

The Magazine of the Friends of Pukekura Park

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Camellia japonica 'Sir Victor Davies'

TARANAKI BRED

from the Fernery & Display Houses collection

Photo Derek Hughes

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“Do you remember when the band used to play in the Band Rotunda by the main lake?”

“Do you remember watching croquet on the courts beside Victoria Road?”

“What is the story of the Cycad near the Fernery?”

The Cycad is now over 30 years old and is a *Cycas revoluta* (Sago Palm) which was donated by Fred Parker to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Fernery and Display Houses on 28 January 1978. You can see G. Maxwell and D.F. Saxton standing on the lawn to the left. The people planting the Cycad are F. Parker (Pukekura Park Board member), A.D. Jellyman (New Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department Director), and Mayor D.V. Sutherland.



Photos, videos, letters, and tapes about your family enjoying the Park are as much a part of the Park history as are the structures and plantings. You can store copies of your works in the Kete Pukekura and identify the places they describe on the Park mapping system. This provides not only hard facts, but evidence of community values in an era of corporate restructuring and contracting-out. Today’s mobile workforce often suffers from generational amnesia, and the value of community knowledge may not be recognised. The Friends of Pukekura Park are keen to use whatever methods are available to redress this situation, and provide Council managers and the community with a means for information gathering and consultation. “Community groups have access to many forms of data and information that are qualities of the community itself and are therefore not available from any source other than from the community. Traditional ecological knowledge, local spirituality, aesthetic and amenity values are relevant examples” said Thomas Meredith (McGill University, Montreal, Canada), a researcher in “democracy and participation in environmental decision-making”.

Please contact us if you would like to add your information to the Kete Pukekura. Childhood photos from 1929 or cultural diversity at Womad in 2009 are equally valuable, both for human interest and assessing the vegetation in the background! We have scanning and computer equipment at Puke Ariki, and hope that we can rapidly build up a wealth of resources and many more links between kete and maps over the next months.

Contributions should be sent to
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A celebration at the
Band Rotunda.



Photo Ailsa McCrone



Cycas revoluta 31 years on.

Photo Derek Hughes

A view over the cricket
grounds from Cannon Hill,
showing the changes from
the photograph held by
George Fuller.



Photo Elise Smith



More about the Tea House Wisterias

David Medway

In my articles about the first Pukekura Park tea rooms and the tea house Wisterias (*Newsletter of the Friends of Pukekura Park* 2(2)(October 2007): 2-3) I suggested that the seating area beside the tea rooms and the Wisterias planted there probably date from 1905 when the tea rooms were erected. Further research has shown that these events actually occurred three years later.

It was mentioned in the *Taranaki Herald* of 17/2/1908 at p. 3 that Mr. S. Percy Smith, a member of the Pukekura Park Board, “has planned and is about to construct a pergola or open arbour along the eastern side of the little lawn by the Tea House. This will be formed of mamaku trunks with a roof of wire netting, and the structure will be covered with flowering creepers – wisteria, bignonia, passion flower, solanum, and such like”. The completion of this structure was reported in the *Taranaki Herald* of 24/9/1908 at p.4 –

“The pergola, or bower, which is to be covered with climbing plants, has now been erected. It will, no doubt, form a very charming feature of the grounds in due time”. It appears, therefore, that the “climbing plants”, including the Wisterias that still grow there, were planted on or very soon after the completion of this structure in September 1908. The original “pergola or open arbour”, complete with climbing plants, features in the accompanying 1914 photograph taken by F. G. Radcliffe.



Photo F G Radcliffe 1914



Photo Derek Hughes

2009, a work in progress. Replacing supports and lighting.

Treasures of Taranaki

**Donna Christiansen
Technical Officer Fernery and Display Houses**

Over the decades Taranaki has become famous in the horticultural industry for the plants that have been hybridised and developed in the region. Taranaki is blessed with a temperate climate, good rainfall throughout the year, and fertile volcanic soils which are perfect conditions for cultivating a large variety of trees and shrubs. Many dedicated and enthusiastic horticulturalists in Taranaki have enjoyed the challenge of creating the perfect plant that accentuates the qualities of the genus whether it be flower colour or shape, foliage, plant form, or suitability to certain conditions. They have hybridised and developed plants that have made a huge contribution to the variety of plants under cultivation in New Zealand and around the world.

We have started a collection of such plants in the Fernery and Display houses at Pukekura Park in order to draw attention to these Taranaki Treasures. This collection has been on display for several weeks, and it will continue as we acquire more plants that have Taranaki connections. Please let us know if you have any information on Taranaki-bred plants.

The Jury *Magnolia* hybrids on display include *Magnolia* 'Vulcan', *Magnolia* 'Apollo', *Magnolia* 'Black Tulip', *Magnolia* 'Burgundy Star', and *Magnolia* 'Iolanthe' (which Felix named after Iolanthe Small who worked in the Fernery for 45 years). Mark Jury's recent release, *Magnolia* 'Felix Jury', has magnificent blooms opening red and fading to deep rosy-pink. Later-flowering Jury Rhododendrons in the collection are *Rhododendron* 'Legacy', *Rhododendron* 'Bernice', and *Rhododendron* 'Felicity Fare'. They will be flowering over the next few weeks.

Tony Barnes has kindly lent us a collection of *Clivia* hybrids that he has developed over the last twelve years. They are inter-specific hybrids between *Clivia nobilis*, *Clivia caulescens*, *Clivia gardenii*, and *Clivia x cyrtanthiflora* (*C. miniata* x *C. nobilis*). There is a very diverse range of flower types and colours.

Vance Hooper has developed a range of *Magnolias* that have been released nationally. One of the many is *Magnolia* 'Genie' which has lovely cup-shaped, deep-burgundy flowers. It blooms over a long period, and is perfect for the home garden as it grows to only 2.5m. *Taxodium distichum* 'Cascade Falls' was developed by Cedar Lodge Nurseries. It is a lovely feature specimen tree. *Clematis* 'Belle of Taranaki', a sport of *Clematis* 'Multi Blue', was selected by Yaku Nursery. It was coming into flower in late September.



Prunus 'Awanui' - Keith Adams



Clivia hybrid - Tony Barnes



Camellia 'Jury's Pearl' - Mark Jury



Vireya 'Golden Charm' - Felix Jury



Magnolia 'Felix Jury' - Mark Jury

Photos Derek Hughes

The Park environs

George Fuller

Critical topography

The Park (Pukekura-Brooklands-Maranui) is located in a system of valleys eroded from a plateau. The main valley lies almost north-south in orientation. In the boatshed area it diverges into two major watercourses, the greatest and most consistent flow being supplied by the arm which enters the Park via Goodwin Dell and has its source beyond Vogeltown Park. The other arm has its source in the Upjohn-Kura Street area beyond Highlands Intermediate School and flows towards Pukekura down through the Maranui Gully past the Bowl of Brooklands and through Rhododendron Dell.

The boundaries

Both the western and eastern boundaries of the Park are therefore defined by a relatively consistent plateau which is elevated by an escarpment of about 20-25m above the valley floor in a horse-shoe shape from Fillis Street to Victoria Road via Upjohn Street. The escarpment between the two levels is consistently steep. Both Pukekura and Brooklands therefore each have very special and distinctive topographical characteristics - the former is in a valley, the latter is mostly on a plateau. The Racecourse and Highlands Intermediate School are located on the plateau along the eastern boundary, and Victoria Road is located on the western.

Access carriageways

The carriageways providing access between the plateau and the valley floor in clockwise rotation are Horton Walk, Racecourse Walk, Racecourse-Bowl of Brooklands access road, Kaimata Street entrance, Brooklands Park Drive, and Scanlan Walk. All are relatively steep, or have steep components. There are numerous pedestrian accesses.

Dells

The eastern escarpment is intersected by several dells. In order from Fillis Street these are Kindergarten Gully accessed from Fillis Street, King Fern Dell accessed from the eastern side of the Sportsground, Stainton Dell accessed beside the Tea House, a small dell below the Racecourse-Bowl access road at the lower end of Maranui Gully, and a dell almost as large as Stainton Dell just inside the List Street entrance.

Springs

After a period of several days of almost incessant rain during my curatorship, I located about thirty springs (not surface run-off) originating from the eastern escarpment between Kindergarten Gully in Fillis Street and the Pukekura Park Tennis Club courts in Upjohn Street. The aquifers of the Racecourse plateau are a vital source of water for the Park but have never been researched. It would surprise me if they were not being further threatened by extensive stabling extensions currently taking place at the Racecourse. The sub-surface hydrology of the catchment, and notably that of the Racecourse-Highlands plateau and its vital influence on the surface water flow through the Park, has not been critically examined to the best of my knowledge.

The water catchment

This extends beyond the Park boundaries and is roughly defined by a line drawn from the intersection of Gover and Rogan Streets to List Street, on to Kura Street, along Upjohn and Hori Steets, down Carrington Street to Holsworthy Road, and then down Victoria Road to Gilbert Street. The entire catchment is drained through a sub-surface exit pipe 1.2m in diameter located just below the Waterwheel in the area of the Gilbert Street entrance. Prior to residential development of the Brooklands and Vogeltown areas, in particular, the surface water absorbency and detention characteristics of the catchment were much greater than at present. Furthermore, all areas in the floor of the valley which now have level surfaces were originally swamps with high water detention capacity. Therefore, all water surfaces in the Park are submerged swamps, and all firm level surfaces such as the Sportsground and Hatchery Lawn, are reclaimed swamps. There is scarcely a square metre of level surface in Pukekura that is natural and was not once a swamp. Brooklands has its share of the level plateau.

Human influences on water-flow patterns

Because large volumes of surface water now find their way into the lower regions of the Park very rapidly, flash flooding there is becoming progressively more serious. At the other extreme, but for the same reason in that a reduced volume of surface water is stored in the catchments for slow release during dry periods, the flow rate is diminishing during summer and stagnation is imminent unless major measures are taken to restore the balance. The exit culvert at Gilbert Street offers some revealing statistics in this context. When the western end of Gilbert Street was formed to forge a link with lower Victoria Road by filling in the valley through which the stream exited the Park, a 60cm culvert was adequate to handle maximum flow. However, as the consequence of heavy rain on 15 July 2005 the culvert failed and water rapidly rose to the level of Gilbert Street, overflowed down lower Victoria Road gaining great velocity, and seriously damaged properties on the far side of Carrington Street on its journey to the Huatoki Stream. The installation of the 1.2m system was a very costly outcome.

The main lake was formed by closing off the valley during 1878. Interestingly, the spill was not channelled down the same valley but diverted into a lesser valley, now called the Sunken Garden, towards what is now the Sportsground. This involved hand-digging a channel about 100m long and 0.9m x 0.9m in cross-section from the edge of the lake around the eastern and northern side of what is now Cannon Hill to what is now Fountain Lake (created in 1893), but there was an obstruction through which an unlined tunnel had to be dug. The entrance to this tunnel is close to the Curator's office, but the exit is obscured behind Bellringer Pavilion. This made it a wet "Scotsman's entry" to the Sportsground for ticketed events, which I am told was popular with New Plymouth Boy's High School pupils "in the know". During my curatorship the tunnel was collapsed by a heavy vehicle passing over it en-route to the Band Rotunda area. This was repaired by excavation and insertion of about three 1.2m diameter concrete pipes beneath the carriageway only. Boundary fence alterations have removed its attraction as a secret free entry tunnel for wily pupils, but it is never-the-less a hidden treasure.



A view of the northern end of the main lake in the early 1890's.
Photo from George Fuller's collection.

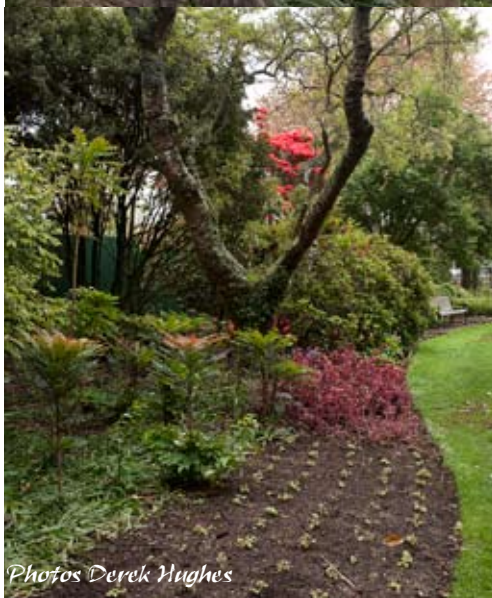
Spring update

Ian Hutchinson
Technical Officer Pukekura Park

The Park planting season has focused on “tweaking” renovation work started on some of the borders in Pukekura Park and Brooklands last year plus a few new areas as well.

The herbaceous border at Brooklands has had minor adjustments to fill some gaps from last year and to improve some contrasts between plants. *Ligularia reniformis* has been added to the space between the Rhododendrons opposite *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Riversii’. We have also had to use *Ligularia reniformis* to replace the *Strobilanthes gossypinus*, a very attractive foliage shrub which we planted last year, which was very severely frosted and ended up looking very untidy and sick. So a word of caution if you are planning to use this very attractive plant in your own garden. It obviously needs protection from frosts, particularly heavy ones. It is interesting to note that the same plant at the Fred Parker lawn was unaffected by the cold which has surprised us as we thought this would be a colder location. Some *Sisyrinchium striatum* has been planted to provide greater contrast between the *Pulmonaria* and *Symphytum officinale*. More *Dahlia* varieties have been planted to build on the success of this feature last summer. ‘Yellow Star’ has been planted at the north end to go with the existing orange and purple varieties, and pink-flowering varieties ‘Bellini’, ‘Pretty in Pink’, and ‘Pretty Lady’, plus a white-flowering variety called ‘Tsuki-Yori-No-Shisha’, have been planted at the end by the gates into the storage compound.

Brooklands 4 Seasons border stage one has had a few minor adjustments with the addition of some *Heliotrope* ‘Royal Marine’, with a Taro (*Alocassia* ‘Jade Millie’) and *Strobilanthes anisophyllus* being put towards the back in the mid-section to fill in some gaps and to help hide the fence a little better. 4 Seasons border stage two has now



Photos Derek Hughes

been planted. This is the section from the large *Macrocarpa* (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) around to the entrance to the former Nature Trail. The revamp of stage two has involved the removal of some older unwanted plant material, composting the soil, then adding an overlay of fresh topsoil. The replanting in this section includes some new shrubs, particularly fragrant flowering shrubs such as *Luculia*, *Boronia*, and *Viburnum*. The purple *Daphne* (*Daphne genkwa*) has been covered in flowers and looking most spectacular for the last three or four weeks. Perennials used include *Iresine*, *Heliotrope*, and the white-flowering form of the Giant Geranium (*Geranium maderense* ‘Alba’). We have also planted some ornamental grasses, one of which, *Chondropetalum tectorum*, is often used for the thatching of roofs and comes from South Africa. The other two are *Thamnochortus spicigenis*, also from South Africa, and *Restio tetraphyllus* which comes from Australia and has attractive feathery foliage.

Brooklands Traffic Island has been replanted with a combination of plants that will like the hot dry conditions of this location. There is a selection of *Aloe* species, *Grevillea* varieties 'Drummer Boy', 'Mount Tamboritha' and 'Prostrate Yellow', *Sedum* 'Gold Mound', *Senecio serpens*, and some grasses for textural contrast.

The Monument Hill conifer collection planted in 2007 has been inter-planted with a combination of the ferns *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *Asplenium oblongifolium*, and *Blechnum discolor*. A revamp around the Waterfall has involved removing Ladder Fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*) and a few dead pongas, plus cutting back some of the existing vegetation to reveal the falls better. In the dead ponga stumps we have planted *Neoregelia* 'Red', a pretty red-leaved bromeliad, and to the sides we have planted another bromeliad *Alcantaria imperialis* which can grow into a plant up to a metre and a half high and wide and has a flower spike that can grow up to two metres tall which should make quite a feature statement. The remaining spaces around the rocks and falls have been planted with Shining Spleenwort (*Asplenium oblongifolium*) and Native Begonia (*Elatostema rugosum*).

The other main make-over project the Park team has carried out is to the borders of Smith Walk. A lot of Ladder



Fern which had become an invasive nuisance has been removed, and some of the existing *Asystasia* has been cut back and removed to better reveal some very interesting tree trunks. The team also lifted and divided the existing Bird of Paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*), and reset smaller divisions so that it created less of a visual block just inside the gate. The border has been planted up with some more *Mahonia bealei*, *Mahonia henryii* and *Mahonia lomariifolia* to build on the existing collection, plus some more *Clivia* (a mix of both the yellow and more usual orange-flowered forms), *Justicia pauciflora*, *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *Ajuga* and *Philodendron* 'Xanadu' as ground cover. The make-over has given the borders a fresh look, and has made this entrance to the Park much more inviting.



Lastly, I would like to say a big thank you to the Friends' gardening group who have been helping with a major make-over of the Gables garden. If you haven't caught up with what we have been doing there, then I suggest you take a look as the results are quite spectacular and the garden is likely to be very colourful over the summer.

Linking 60 Springs into Pukekura Park frog research

Nathan Hills

Puke Ariki Environmental Educator

My role as an educator for the 60 Springs project is to involve Intermediate and High School students in learning about sustainability, education, and creativity. The 60 Springs project is run through Puke Ariki in partnership with Shell New Zealand Ltd and the Taranaki Regional Council.

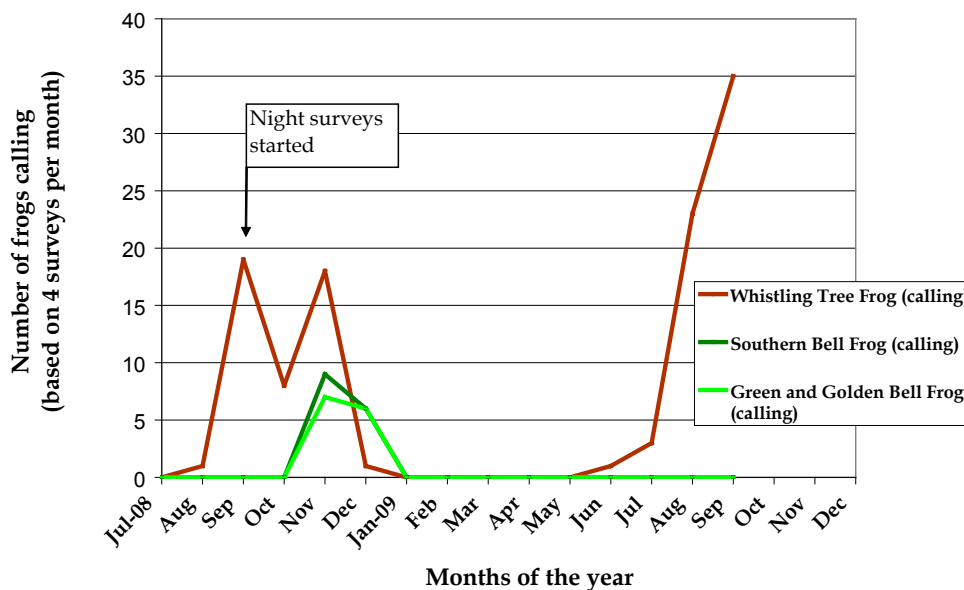
In June 2008 I worked with students from Devon Intermediate School on animal monitoring in Pukekura Park. Over a five month period students attempted to discover what species of frogs live in the Park, involving regular searches for tadpoles and listening for frogs during the day and night. The project concluded during the middle of the frog breeding season.

To provide consistency and further data I have continued monitoring the frogs. This research will provide data for future 60 Springs projects and will be made available to the public.

The expanded project aims are:

- Identify key habitats used by frogs in the park
- Find out how many species and populations of frogs live in Pukekura Park
- Identify the breeding season/s for each species
- Develop a photo inventory of frogs found in the park

Pukekura Park: Frog calling records 2008 - 2009



Preliminary Results

Three species of frog live in Pukekura Park - Whistling Tree Frogs (*Litoria ewingii*), Southern Bell Frogs (*Litoria raniformis*) and Green and Golden Bell Frogs (*Litoria aurea*), although no visual confirmation has yet been obtained of the last.

Frogs were found in a number of habitats in the Park, directly surrounding and up to 50 metres from still water. Breeding seasons are relatively clear with Whistling Tree Frogs calling during spring to early summer. Southern Bell Frogs and Green and Golden Bell Frogs breed from November to December.

Further data is required which I hope to gather during November and December this year.

The demise of a plant collection

David Medway

A.P. (Tony) Druce (1920-1999) was a distinguished New Zealand field botanist who included the plant genus *Coprosma* among his special interests. In the late 1970s he gave a talk about Coprosmas to the Levin Native Flora Club. He had several species and varieties of those plants with him which he offered to Ken Davey who was then living in Levin where he was employed as a Research Technician at the now defunct Levin Horticultural Research Centre. Those specimens went into the Centre's plant collection. When Ken moved to New Plymouth in 1980 as Nursery Officer for the then New Plymouth City Council, he brought a representative selection of most of those Coprosmas with him and added them to the collections in the Nursery at Brooklands where they bore the names given to them by Tony Druce.

The garden area of the newly-created traffic island at upper Brooklands Park Drive was planted out in about November 1980. The numerous plants of many species and varieties which were planted on that occasion are enumerated at pp.21-24 of the "Trees & shrubs outwards book 1980-81" which is presently housed, along with other similar records from 1955, at the New Plymouth Parks depot at Hobson Street. Included among the planting were specimens of twenty-eight *Coprosma* species and varieties. The record referred to indicates that only one specimen of each was planted in the traffic island garden, with the exception of *C. arborea* of which there were two specimens and of *C. x kirkii* of which there were twenty. Most of the *Coprosma* species and varieties planted out had been given by Tony Druce to Ken Davey. They are listed in the outwards book as follows:

C. arborea; *C. rugosa* var. *antipides*; *C. chathamica*; *C. macrocarpa* var. *macrocarpa*; *C. baueri*; *C. macrocarpa* var. *minor*; *C. acutifolia*; *C. tenuicaulis*; *C. virescens*; *C. rigida*; *C. spathulata*; *C. rugosa*; *C. rubra*; *C. rhamnoides*; *C. serrulata*; *C. filifolia*; *C. oliverii*; *C. cuneata*; *C. crassifolia*; *C. areophylla*; *C. depressa*; *C. atropurpurea*; *C. acerosa*; *C. propinqua* var. *martinii*; *C. propinqua* var. *propinqua*; *C. colensoi*; *C. ciliata*; *C. x kirkii*.

This collection became known to some as the "Druce *Coprosma* Collection". I am grateful to Ken Davey for information about its origins. Plants in the collection feature in at least three planting plans of the traffic island garden. All but one of those *Coprosma* species and varieties are listed, and their locations shown, on undated planting plan 6P (now owned by the Friends) which was probably prepared at the time, or very soon after, the garden was planted out. Twenty-four *Coprosma* species and varieties are listed and located on planting plan T100 dated 17/1/1984 (now also owned by the Friends), but only fourteen *Coprosma* species and varieties are listed and located on planting plan NB21/24H dated 8/1/1996 (owned by the New Plymouth District Council). In late November-early December 2002, some of the remaining Coprosmas and other plants were removed from the traffic island garden. The rest of the Coprosmas, and many other plants, were removed from the garden in June 2009. Thereupon, the "Druce *Coprosma* Collection" ceased to exist. As far as I am aware, no cuttings were ever taken from any of the plants in this collection.

Other important botanical collections still exist in Pukekura Park and Brooklands. These include, as examples, the *Senecio-Hebe* collection on the Victoria Road frontage, the *Camellia* collection on Racecourse Walk, the *Rhododendron* collection in Rhododendron Dell, and the *Azalea* collection in Goodwin Dell. The identity and location of the plants in these collections should be documented in an accessible manner for the benefit and guidance of both present and future Park management and field staff, and for the information of interested members of the public.

Kaka and Camellia flowers

David Medway

The endangered North Island Kaka (*Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis*) is a rare visitor to New Plymouth. Nevertheless, up to three were present in Pukekura Park for varying periods between April and December in each year from 2002 to 2007. I do not have any reports of Kaka in the Park in 2008. One or more of those Kaka were seen feeding on invertebrates, the arils of green Kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*) fruits, seeds from the cones of Mediterranean Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), the fruits of Five-finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*), Formosan Cherry (*Prunus campanulata*) and Guava (*Psidium cattleianum*), and nectar from the flowers of Puriri (*Vitex lucens*) and Kowhai (*Sophora microphylla*). Some examples of Kaka feeding on invertebrates in the Park are mentioned in the article “Feeding association of Tui with Kaka”, and a photograph of green Kohekohe fruits with the arils removed by a Kaka accompanies the article “Kohekohe - a spectacular New Zealand tree”, both of which can be seen on the Friends’ website at www.pukekura.org.nz.

On 30 July 2009, I saw a Kaka feeding quietly at the single, reddish flowers of the large, old *Camellia japonica* plant that is growing at the base of the Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) tree adjacent to the Curator’s office at the bottom of Horton Walk. The Kaka was undoubtedly obtaining nectar from the flowers of this plant which are also favoured by Tui (*Prosthemadera n. novaeseelandiae*) for that purpose. Shortly after I first saw it, the Kaka was hassled by a Tui. It called loudly several times before being chased off by the Tui in the direction of Bellringer Pavilion. The following day the Kaka was in this Camellia again. Curator Chris Connolly and I watched it for 30 minutes as it fed more or less continuously at many flowers, calling only two or three times while doing so. I saw the Kaka feeding at these flowers again on 9 August 2009. It was not easy to photograph the bird as it fed among the foliage in the upper portion of the Camellia. However, I managed to obtain the accompanying photograph when the Kaka left the Camellia and perched briefly in the nearby Celery Pine (*Phyllocladus* sp.) where it called a few times before flying silently into the trees on the hillside behind the Curator’s office.

Chris Connolly and Park field staff saw the Kaka feeding at these Camellia flowers on at least four other occasions between 3 and 20 August 2009. The Kaka was not always to be found in the Camellia or its immediate vicinity. Presumably, it had other food sources in the Park between which it moved. It would not have been conspicuous as it did so because solitary Kaka are usually silent when moving about or feeding.

I know of only one other record of Kaka feeding on nectar from Camellia flowers in the Park. George Fuller, Curator of the Park from 1965-1990, reported in late August 1985 that three Kaka which were in the Park at that time were feeding on, among other things, nectar from flowers of the “single Camellia”. The single-flowered *Camellia japonica* in which the latest Kaka fed is almost certainly an unnamed seedling. Chris Connolly suggested, as we watched the Kaka feeding at the flowers of this plant on 31 July 2009, that an appropriate name for it would be *Camellia japonica* ‘Kaka’. Such naming of individual plants in the Park is not without precedent. For example, George Fuller when he was Curator applied the names ‘Tui’s Tucker’ and ‘Tui’s Mate’ to two large unnamed single-flowered *Camellia japonica* seedlings that are growing at the junction of Scanlan and Swan Walks near the Shortland Street entrance to the Park. Those plants are indeed favoured by Tui as a source of floral nectar (see my article “The importance of introduced plants as a winter source of nectar for Tui in Pukekura Park and Brooklands” in *Magazine of the Friends of Pukekura Park* 3(2) (June 2008): 3-6). The *Camellia japonica* plant in which the Kaka fed recently is not only significant in its own right and as a favoured source of floral nectar for Tui. It now has added significance as a named plant which is also a favoured source of floral nectar for Kaka visiting the Park.



Photo David Medway