

B. fraseri and B. filiforme, Cyathea dealbata and C. medullaris, Hymenophyllum revolutum, H. flabellatum, H. ferrugineum, H. demissum, H. rarum, H. sanguinolentum, H. multifidum, H. dilatatum and H. lyallii, Trichomanes venosum, Lindsaea trichomanoides, Rumohra adiantiformis, Cardiomanes reniforme, Gleichenia cunninghamii and Dicksonia squarrosa.

Trees and shrubs noted during the day were:

Agathis australis, Aristotelia serrata, Alseuosmia macrophylla, Beilschmiedia tawa, Brachyglottis repanda, Cyathodes fasciculata, Corynocarpus laevigatus, Coprosma arborea, C. robusta and C. australis, Corokia buddleioides, Carpodetus serratus, Dacrydium cupressinum, Dracophyllum latifolium, Elaeocarpus dentatus, Freycinetia banksii, Griselinia lucida, Hedycarya arborea, Hoheria populnea, Libocedrus plumosa, Macropiper excelsum, Meliccytus macrophyllus and M. micranthus, Myrsine salicina and M. australis, Melicope simplex, Metrosideros robusta, M. fulgens and M. perforata, Pseudopanax arboreus, Nestegis montana and N. cunninghamii, Olearia rani and O. furfuracea, Pittosporum tenuifolium, Phyllocladus trichomanoides, Pseudopanax crassifolius, Podocarpus ferrugineus and Rhipogonum scandens.

At the end of our trek Miss Crookes, having led and informed us all day, then took us up to her home once again for more cups of tea and a little dissertation on the characteristics of some of the flora we had encountered during the day - invaluable for those in the throes of learning new varieties.

In every way this was a memorable day and so much of it was due to the generosity and dedication of Miss Crookes, and the members are most grateful to her.

A NEW RECORD

Mrs K. Wood

On Sunday 30th May I chanced to make an interesting discovery at Huia. Not far from the Lower Huia Dam I noticed a fern tucked away in a hole in a small cliff, and a second look gave me quite a surprise for there sharing the hole with a young gorse plant was the fern Blechnum vulcanicum. Just below, growing on the cliff, was a smaller plant of the same species. This fern is usually to be found on the volcanic plateau and further south. It is not on the Auckland Botanical Society's list of Waitakere species, but I understand that since its publication some Blechnum vulcanicum plants were found near the waterfall at Karekare. Now it seems Huia can be added to this record. On a second look four plants were found, including one large clump.

The elusive fern Blechnum rapense (Green Bay form) has a habit of appearing in strange places. For a number of years a self sown specimen grew beneath my tank stand at Huia, then it

disappeared. Now this year another young plant has appeared on the opposite side. The cliffs of the Manikau Harbour are the home of many of these ferns where occasionally they appear among the more usual Blechnum capense species.

SMALL BEECH STAND AT WHATIPU

Mrs. K. Wood

The Auckland Centennial Memorial Park's chief ranger, Mr Bill Beveridge, first noticed these trees about two years ago while following an old logging track. Early this year they were visited again by senior ranger John Walsh who told me of their existence. I was very interested to hear of them, for the only known remnants of beech, Nothofagus truncata, in the Waitakeres grow in two gullies at Titirangi.

On 3rd October Mr Beveridge took me and some friends in to see this stand and we found them located on a small ridge beside the upper Whatipu stream. There were four adult trees, the largest 63" in girth, the others 38", 29½" and 10" in girth respectively. We searched for and found a seedling about 1 ft high. Down below in the stream bed, growing in some moss was another tiny plant about 1½ inches high. The surrounding area had been subjected to extensive milling operations in earlier days so it is possible that many other beech trees as well as kauris could have been cut and milled. Monoao, Dacrydium kirkii, now so rare in the Waitakeres, also once grew here and we were shown a fence post cut from this species.

FUCHSIA PERSCANDENS. WHAT IS THE NORTHERN LIMIT?

R.D. Creswell

In the Waimata River country, 16 km north of Gisborne, sprawling down a grassy bank is Fuchsia perscandens. The long trailing stems up to 4 cm in diameter, with fine light grey bark, are most distinct from the brown of F. excorticata. In early September most of the laminae were immature - some were advanced enough to show sinuate margins, with minute serrations, though not distinctly so as shown in "Trees and Shrubs of New Zealand" by A.L.Poole and N.M.Adams.

This liane had profuse flowers, single or 2 to 3 together. In character similar to F. colensoi or F. excorticata, but smaller, the colouring being similar.