

HFNC Excursion to Discovery Bay on 29 April 1967

Margaret Corrick

Members met at Heywood P.O. at 9.45 and travelled to the eastern end of Discovery Bay. The whole party walked about ½ mile along the beach before lunch. After lunch some people continued along the beach to the west and the remainder turned back and walked to the cliffs on the eastern end.



View along the beach to the west LE

Those who went along the beach found plentiful evidence of Aboriginal camp sites and a quantity of small flint tools was collected from behind the sand dunes.

The flora of the sand dunes is quite varied. The introduced Marram Grass [*Calamagrostis arenaria*] is almost totally absent and this probably accounts for the greater variety of native plants than in many other dune areas.

[Coast Beard-heath (*Leucopogon parviflorus*) photographed by Lionel Elmore in August of 1967 is a common shrub on coastal dunes. In April there would not have been many flowers on any species].



Coast Beard-heath LE

Specimens of the following flora were collected and identified:

- *Spinifex hirsutus* [now *Spinifex sericeus* – Hairy Spinifex]
- *Pimelea serpyllifolia* [Thyme Rice-flower]
- *Senecio lautus* [now *S. pinnatifolius* var. *maritimus* – Variable Groundsel]
- *Senecio elegans* [Purple Groundsel – introduced weed]
- *Exocarpus strictus* [Pale-fruit Ballart]
- *Helichrysum paraliium* [now *Ozothamnus turbinatus* – Coast Everlasting]
- *Cakile maritima* [Sea Rocket]
- *Stackhousia spathulata* [Coast Stackhousia]
- *Leucopogon parviflorus* [Coast Beard-heath]
- *Calocephalus brownii* [now *Leucophyta brownii* – Cushion Bush]