

Labour Weekend Camp at Motu Kaikōura, Fitzroy Harbour, Aotea/Great Barrier Island, 21–24 October 2011

Ewen K. Cameron & Maureen E. Young

Motu Kaikōura is an island that is recovering from a long history of clearance, and of degradation by browsing mammals, particularly by fallow deer. These had been farmed since the 1930s, but became feral as the fences were not maintained (see Cameron 1995, 2007) and, as aerial photos taken in the 1950s show, the natural cover was almost completely destroyed (Fig. 1).

After being purchased in May 2004 the island has been in the care of the Motu Kaikōura Trust. The Trust has chosen to remove the pest animals and plants and allow the island to recover naturally. Fallow deer were hunted almost to extinction, and when an aerial rat bait drop was undertaken in August 2008 the last three deer were also poisoned. A second bait drop occurred the following month in the hope that the island would subsequently be rat free. However, rats have reinvaded and much trapping and poisoning has been carried out since. Some members of Auckland Botanical Society (ABS) have visited the island several times since the purchase, to monitor and record the changes as they occur, and one of us, MEY, organised five vegetation plots to be set up in June 2007 [Footnote 1]. The visit of 17 members and friends for Labour Weekend in 2011 was undertaken to continue this process of monitoring and recording additional wild plant species.

Participants: Keith Ayton, Jean Barton, Jan Butcher, Ewen Cameron (EKC), Janeen Collings, Bev & Geoff Davidson, Gael Donaghy, Leslie Haines, Peter Hutton, Elaine Marshall, John Millett, Helen Preston Jones, Juliet Richmond, Cheryl Taylor, Alison Wesley, Maureen Young (MEY)(leader).

21 October 2011

Our skipper for the trip from Sandspit was Dave Wade, with his wife, Lyn, as a very able first mate. The *Sumo*, a broad-beamed boat less than a year old, that Dave built especially for island visits, carried us comfortably, despite a lively following wind. As we approached the island, we could see the excellent results of the poisoning of a number of the pines (*Pinus pinaster* and *P. radiata*) that have naturalised over much of the island (Fig. 2).

After settling in at *the Lost Resort Lodge* (Fig. 3), we had time for a walk up the road and around



Fig. 1. North coast of Motu Kaikōura, looking west, 4 Jan 1954. Mt Overlook (179m asl) is highest point of peninsula in foreground. Note the sparseness of woody vegetation and the widespread areas of virtually bare clay (the whitest areas). Photo: Whites Aviation Collection, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand, WA-34136. Reproduced with permission.



Fig. 2. Poisoned/ring-barked pines stood out above the low native cover on the SW coast of Motu Kaikōura between Taraire Valley and Crawford Bay, as we entered the Man of War Passage. Emergent pōhutukawa to the lower-left and an even kānuka cover from centre to the right. Photo: EKC, 21 Oct 2011.



Fig. 3. The Lost Resort, where we stayed, containing the recreation area and kitchen, with the cabins behind and to the sides. The main building along with its billiard table was intentionally burnt down on 7 Oct 2013, and the spacious replacement solar-powered Lodge was opened on 23 Mar 2019. Photo: EKC, 22 Oct 2011.

Footnote 1 – The five vegetation plots were re-measured during the September 2013 ASB field trip.

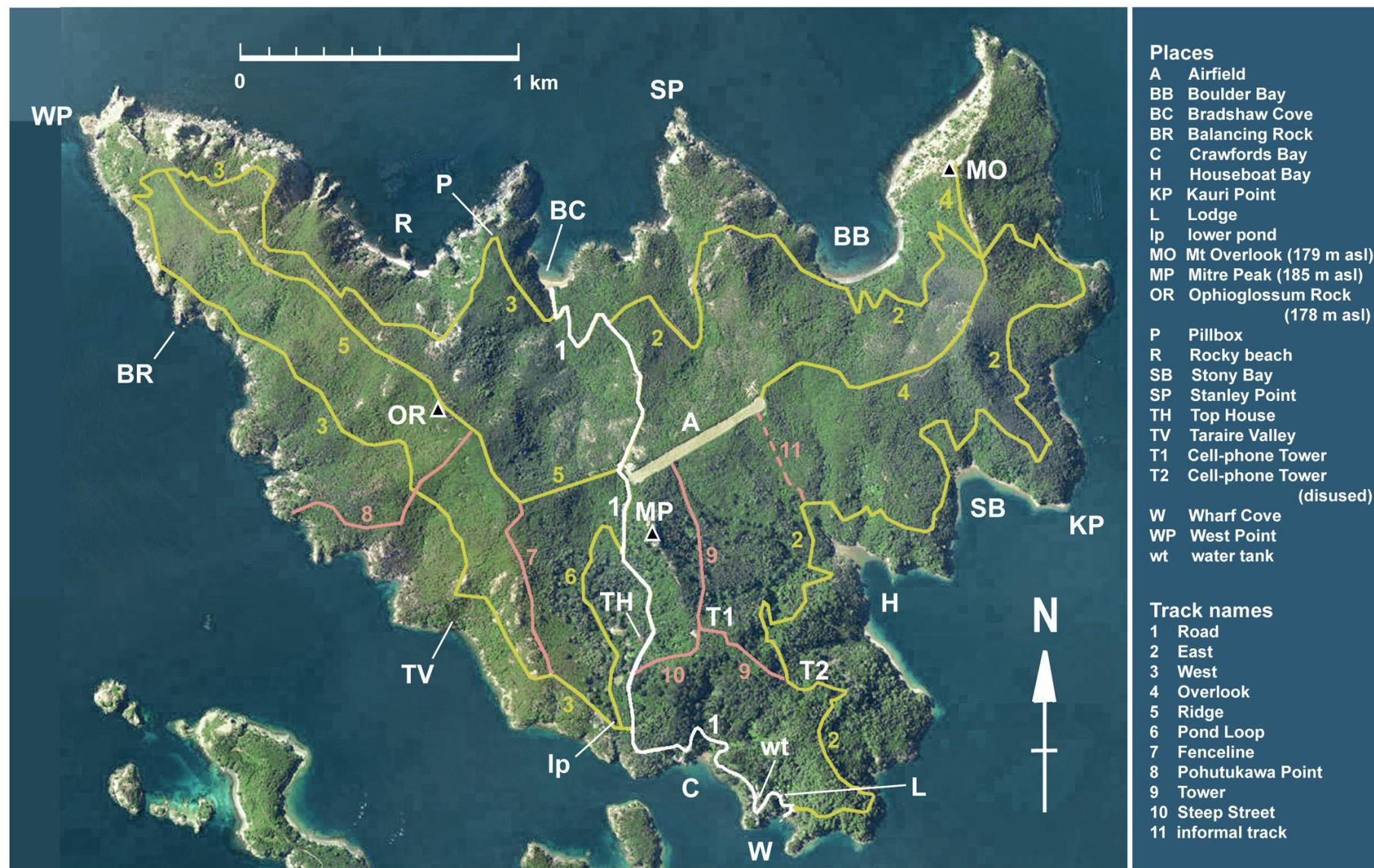


Fig. 4. Location and place names (many informal) of Motu Kaikōura, Aotea/Great Barrier Island.
Base map of tracks and place names from Motu Kaikōura Trust, modified and placed on an Auckland Council GeoMap by Joshua Salter.

Crawfords Bay (for location map see Fig. 4) before dinner. This lower portion of the road that crosses the island (north to south) gave us an idea of how the ground cover is regenerating, from being grazed bare by the deer to a thick covering of grasses – mostly *Microlaena stipoides* and seedling shrubs and trees. Ferns were doing well on the shaded roadside bank, and a species not recorded before, mangemange (*Lygodium articulatum*), was soon seen. A new plant of *Sticherus flabellatus* (only two plants recorded previously) was another pleasing sight. Seedlings of hangehange (*Geniostoma ligustrifolium*), *Helichrysum lanceolatum*, māhoe (*Melicactus ramiflorus*), *Parsonsia capsularis*, bush lawyer (*Rubus cissoides*) and five finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*) were all present and some were flourishing. A good sign for the development of a future broadleaf forest were occasional seedlings of pūriri (*Vitex lucens*) and one of tawapou (*Planchonella costata*). The likely seed dispersers, kererū, were present on the island. Spraying has been carried out at Crawford Bay to eliminate the kikuyu (*Cenchrus clandestinus*) that was spreading along the foreshore, and all but one small clump has been killed [Footnote 2].

22 October 2011

An early start saw us ferried up to the airstrip in the 4WD Kawasaki *Mule*, to the beginning of the Ridge Track. (In earlier reports this track along the main NW ridge of the island was called Ngati Rehua Track). A short way along the track is a large rock outcrop that has become known as "Ophioglossum Rock" (for location see Fig. 4). On the summit grows a low ephemeral "garden" of tiny plants. These plants must be seen in the spring for, as soon as the weather warms up, they frizzle and dry in the heat. We fell to our knees, and with noses almost touching the ground (Fig. 5), we could indeed see many minute plants of the fascinating fern, adder's tongue (*Ophioglossum coriaceum*) (Fig. 6). Associated plants were exotic grasses (*Aira caryophyllea*, *Briza minor*, *Sporobolus africanus*), orchids (*Microtis unifolia*, *Thelymitra* aff. *longifolia*), sundew (*Drosera auriculata*), hot rock fern (*Cheilanthes sieberi*), native pelargonium (*Pelargonium inodorum*) with pink flowers, the blue pimpernel (*Lysimachia arvensis* subsp. *arvensis* var. *coerulea*), and a daisy, *Facelis retusa* (Fig. 7), some with fluffy seedheads, which has been spreading southwards since establishing in Northland in the late 1980s.

A patch of *Machaerina juncea*, growing just past the rock, was a new species for our list, and a freshly unfurling stem of *Psilotum nudum* was greeted with pleasure (3 or 4 more plants were seen during the day). On kānuka (*Kunzea robusta*) trees we noted



Fig. 5. A rock outcrop along the NW ridge was referred to by us as "Ophioglossum Rock" because of the tiny fern that occurs abundantly in the thin soil on its summit. L to R foreground: Bev, Janeen, Helen, Maureen; Geoff & Cheryl (beyond). Photo: EKC, 22 Oct 2011.



Fig. 6. The tiny adder's tongue fern (*Ophioglossum coriaceum*) was locally abundant on "Ophioglossum Rock", along with a lichen (*Cladonia* sp.) through the whole clump, two exotic grasses (*Aira caryophyllea*, *Briza minor*) and other annuals. Photo: EKC, 22 Oct 2011.



Fig. 7. More turf species on "Ophioglossum Rock": stunted *Thelymitra* aff. *longifolia*, *Facelis retusa* (with the sharp-pointed leaves), *Cheilanthes sieberi* fronds, *Hypochaeris glabra* leaves (on right). Also present: *Drosera auriculata* and *Briza minor*. Photo: EKC, 22 Oct 2011.

Footnote 2 – Still being managed at this site in January 2026.



Fig. 8. Male flowers of *Clematis cunninghamii* climbing through *Helichrysum lanceolatum* under open kākūka canopy. End of Ridge Track, by West Point. Photo; EKC, 22 Oct 2011.



Fig. 9. A clump of the European *Sagina subulata* in flower in the open on margin of a large rocky outcrop in an exotic grassy sward with blue pimpernel and *Lotus subbiflorus*, NW of Balancing Rock. Photo: EKC, 22 Oct 2011.



Fig. 10. The hairy pink caladenia, *Caladenia bartlettii*, here under kākūka, West Track, NW of the lower pond. **L:** front view, **R:** side view. Photo: Alison Wesley, 22 Oct 2011.

Footnote 3 – Several scientific names have been updated to 2026 usage, in keeping with the proposed island's flora checklist to be published later this year.

the "large" plants of the orchid *Drymoanthus adversus* that we knew from previous visits, and near the end of this Ridge Track was a regenerating area with much *Parietaria debilis*, *Calystegia tuguriorum* (with white flowers), *Clematis cunninghamii* also flowering (Fig. 8), and a ground fern, *Hypolepis ambigua*. At this point the party broke up, with some retracing their steps, and others dropping steeply downhill to find the sidling track (West Track) which would take us back to the Lodge via the SW side of the island. Our access around the island benefitted from tracks like this one, recently cut for rat control.

While negotiating the many undulations of this track under a mainly kākūka canopy, and with much *Olearia furfuracea* in the gullies, it could be seen that in this area the wind-dispersed species, *Clematis paniculata*, rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*) and *Parsonsia capsularis*, were much more widely spread than bird-dispersed species. However, where trees such as kohekohe (*Didymocheton spectabilis*) [Footnote 3], and wharangi (*Melicope ternata*) grew near the coast, there were often many of their seedlings and saplings nearby. At one place we ventured out a short distance to the coast and ended up on top of a rocky cliff, just NW of Balancing Rock. Here, in the open, some small, starry-white flowers were investigated, which turned out to belong to *Sagina subulata* (Fig. 9) – another addition to the island's flora that appears to be the first collection of *S. subulata* for the Auckland region.

When the broadleaf forest patch in Taraire Valley (the best broadleaf forest on the island) was finally reached, the party was too weary to do much exploring, though the fern *Asplenium gracillimum* was added to our list. One of the vegetation plots that was established in 2007, and which had a complete lack of ground cover at that time, was now noted to contain a sward of the sedge *Carex solanderi*, and saplings of lacebark (*Hoheria populnea*), kohekohe, coastal karamū (*Coprosma macrocarpa*), rangiora, supplejack (*Ripogonum scandens*) and taraire (*Beilschmiedia tarairi*).

Just east of Taraire Valley the track sidles past some large rock bluffs. These were refuges for plants of renga lily (*Arthropodium cirratum*) when deer were present, and now there are fresh plants spilling down the slopes. *Carex spinirostris*, was also present with bright red-purple glumes and utricles. A few tiny plants of a *Caladenia* orchid intrigued us, and Gael, with the aid of her pen tip and some warm breath managed to open the flower of one, which had pink petals. She later confirmed that it was *C. bartlettii* (Fig. 10, A & B) – another addition to the flora.

When the track finally met the road, we found that a good fairy had left the *Mule*, with keys in the ignition, waiting for us on the roadside. Our tired bodies were very grateful, and we arrived back at the Lodge at 5.45 pm.

23 October 2011

Today we headed for Mt. Overlook (179 m asl), a prominent point on the NE of the island. Again, we reached the airstrip by a combination of walking and ferrying with the *Mule*. Some of us walked along the airstrip chuckling at the sign telling us to keep clear when a plane was landing, but then had to scatter as a "*Mule* plane" taxied down the runway with several "wings" flapping vigorously.

The Overlook Track started downhill from the airstrip through some "ho-hum" kānuka cover, but one of the "finds of the weekend" was soon to be revealed. On the NW side of the track is an area of bare red clay that is also found on other parts of the island and is known as "the Badlands". It took two pairs of sharp eyes to spot, growing on four of the rather stunted kānuka, many, many plants of the tiny mistletoe, *Korthalsella salicornioides* (Fig. 11). Close by was the bright-yellow dog vomit slime mould (*Fuligo septica*) on the ground (Fig. 12). A single plant of the uncommonly seen *Caladenia atradenia* was also growing on the nutrient-poor soils of the trackside. Although the flowers were just past their best, the green/bronze colour was obvious, as was the chocolate-coloured labellum. A few more plants were seen of the pink *Caladenia bartlettii*. Although rather early for flowers, many of the developing *Thelymitra* plants were obviously *T. aemula* – the angled stem-bracts and the stout, rather glaucous stems were a clue, and the occasional bud was developed enough for a "caesarean" to reveal its identity. *Thelymitra pauciflora* plants were reasonably common, especially along the airstrip.

On one rock outcrop were several clumps of *Celmisia major*, and a single flower was much photographed. On another outcrop were a couple of mature plants of *Hebe pubescens* subsp. *rehuarum* growing out of deer reach, and, on the ground below, c.50 seedlings were now flourishing. The approach to the Mt. Overlook lookout point was heralded by a thick groundcover of the dainty maidenhair fern, *Adiantum aethiopicum*. After checking out the view over the channel to Aotea/Great Barrier Island, and noting several new adventive plants, we dropped down steeply to the east for a few metres and lunched in the sunshine on a rocky bluff. A cluster of eight stems of *Thelymitra* aff. *longifolia*, bearing copious perfumed flowers, was another photographic lure (Fig. 13). Again, some chose to return to base, while the rest negotiated the narrow spine of the ridge with some trepidation (Fig. 14).



Fig. 11. The tiny mistletoe, *Korthalsella salicornioides* was locally common on four bushes of kānuka on the Badlands soil, track margin to Mt Overlook. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 12. The bright yellow dog vomit slime mould (*Fuligo septica*), on the margin of an old stump, near Fig. 11. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 13. Crowded stems of *Thelymitra* aff. *longifolia*; the mass of open, scented flowers was much admired. Photo: close to the summit of Mt Overlook, EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 14. Looking northeast, from summit of Mt Overlook (179 m asl), to the predator-free Glenfern Sanctuary across the water, then the peninsula leading left to Separation Point, and at left in distance, Te Paparahi, at the northern tip of Aotea/Gt.Barrier I. Ewen, Geoff and others descending the ridge. Photo: Bev Davidson, 23 Oct 2011.

The native angelica, *Scandia rosifolia*, was seen before we turned on to a marked trail (East Track) which led us southwards. We soon came to an area where, under the kānuka, there were thickets of *Helichrysum lanceolatum* and *Rhabdothamnus solandri*, with occasional trees and seedlings of kowhai (*Sophora chathamica*). A 1954 photograph (Fig. 1) showed that there was a small area here that was never completely cleared, and this probably explains the richer understorey. As the trail neared

the coast, one of the few original pōhutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*) trees was found to be sheltering an adult tree of wharangi and dozens of its offspring.

Soon afterwards the party of ten split, with one group of six bush-crashing up towards the Overlook Track, and the remainder carrying on, hoping to circumnavigate back to the Lodge. Two mid-sized tōtara (*Podocarpus totara*) were passed on the climb upwards. This was a pleasing sight as these were our first definite observation of this species on the island.

The group of four on the East Track heading south, still close to the coast, soon came across a massive squat pūriri (Fig. 15) with abundant kawakawa (*Piper excelsum*) regeneration around it. Further on in a steep valley, under a dominant canopy of kānuka, hangehange regeneration was frequently prolific (Fig. 16). Further on still, the track undulated over ridges and crossed several stream gullies, some dry and others with water running. Most of these stream gullies had a broadleaf canopy, usually of kohekohe, tawaroa (*Beilschmiedia tawaroa*), pūriri, karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*), rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*) and pigeonwood (*Hedycarya arborea*). By a dry stream gully several ponga carried many fine specimens of *Tmesipteris sigmatifolia* (Fig. 17). Locally, small groups of kauri (*Agathis australis*) were also present, with heads



Fig. 15. A fine squat pūriri with the most impressive trunk seen on the island. Judging from Geoff's height (1.89 m), and HIS impressive trunk, the pūriri trunk is c.1.6 m diameter at the narrowest point. Photo: SE of Mt Overlook, near the coast, EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 16. Elaine amongst prolific hangehange regeneration, with akepiro and tree ferns, under a continuous canopy of kānuka. East Track, bay north of Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.

above the kānuka canopy (Fig. 18), some often associated with *Pimelea tomentosa* (Fig. 19) and Kirk's tree daisy (*Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *angustior*, Fig. 20). Several of the wetter stream gullies had good populations of the thalloid liverwort, *Monoclea forsteri*, lining the creek bed (Fig. 21). Up on a ridgeon East Track, another "find of the weekend" was spotted, the pale-flowered kūmarahou (*Pomaderris hamiltonii*) (Fig. 22), and scattered plants extended up an adjacent fenceline track (track 11). The group then followed track 11 on an easy gradient, and were relieved to emerge near the eastern end of the airstrip.

Back at the Lodge the two groups combined to cook a late dinner, and just in time the late party, of Elaine, Ewen, Geoff and Keith, arrived at 7.15 pm, having had to give up on their aim of following the coastal track back to the headquarters.

And then – THE GAME! Yes, this was the night the whole country had been waiting for. Thankful that the Lodge had an old television, Skipper Dave and Lyn joined us, this saving them from having to travel back to the mainland to watch the Rugby World Cup final played at Eden Park. Even those who had no interest in rugby felt compelled to stay up, such was the tension that had built up over the preceding weeks. The winner was in doubt until the final whistle, the All Blacks beating France 8–7.

24 October 2011

The *Sumo* was due at 1pm, so after packing and cleaning up we had a few more hours left for exploration. So, it was up to the airstrip again, and some carried on down the road to a sandy beach at Bradshaw Cove facing north – where at least one had a swim. Near an old bach there was a patch of flowering onion weed (*Allium triquetrum*, Fig. 23), locally common on both sides of the creek (one patch measured 10 m long), and extending out to an old fig tree (*Ficus carica*) – the only known site of onion weed on the island. Sadly, veldt grass was



Fig. 17. Over 25 plants of *Tmesipteris sigmatifolia* were seen on this single ponga trunk near a dry stream gully in broadleaf-kānuka forest. East Track, bay north of Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.

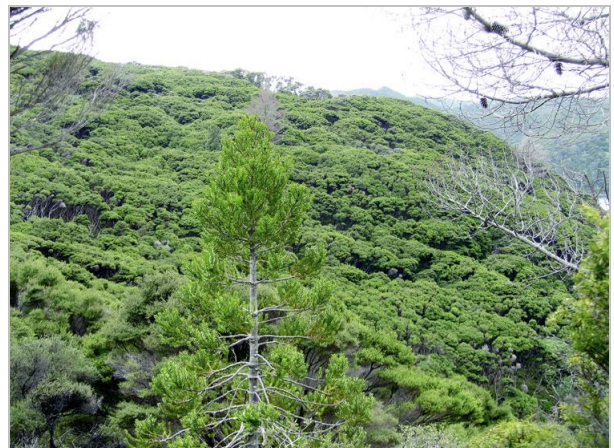


Fig. 18. Kauri replacing the pines (dead-standing) and seeding into the kānuka canopy below. East Track, bay north of Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 19. A small flowering *Pimelea tomentosa* shrub; approx. 50 were seen. East Track, above Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 20. The palatable Kirk's tree daisy regenerating well in the absence of deer, under a broken canopy of kānuka. East Track, above Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.

common in the bay. We proceeded along the coast on the western side where we found a large patch of the threatened native carrot (*Daucus glochidiatus*, Fig. 24), <1 m asl. Unfortunately, weeds were nearly crowding it out.

Near the windsock at the east end of the airstrip, the others found the start of the fenceline track (track 11), whence the four from the previous evening had emerged. Although there was little growing under the kānuka, the thick litter was an ideal habitat for the helmet orchid, *Corybas*



Fig. 22. The tall and narrow, pale-flowered kūmarahou (*Pomaderris hamiltonii*) was locally common on East Track above Houseboat Bay, and at the southern end of Track 11. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.



Fig. 21. The large native thalloid liverwort, *Monoclea forsteri*, with the fern, *Austroblechnum membranaceum*, in one of the narrow, forested stream gullies. East Track, near Stony Bay. Photo: EKC, 23 Oct 2011.

cheesemanii, and many capsules were prominent on elongating stems. Near the end of the fenceline were two large patches of the pale-flowered kūmarahou growing in light gaps – which had been admired by the others the previous evening. Fortunately for identification purposes some of the flowers still held on to the creamy coloured petals that give the plant its common name. Of added interest to our group was the fact that Lyn, the mate on *Sumo*, belongs to the Hamilton family that the species was named after. Her father was Dr. W.M. Hamilton, Director General of the D.S.I.R. for 22 years.

With the aim of reaching Kauri Point, two of the party hurried over ridges and gullies, but time eventually ran out and they had to give up one ridge short of the goal. However, on the way they found two more unrecorded species, *Alseuosmia macrophylla* (growing on the edge of a waterfall and still bearing a few red flowers), and the filmy fern, *Trichomanes endlicherianum*, on a dark streamside rock. Many shrubs of Kirk's daisy were regenerating vigorously, as were seedlings of kowhai growing under at least four ageing adults. The gnat orchid (*Cyrtostylis oblonga*) was found on a dry clay bank, and although this plant has already been recorded on the island, none of our party had previously seen it there.

As the two explorers were sitting and having a bite to eat before returning, one said to the other, "That mingimingi over there has white flowers on top." Investigation revealed that there were many little shrubs of *Pimelea tomentosa*, mostly in flower and one or two bearing shiny white fruit. The late party from the previous evening had reported seeing 50-plus plants – a wonderful result for a plant that is considered to be regionally endangered.



Fig. 23. Onion weed (*Allium triquetrum*) by an old planted fig tree, at Bradshaw Cove. Photo: EKC, 24 Oct 2011.



Fig. 24. The threatened native carrot (*Daucus glochidiatus*), distinguished from wild carrot (*D. carota*) by its smaller size, and fewer rays 1-7(-9) produced in an open head. Bradshaw Cove. Photo: EKC, 24 Oct 2011.

Everyone arrived back at the Lodge in time for embarkation (Fig. 25), and a calm trip home, with sightings of Bryde's whales spouting, birds diving, all attracted to bait balls of schooling fish – "boil-ups".

Departing thoughts

The Trust is to be congratulated on the work that has been done to make the accommodation comfortable, and on the sterling effort put into pest control. Biosecurity must continue to be taken

seriously so that no new pests, environmental weeds in particular, are introduced. We strongly support the Trust's philosophy of removing the pest animals and plants and allowing the island to recover naturally. The regeneration seen during this visit shows how quickly this philosophy is working.

Note – Since this visit, the authors have had several more trips to Motu Kaikōura and they plan to produce a full species list in the next journal issue.



Fig. 25. Our group of 17 about to depart from Motu Kaikōura. L to R (standing): Alison W, Juliet R, Geoff D, Maureen Y, Bev D, Cheryl T, Jan B, Ewen C, Leslie H, Janeen C, Jean B, Gael D., Keith A, Peter H; (sitting): John M, Elaine M, Helen PJ. Photo: Janeen's camera, 24 Oct 2011.

Acknowledgements

We thank: the Motu Kaikōura Trust for permission to stay on the island, use of the *Mule*, producing the track map of the island, and permission to collect for herbarium specimens; all the trip participants for their helpful field comments and assistance; the then trustee Rod Miller for sourcing the historical image;

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Alison Wesley, Bev Davidson and Janeen Collings for use of their images; Dan Blanchon for a lichen identification; Joshua Salter for combining the track and topographic maps, to produce Figure 4; and Dave and Lyn Wade for getting us there and back so comfortably.

Field trip to “Seaforth”, Hatfields Beach, 20th September 2025

Maureen Young

Participants: *Vivienne Allen, Tricia Baird, Bella Burgess, Maureen Burke, Brayden Burton, Caraway Chiba, Lisa Clapperton (assistant-leader), Geoff Davidson, Anne Dudley, Frances Duff, Janelle Evans, Ben Goodwin, Richard Hursthouse, Wendy John, Jetta Laurenson, Danielle Lucas, Cynthia Mackenzie & James Mackenzie (leaders), Anna Mairs, Rich Mairs, Christine Major, Philip Moll, Michelle Moloney, Peter Moosberger, Jessica Peart, Helen Preston Jones, Ella Rawcliffe, Juliet Richmond, Joshua Salter, John Staniland, Karen Staniland, Adrienne Stanton, Tomasz Subritzky, Sean Thomson, Katie Vanderstok, Samantha Van Ryn, David Wilson, Anthony Wright, Maureen Young.*

A large crowd gathered on the lawn outside the old beach cottage on the Mackenzie’s 60 ha property north of Hatfields Beach. Auckland Botanical Society (ABS) had visited this interesting area in 1990 (Jones 1991) and 2013 (Young 2014), as the unusual habitat always intrigues. As well as there being a bush-clad slope, it is the gumland scrub that is the main draw card, containing, as it does, many species of native orchids. The property has been owned by three generations of the Mackenzie family for c. 97 years, with the materials for the cottage being brought by sea in 1930. The name, “Seaforth”, comes from the Mackenzie family’s founding of the Seaforth Highlanders Regiment in Scotland. The family has had a long connection with conservation in New Zealand, from the appointment of Sir Thomas Mackenzie (briefly Prime Minister) as the first president of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, to James’ father, Chris Mackenzie, founding the Mid North Branch, and then to James’ recent stint as a board member of Forest & Bird.



Fig. 1. Introductions by James Mackenzie and Maureen Young. Photo: PM. All photographs were taken on 20 Sep 2025 by Philip Moll (PM), except for the three by Marley Ford (MF) taken on 25 Oct 2025.

After James welcomed people (Fig. 1), he very sensibly divided the large group into two, with Cynthia leading one group through the gumland scrub to the cliff top, and James taking the other