

around everything, the picturesque Cordyline indivisa. Forstera bidwillii was another old friend I hadn't seen for years. Hebe odora and stricta var egmontiana were somehow bigger and brighter than their lowland counterparts. By and large a most interesting evening. E.D.H.

HUIA 24 April 1965 - - - F.M.Warren

The highlight of this trip was to have been the examination of a fine stand of monoao (Dacrydium kirkii) but the weather decreed otherwise. After 3 weeks of glorious sunshine and blue skies, the rain set in and took charge in no uncertain manner. It was most unfortunate, as we were a party of over 30. However we took off in high spirits, and plodded steadily through the rain until the middle camp was reached. Here Mr. Tom Wood led us to the shelter of an old tramping club hut where we had lunch, some sitting on the floor, some on a heap of dry teatree, and some just standing. Everyone seemed cheerful and happy, although somewhat damp. After lunch a council of war was held. The trip to the Dacrydiums was abandoned, as it meant crossing the stream and wading probably more than knee deep. The majority elected to tramp a further 2 miles with Mr. Wood to see the dam, while the remainder worked their way quietly back towards Huia and the bus.

The rain eased a little, then descended more heavily than ever. It was a very wet party that returned from the dam, but there were no complaints. It seems they found the sight most rewarding, making their unpleasant walk well worthwhile. Botanically the trip was far from perfect, but through rain-bleared eyes I did notice Pratia angulata and Hoheria populnea, both in flower; Quintinia serrata and a fine stand of kauri and other trees on a ridge not far distant. It is unfortunate that this interesting area will shortly be closed to us. However we have had the opportunity of seeing the site of the new dam and that part of the valley which is to be cleared of bush. Our thanks are tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Wood for leading the trip under such atrocious conditions. F.M.W.

CHARACTERES GENERUM PLANTARUM J.R. & G. Forster 1776.

Johannes Reinold Forster LL.D., F.R.S., was a German of eventual Scottish ancestry. In no book I have read has a single good word been said of him. An improvident lawyer-cum-parson, he was middle-aged, rheumatic and stony-broke; learned in his way but knowing little out of his way; cursed with a petulant nature and a bitterly critical tongue; the world disliking - by the world disliked. Yet he must have been possessed of considerable technical skill and knowledge to have obtained the government-sponsored post of Naturalist to Cook's second voyage, not to mention an F.R.S. And in a period of patronage, an ability to impress and persuade.

His son George, apparently a nicer type than his dad but very much under the old man's thumb, went as his assistant. On the journey out the Resolution stopped at Capetown and they gathered up a further assistant in Andrew Sparrman, a young Swedish doctor and, like Solander, a pupil of Linnaeus. In New Zealand they landed at only 2 places, Dusky Bay and Queen Charlotte's Sound, both in the South Island. Part of the result of their botanising is included in the Generum Plantarum which, while not a patch on Solander's Primitiae Florae of the first voyage, is still of importance as the first published account of plants from New Zealand. The descriptions are credited to Sparrman and the drawings blamed on George, while Senior did the supervising.

37. New Zealand genera are described and can be grouped as follows -

(1) Forster's names still current -

Aciphylla squarrosa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carpodetus serratus *
Coprosma foetidissima
 " lucida
Corynocarpus laevigatus
Dichondra repens
Gahnia procera
Hedycarya arborea
Leptospermum scoparium
Melicope ternata
Melicytus ramiflorus
Pennantia corymbosa
Phormium tenax *
Plagianthus divaricatus
Ripogonum scandens
Schlefflera digitata
Thelymitra longifolia

(2) specific names originating with Forster, but the genus has changed -

Acaena anserinifolia
Angelica montana
Aristotelia serrata
Cyathodes juniperina
Dracophyllum longifolium *
Elaeocarpus dentatus
Fuchsia excorticata
Griselinia lucida *
Metrosideros perforata
 " scandens
Olearia paniculata
Pentachondra pumila
Pimelea gnidia
 " prostrata
 " tomentosa
Pseudowintera axillaris
Samolus repens
Scleranthus biflorus

* specific names taken from Solander

(3) generic names originating with Forster, but the species has changed (in some cases the genus was not based on New Zealand material) -

Ascarina, Donatia, Elatostema, Geniostoma, Haloragis, Meryta, Phyllacne.

The name Griselinia is used in the index but not in the body of the work, and later erased in an erratum. So perhaps Forster Senior can be credited with it after all.

(4) in which Forster's names have been dropped entirely -

Senecio reinoldii

(Olearia Moench 1802 is conserved against Shawia J.R. & G. Forster 1776. Epacris Cav. 1797 is conserved against Epacris J.R. & G. Forster 1776. The contents of Forster's Epacris have been included in Cyathodes, Dracophyllum and Pentachondra.) E.D.H.

SHOAL BAY 15 May 1965 - - - F.M. Warren

The weather may have been unkind to us in April when we went to Huia, but it certainly made up for everything on our May outing. The sun was so warm that a slight keenness in the breeze was hardly noticed. The party from town was rather small, but the Shore members turned out in force to swell our ranks.

On reaching Shoal Bay we walked out to a shell bank, perfectly dry underfoot, where we commenced, with the help of Mrs. Ward, to examine the vegetation. This included Stipa teretifolia, Leptocarpus simplex (oioi or jointed rush), the rather prettily coloured Suaeda novae-zelandiae, Salicornia australis in various hues, Avicennia resinifera (the mangrove), Atriplex novae-zelandiae in seed, Cotula coronopifolia (juveniles only) and Samolus repens. Mrs. Ward has been studying this area for some time, and pointed out to us the manner in which the shell banks were shifting, and the resulting effect on the vegetation.

After lunch on the bank, we took the bus over to Kauri Park, where we were met by Mr. Fisher, who has a wonderful knowledge of the flora of the park and had kindly consented to act as leader. After viewing the new entrance and the Prickett memorial seat, we set off on a round trip which brought home to us the wealth of species to be found in this fine piece of bush, which is unknown to the majority of Aucklanders. The tracks are quite good and the area is worthy of a visit by anyone interested in our native flora.

All in all a very delightful day's outing. F.M.W.

(I very basely removed Mr. Warren's list of species from this note and added it to the account of the unveiling of the Prickett memorial on page 3. E.D.H.)