

# Centennial Track (part), Forbes Track, Maungaroa Ridge Track, Maungaroa Lookout Track (part), Nikau Grove Walk, 16 March 2002

Lisa Clapperton

A small group headed down the track, having sorted out cars, drivers and cell phones, on a pleasant early autumn day. The ripe *Coprosma robusta* fruit along the roadsides was quite outstanding, the *Metrosideros fulgens* was putting on a beautiful floral display, and the brilliant dark blue *Dianella nigra* berries all along the track sides were spectacular.

At the intersection of McElwain Loop and Centennial Tracks, *Isaria* (syn *Cordyceps*) *sinclairii* (the vegetable cicada) were discovered by some sharp eyes, identified by the small fruiting bodies, alongside the track amongst the leaf litter.

At a steep narrow section where the track clings to the rocks, the perfume of *Earina autumnalis* was quite heavenly. It was hanging down the cliff side providing excellent viewing as well as smelling.

Having located all the party, we lunched at Black Rock Dam – an old kauri dam with the large horizontals

making substantial seating – before continuing our way up Forbes Track and along Maungaroa Ridge Track.

Above Piha, a few of us took the diversion to the Maungaroa Lookout. The side track is no longer marked, presumably because the view is now available only to those above average height. Because the Lookout is now overgrown, the treasures used to lure us there (*Celmisia major* and *Carex breviculmis*) couldn't be found.

Down the Maungaroa Lookout Track to Nikau Grove Walk, past the nikau of the five heads (named *Rhopalostylis hydra* var. *quinquecapita* by Grace and Beever in 1990 on a Bot Soc field trip), to the cars in Garden Road.

A very enjoyable day's outing with a variety of species well endowed with colourful fruits. Close up visits from tom-tit and morepork provided happy diversions.

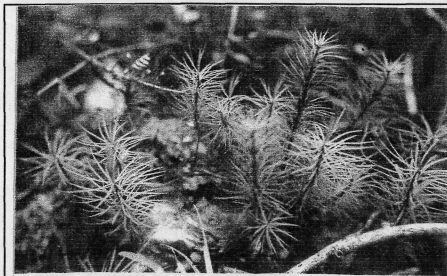


Fig.1 *Dawsonia superba*



Fig.2 *Weraroa virescens*

## Species list for McElwain Loop track (southern section), Centennial Track as far as Black Rock Dam, Forbes Track, Maungaroa Ridge Track, Maungaroa Lookout Track (northern section), Nikau Grove Walk.

Compiled by Sandra Jones

‡ = recorded on earlier trip

### Ferns & Fern Allies

*Adiantum aethiopicum*  
*Adiantum cunninghamii*  
*Adiantum diaphanum*  
*Adiantum fulvum*  
*Adiantum hispidulum* ‡  
*Adiantum viridescens*  
*Anarthropteris lanceolata*  
*Arthropteris tenella*  
*Asplenium bulbiferum*  
*Asplenium flaccidum*  
*Asplenium lamprophyllum*  
*Asplenium oblongifolium*  
*Asplenium polyodon*  
*Blechnum chambersii*  
*Blechnum discolor*  
*Blechnum filiforme*  
*Blechnum fluviatile*  
*Blechnum fraseri*  
*Blechnum membranaceum*  
*Blechnum novae zelandiae*  
*Blechnum procerum*  
*Cheilanthes sieberi* ‡  
*Ctenopteris heterophylla*  
*Cyathea dealbata*  
*Cyathea medullaris*  
*Cyathea smithii*  
*Dicksonia squarrosa*  
*Doodia australis*  
*Grammitis ciliata*  
*Histiopteris incisa* ‡  
*Huperzia varia*  
*Hymenophyllum demissum*  
*Hymenophyllum dilatatum*  
*Hymenophyllum fiabellatum*  
*Hymenophyllum flexuosum*  
*Hymenophyllum lyallii*  
*Hymenophyllum multifidum*  
*Hymenophyllum rarum*  
*Hymenophyllum revolutum*

*Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum*  
*Hypolepis distans* ‡  
*Lastreopsis hispida*  
*Leptopteris hymenophylloides*  
*Lindsaea linearis*  
*Lycopodium deuterodensum*  
*Lygodium articulatum*  
*Microsorium pustulatum* ssp.  
*pustulatum*  
*Microsorium scandens*  
*Paesia scaberula*  
*Pellaea rotundifolia* ‡  
*Pellaea falcata* [Davidson 2002]  
*Pneumatopteris pennigera*  
*Polystichum richardii*  
*Pteridium esculentum*  
*Pteris maclintae*  
*Pteris saxatilis*  
*Pteris tremula*  
*Sticherus cunninghamii*

*Tmesipteris elongata*  
*Tmesipteris lanceolata*  
*Tmesipteris tannensis*  
*Trichomanes elongatum*  
*Trichomanes reniforme*

### Gymnosperms

*Agathis australis*  
*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides* - ripe fruit  
*Dacrydium cupressinum*  
*Libocedrus plumosa*  
*Phyllocladus toata* - seed  
*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*  
*Podocarpus hallii*  
*Prunnopsitys ferruginea* - ripe fruit  
*Prunnopsitys taxifolia*

### Dicotyledons

*Alectryon excelsus*

- Alseuosmia macrophylla* - a few ripe fruit  
*Aristolelia serrata*  
*Beilschmiedia tarairi*  
*Beilschmiedia tawa*  
*Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *angustior*  
*Brachyglottis repanda*  
*Callitriche muelleri* - seed  
*Carmichaelia australis*  
*Celmisia major* var. *major* %  
*Centella uniflora*  
*Clematis forsteri*  
*Clematis paniculata*  
*Coprosma arborea*  
*Coprosma grandifolia*  
*Coprosma lucida*  
*Coprosma macrocarpa*  
*Coprosma rhamnoides* - ripe fruit  
*Coprosma robusta* - abundant fruit  
*Coprosma spathulata*  
*Coriaria arborea*  
*Corokia buddleioides* var. *buddleioides*  
*Corokia buddleioides* x *C cotoneaster*  
*Corynocarpus laevigatus*  
*Daucus glochidiatus* % [herbarium specimen 1981]  
*Dichondra repens* %  
*Dracophyllum latifolium*  
*Dracophyllum sinclairii*  
*Dysoxylum spectabile*  
*Elaeocarpus dentatus*  
*Elatostema rugosum*  
*Entelea arborescens* %  
*Epilobium* sp.  
*Euchiton* sp.  
*Gaultheria antipoda* - a few white fruit  
*Geniostoma rupestre* var. *ligustrifolium*  
*Gonocarpus incanus*  
*Griselinia lucida*
- Haloragis erecta*  
*Hebe bishopiana* - flower  
*Hebe macrocarpa* var. *macrocarpa*  
*Hedycarya arborea*  
*Helichrysum lanceolatum*  
*Hoheria populnea* - flower  
*Hydrocotyle dissecta*  
*Hydrocotyle elongata*  
*Ixerba brexioides*  
*Knightia excelsa*  
*Kunzea ericoides*  
*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*  
*Leionema nudum*  
*Leptecophylla juniperina* - ripe fruit  
*Leptospermum scoparium*  
*Leucopogon fasciculatus*  
*Litsea calicaris*  
*Lobelia anceps* - flower  
*Lophomyrtus bullata*  
*Macropiper excelsum*  
*Melicope simplex*  
*Melicope ternata* %  
*Meliccytus macrophyllus* - ripe fruit  
*Meliccytus ramiflorus* - ripe fruit  
*Metrosideros diffusa*  
*Metrosideros fulgens* - flower  
*Metrosideros perforata* - remnant flowers  
*Metrosideros robusta*  
*Muehlenbeckia australis* %  
*Myoporum laetum* %  
*Myrsine australis* - ripe fruit  
*Myrsine salicina*  
*Nertera dichondrifolia* - ripe fruit  
*Nestegis lanceolata* - ripe fruit  
*Nestegis montana*  
*Olearia furfuracea*  
*Olearia rani*  
*Parsonia heterophylla* - seed capsules  
*Passiflora tetrandra*  
*Peperomia urvilleana*  
*Pimelea longifolia*
- Pittosporum cornifolium*  
*Pittosporum ellipticum* - seed  
*Pittosporum tenuifolium*  
*Pomaderris phyllicifolia*  
*Pseudopanax arboreus*  
*Pseudopanax crassifolius*  
*Pseudopanax lessonii*  
*Pseudopanax crassifolius* x *P. lessonii*  
*Quintinia serrata*  
*Ranunculus reflexus*  
*Rhabdothamnus solandri*  
*Rubus australis*  
*Rubus cissoides*  
*Schefflera digitata*  
*Sophora fulvida*  
*Sophora microphylla*  
*Stellaria parviflora*  
*Streblus heterophyllus*  
*Tillaea sieberiana* %  
*Toronia toru* - seed  
*Vitex lucens*  
*Wahlenbergia littoricola* ssp. *vernica* - flower  
*Wahlenbergia violacea* - flower
- Monocots, excl. grasses & orchids**  
*Arthropodium cirratum*  
*Astelia banksii*  
*Astelia solandri* - ripe fruit  
*Astelia trinervia* - ripe fruit  
*Carex breviculmis* %  
*Carex dissita*  
*Carex lambertiana*  
*Carex ochrosaccus*  
*Collospermum hastatum*  
*Cordyline australis*  
*Cordyline banksii*  
*Dianella nigra* - ripe fruit  
*Freyinetia banksii*  
*Gahnia lacera* - seed  
*Gahnia pauciflora*
- Gahnia setifolia* - seed  
*Gahnia xanthocarpa*  
*Isolepis reticularis*  
*Lepidosperma australe*  
*Lepidosperma laterale*  
*Machaerina sinclairii*  
*Morelotia affinis*  
*Phormium cookianum*  
*Phormium tenax*  
*Rhopalostylis sapida* - ripe berries  
*Ripogonum scandens*  
*Schoenus maschalinus*  
*Schoenus tendo*  
*Uncinia banksii*  
*Uncinia uncinata*
- Orchids**  
*Acianthus sinclairii*  
*Bulbophyllum pygmaeum*  
*Corybas macranthus* %  
*Corybas oblongus*  
*Corybas trilobus*  
*Drymoanthus adversus* %  
*Earina autumnalis* - just coming into flower  
*Earina mucronata*  
*Pterostylis agathicola*  
*Pterostylis banksii*  
*Pterostylis brumalis* - flower 21.4.90  
*Thelymitra longifolia*  
*Winika cunninghamii* - seed
- Grasses**  
*Echinopogon ovatus* %  
*Microlaena avenacea*  
*Microlaena polynoda*  
*Microlaena stipoides* %  
*Oplismenus hirtellus* ssp. *imbecillis*  
*Rytidosperma gracile* %

#### **Fungi** compiled by Peter White

- Aleurodiscus ochraceo-flavus* - a small bright pink crust with a free white margin on *Leptospermum* wood.  
*Auricularia polytricha* (ear fungus, wood ears) - quite common.  
*Beauveria bassiana* (sugar icing fungus) - common, a number of cicada having fallen victim to the parasite. The fungus kills its victim by feeding on its internal organs.  
*Calocera cornea* - yellow fingers 5 mm high growing from a dead log, Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Clavaria sulcata* (fairy clubs, flame fungus) - small (5-10 mm high) salmon pink clubs growing from the ground, Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Crucibulum laeve* (birdsnest fungus) - a group of four at lower end of Forbes Tr.  
*Cyclomyces tabacinus* - a thin bracket fungus consisting of zones of different shades of brown.  
*Favolaschia calocera* (orange pore fungi) - an introduced species, common.  
*Ganoderma* spp. - *G. australe* (perennial bracket fungus, artist's conk), *G. aff. applanatum* - seen throughout, all small, *G. aff. applanatum* the more common.  
*Isaria* (syn *Cordyceps*) *sinclairii* (vegetable cicada) - a fungus that attacks cicada nymphs in the ground. Above ground fruiting bodies common in a clearing and the surrounding bush on Centennial Track just above the Centennial Stream.  
? *Melanotus hepatochrous* - a 5-10 mm toadstool, short stem curved under, grey all over, gills radiating from off centre stem and all one length, on kawakawa, Centennial Tr.  
*Orbilbia delicatula* - small orange spots on dead wood, edges raised forming a shallow cup. Found half-way down the Centennial Track.  
*Pleurotus* sp. - cap orange brown, gills and stem white, Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Pleurotus* sp. - cap purple, gills and stem white, Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Podoscypha petalodes* (wine glass fungus) - a group of two lower end Forbes Tr and a larger group Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
? *Ramaria* sp. - a branched coral fungus 70 mm high, white with tips turning blue, branches 10 mm width - two specimens growing at edge of Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Russula* sp. - a single specimen of this mushroom was found, associated with kanuka, too old to determine which species, Centennial Tr.  
? *Stereum complicatum* - a small white shell-like fungus, Centennial Tr.  
*Trichocoma paradoxa* (shaving brush fungus) - a group on a dead log edge of Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Tylopilus formosus* - a couple of mushrooms with pores, edge of Maungaroa Ridge Tr.  
*Weraroa virescens* (pale blue pouch fungus) - a group of three seen at the edge of the Centennial Track, halfway down.

#### Unnamed species:

- A white crust fungus bruising brown. Centennial Tr.  
An orange bracket fungus. Centennial Tr.

A large white mushroom with a smaller one underneath under kauri/kanuka. Cap 150 mm, white with brown centre, gills brown crowded and all one length, stem white wide 50mm high, wider at base. Maungaroa Ridge Tr.

A tiny gilled fungus on nikau petiole. Cap translucent white with 6 radiating gills, stem very thin black and stiff. Common.

**Lichens** list compiled by Peter White

*Cladina confusa* (reindeer lichen) syn *C. leptoclada* - common by tracks and coating rocks. Bits of this lichen also found on a nikau petiole at the edge of the Centennial Tr.

*Usnea* sp.

**Mosses** list compiled by Peter White

*Dawsonia superba*

*Hypopterygium rotulatum* (umbrella moss) - a common moss on the edge of the Centennial Track.

*Hypopterygium ? filiculaeforme* - edge of the Centennial Track.

*Leptostomum macrocarpum* (pin cushion moss) - on nikau and tree trunks.

*Leucobryum candidum* (milk moss) - here and there on soil, tree trunks and exposed roots.



## Fungal Foray, Walkman Track, Hunua Ranges

18 May 2002

Peter White (recorder)

**Those present:**

Ross Beever (Leader)	Peter Johnston (Landcare mycologist)	Steve Whitton (Landcare mycologist)	Peter Buchanan (Landcare mycologist)	Ella Aihi
Brian Ashby (Hamilton)	Mary Ashby (Hamilton)	Chris Ashton	Joan Austwick	Peter Austwick
Kathy Barrow	Kerry Bodmin	Jim Budd	Jan Butcher	Pam Carmont
Lisa Clapperton	Pam Dale	Pat Dale	Lynne Duff	Elizabeth Evans
Allan Flynn	Sarah Flynn	Colleen Foster	Cameron Kilgour,	Eila Lawton (Katikati)
Mei Nee Lee	Annette Lindsay	Alistair McArthur	Steve McCraith	Carol McSweeney
Gary McSweeney	Kate Mulligan (Tauranga),	Chris Parr	Dinah Parr	Margaret Peart
Helen Preston- Jones	Juliet Richmond	Doug Shaw	Clive Shirley	Jackie Tyrrell
Alison Wesley	Mike Wilcox	Maureen Young.		

**Route:** From the carpark near the bridge on Walkman Rd along the beginning of the Walkman Track, turning right into the Beech Track following up onto the ridge.

**Vegetation:**

A forest of hard beech (*Nothofagus truncata*), kauri (*Agathis australis*) and tanekaha (*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*), with some rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) and kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*). Common understorey species were towai (*Weinmannia silvicola*), ponga (*Cyathea dealbata*), mamaku (*C. medullaris*) and some toropapa (*Alseuosmia macrophylla*). *Collospermum hastatum* was found growing quite happily from the ground rather than it's usual epiphytic habitat. Also found in the ground tier was *Astelia solandri*, kidney fern (*Trichomanes reniforme*), kiokio (*Blechnum novae-zelandiae*) and the mosses *Leucobryum candidum*, *Hypnodendron colensoi* and *Ptychomnion aciculare*, and the liverwort *Bazzania adnexa*, which forms conspicuous clumps at the

base of trees or on the ground. The fern *Grammitis ? rawlingsii* was found on mossy banks in beech/kauri forest - its characteristic habitat. Kiokio was particularly common in the ephemeral gully.

On the way up the track in the ephemeral gully a patch of the uncommon spider orchid, *Corybas cheesemanii*, was found in full flower.



*Corybas cheesemanii*

The rather dry autumn to date meant that fungi were not particularly abundant. Despite this, and with guidance from our leaders, a good haul of wood and forest-floor fungi was obtained for later examination back at the Botanic Gardens classroom. Our youngest participant, Ella Aihi, proved to be an observant fungus-finder, and filled her lunch box with an attractive display.