N E W S L E T T E R

A U C K L A N D B O T A N I C A L S O C I E T Y

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FAIRY FALLS TRIP - 18 July 1964 - - - F.M.Warren

Some of the most atrocious weather ever experienced in Auckland preceded the date of this trip. On account of the amount of water in the streams, the original plan had to be abandoned and a substitute arranged. It was still raining heavily until about an hour before the time of departure of our bus. However, out of 26 who had made a booking, 6 very brave souls arrived at the terminus (Mesdames Hynes and Collis, Miss Young and Messrs Butler, Warren and Peterson). And there they stood in beautiful sunshine looking at that big empty bus which had of course to be sent back to its depot.

Were those 6 brave ones daunted? Of course not. In 2 cars they set off to visit Miss Crookes at Mountain Road, where they were received with pleasure and treated to morning tea. Mr. Mead had already arrived with Mrs. Ussher, Miss Abbott and ranger Craib. It was not very long before these 10 were in Sharp's Bush enjoying themselves in fine weather. On their return to Brockis Holt they found that Mr. M. Jones had arrived from Riverhead with Miss Buller.

The party, including Miss Crookes, now numbered 13. You willof course link this particular number with the weather, and take it for granted that we got thoroughly wet for defying the elements. However you will be wrong again. After lunch in the sitting room with our hostess, enjoying the view over trees and ferns, we set out for Walker's Bush, where a very enjoyable couple of hours were spent. The lightning flashed and the thunder rolled on one occasion, but we saw only a few spots of rain.

Back again at Brockis Holt, we were entertained to afternoon tea, after which we said farewell and returned to the city quite dry and exceedingly pleased that we had not got 'cold feet' in the morning. Our only regret was that other members had missed an enjoyable day in the open.