FRIENDS OF DEAL ISLAND

Newsletter

December 2018

 

**News from Deal Island**

Wayne Dick, Ranger in Charge Furneaux Field Centre, working with his colleagues in Northern Region Office and Heritage Officer Peter Rigozzi has secured funding for a couple of major projects on Deal. The leaky flat roof of the caretakers’ house is to be replaced by a pitched roof and the asbestos roof cladding of the visitors’ house, school/weather shed, and generator shed are to be replaced. In addition, PWS has funding available in 2018/19 to commence essential works on the Deal Island Lighthouse. Funds are limited and the amount of work achieved will depend on a number of factors, including contractor pricing, funds remaining from other works and weather.

The works will be undertaken in two stages and will be completed in order of priority to make best use of available funds. Stage 0ne will focus on minor safety issues, repair of the tower masonry and leak-proofing the exterior of the lantern. Stage Two will deal with corrosion in all parts of the tower, with the lantern room being highest priority. The tower will be painted inside and out, except for the internal masonry walls.  The interior walls will be thoroughly cleaned and left to dry out for a year or two before making decisions about any further action.

**Australian Wooden Boat Festival 9th to 11th February 2019**

Yes, it is on again, and we are sharing a booth with Friends of Tasman and Friends of Maatsuyker. We will be running a major fundraising raffle. Read on for details on securing tickets for you and your friends.

Each group has 54 books of raffle tickets to sell before the festival, leaving just 38 books to sell during the three days at the Festival

Here’s how to get your tickets:

 Let us know how many books you would like and we will deliver or post to you, so let us know your mailing address and phone number. Please either return the stubs by mail to Bob Tyson, 546 Huon Road, South Hobart, 7004, direct deposit the proceeds as per details below, or drop stubs and cash to the Friends of Deal, Tasman, and Maatsuker Islands stall at the Wooden Boat Festival by Sunday afternoon the 10th February at the latest.

If you wish to purchase your tickets remotely please Direct Deposit correct amount ($20 per book of 10 tickets) to; Account name : Wildcare Inc., BSB 037001: Account 447364: and include your name and reference “Deal raffle” in the details. We will fill in the tickets stubs for you – just provide names and number of tickets for each name.

Please then email dealisland@wildcaretas.org.au  to advise how many books of tickets you have purchased and whether you prefer toreceive your proof of purchase as hardcopy tickets in the mail (provide your postal address) or by email as e-tickets. Please also provide phone contact so we can let you know if you are a prize winner.

We have some fantastic prizes up for grabs this year:

**1st Prize Two Capes and Tasman:**  Fly with Osborne Heli Tours to experience the true rugged scenery of Cape Pillar in this 30 minute scenic flight which showcases jewels of the Tasman Peninsula – Tasman Island, The Blade and Shipstern Bluff. Two tickets, valid for 12 months. *Value $600*

**2nd Prize The Jolly Light Keeper’s Hamper!** 3 Bottles of prized Tasmanian gin, thanks to Lark Distillery and Flinders Island’s Tintenbar Distillery, a bottle of Delamere NV Sparkling Cuvee, a range of delectable Tasmanian treats, plus a collection of treasures from the Friends of Tasman, Deal Island and Maatsuyker Wildcare groups.*Value $550*

**3rd Prize A Bundle of Lighthouse Books:** Including *Reflections* - exquisitely illustrated, a diary of a memorable experience on Deal Island, *Maatsuyker Through our Eyes* Caretakers tell their story, full colour photos; *Living with Jezebel* A life on Tasmanian & Bass Strait Light stations; *Keepers of the Light. A family’s life on Tasman Island*, a child's perspective of life on the island; *The Lighthouse Cookbook;* John Ibbotson’s *Lighthouses of Australia: Images from the end of an era* and the ultimate pocket books *Tasman Island* and *Maatsuyker Island*. *Value $350*

**4th Prize Join Pennicott Wilderness** Journeys on an award-winning 3 Hour Wilderness Cruise with either Bruny Island Cruises or Tasman Island Cruises. Cruises depart from Adventure Bay and Port Arthur daily, excluding Christmas Day. Tickets valid all year. 2 Adult Tickets. *Value$270*

Drawn at 3pm Monday 11 February 2019 at the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, Sullivan’s Cove, Hobart.

A big thankyou to Dallas who has taken 20 books and has already sold 100 tickets in a few hours outside Woolworth’s New Norfolk.

**Volunteers wanted to staff the AWBF stall**

If you would like to assist with staffing of the stall at the festival, please let us know.

Shifts are usually 9am to noon, noon to 3pm, and 3pm to about 6pm, each day. If you can help out for a shift on any of the three days it would be greatly appreciated.

 Duties include selling raffle tickets and merchandise such as cook books and cards, and chatting with visitors about the work we do on Deal and generally throughout Wildcare.

# Meet Friends of Deal Island Treasurer, Jo Widdowson



My husband, 7yr old son & I were fortunate to be able to spend 3 months on Deal Island as part of the Parks & Wildlife Volunteer caretaker program last summer.

We had the most amazing time, we all fell in love with the island and felt very lucky to be able to experience it.

The Friends of Deal Island had a 10 day working bee on Deal whilst we were there. We enjoyed spending time with them and it was eye opening to see the achievements the group had made over the past 20 years. The impact of the weeding program was clearly evident and we were blown away with the Museum as are so many visitors to the island! It was clear that this group of people had given a lot of time & energy to the island over the years especially the core members.



I wanted to give a bit of something back to the island after our return and I felt the Friends of Deal was the way to do this. I initially joined as a general member and started thinking about what I could contribute. I offered to manage and drive the social media, as a fairly regular Facebook user I felt I could do that & have challenged myself to add Instagram for the group as something new to learn!

I put up my hand for the treasurer role at the recent AGM as I think the workload should be shared amongst members and wanted to do my bit.

I’m looking forward to learning more about Deal and Wildcare/Friends of Deal from those in the group with so much knowledge, but I also hope to lighten the load a bit, bring some different ideas and help convince others to support the group.

My vision for the Friends of Deal.Island? a diverse, motivated group working together with passion and enthusiasm with sufficient funds to achieve its goals!

**Oh ..and if you haven’t already followed Friends of Deal on FB please like our page(&share!!).  You can also find the Deal Island Wildcare Branch page** [**here**](https://wildcaretas.org.au/branches/friends-of-deal-island/)**.**

* **Dallas gets honourable mention for entry in Wildcare photo completion**



Heading out in the early morning mist to eradicate ragwort on Deal Island –

Dallas Baker’s beautiful photo was accompanied by a strong written message evoking a sense of coordination and purpose with volunteers being the beating heart of Wildcare.

**Next Working Bee**

We hope to be able to run a working bee in Autumn to continue the weeding program, check for evidence of the ragwort flea beetles, and to assist with any infrastructure and built heritage works requested by PWS. The recent caretakers have been undertaking weeding which is great.

We have secured a $2000 grant from Wildcare Board towards the cost of transport, and will be able to put the proceeds from the raffle towards costs as well. We are also applying for a grant from the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife who have been very generous in the past. So fingers crossed!

**Renew your Wildcare membership: Quick tip** - It's a lot easier to renew you Wildcare membership **before** you renew your Parks and Wildlife Annual Car Pass. If you do, simply quote your Wildcare number and you will receive a discount on your Park Pass.

**Check that you actually are a member of Friends of Deal Island** by logging in to Wildcare Tasmania, selecting the “members” button, then “my preferences”. Here you will find a list of all the groups you have expressed interest in. If Friends of Deal isn’t on your list, use the box provided to “add new group”. Please do check. It saves so much time and effort in getting information out to you if we can use member lists which are complete and up to date. If you wish to withdraw your membership, or do not want to receive news by email, do let us know and we can ‘unsubscribe’ you.

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