 50cm tall.

Four days later three more plants of *P. cardiostigma* were found in second growth bush near the Waihiu river, north of the Dome. This site is 17 km to the north-west of the first. The flowers on these plants were withering, but when compared with the flowers of *P. banksii*, plants of which were growing nearby, still showed the features of *P. cardiostigma*.

Vegetation and Flora of Chatswood Reserve, North Shore City, Auckland

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INTRODUCTION

The vegetation of the Chelsea Estate and Kauri Point Centennial Park have been described by Ogden (1981) and Ogden et al. (1989) respectively. In this article, a preliminary description of the vegetation of the adjacent Chatwood Reserve is presented and a preliminary species list for this reserve is appended.

The Chatwood Reserve occupies part of the catchment of Duck Creek which drains into Waitemata Harbour. The reserve lies between Porritt Avenue and Chelsea View Drive, with the main valley orientated approximately northwest-southeast. Several smaller gullies running off both sides are also included within the reserve. There appears to be some uncertainty over the actual boundaries of the reserve at the southeastern end, but the total area is about 10 ha. Although Duck Creek and the subsidiary gullies are deeply incised, more gentle terrain occurs higher up the valley sides where spur angles ease. The reserve is almost entirely surrounded by housing, except at the southeastern end where it abuts on to the Chelsea estate.

The reserve is almost entirely forested, although the nature of the forest varies considerably. The history of the reserve was not investigated, but it would seem likely that kauri was extracted from this area in the past. Evidence of past fires is also apparent, especially in the young stands of kanuka on the upper valley sides. It can be inferred that much of this area has been burnt at various times in the recent past, but the deepest parts of the main valley probably were little affected. Fire is likely to be one of the major causes of