



FRIENDS OF DEAL ISLAND



Well.. its been an interesting few months since our last newsletter!

As you would all be very much aware Covid-19 has created challenges for everyone, ourselves as a group included. We continue to liaise with the regional Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service(PWS) office regarding the reinstatement of working bees on the island however at this stage it looks unlikely to be until March 2021 at the earliest.

Whilst we have been unable to hold a working bee this year we have, as a branch, been fortunate to have FODI members on the island in a caretaker capacity. Jo Widdowson and their son Murphy accompanying her husband Justin in his capacity as a Ranger (PWS) for the Winter and Alison and Angus Moore taking over as caretakers for the spring.

The MyState Australian Wooden Boat festival has announced recently their decision to cancel the festival for 2021.

This year presents a great opportunity to review our activities and set some future goals and actions whilst there isn't so much going on. We would love as many members as possible to attend the upcoming AGM. As always all committee roles will be up for grabs and we are keen to extend the executive further also. Bring your passion and ideas!

We have have had many new branch members join in the last few months, a very warm welcome to all and hope to you see you at the AGM on the 8th November.



PWS Staffing changes

After 27 years with TAS Parks and Wildlife Service and the last 15 years as Ranger in Charge Furneaux based on Flinders Island, Wayne Dick (also affectionately know as "The Grumpy Ranger") retired in June this year.

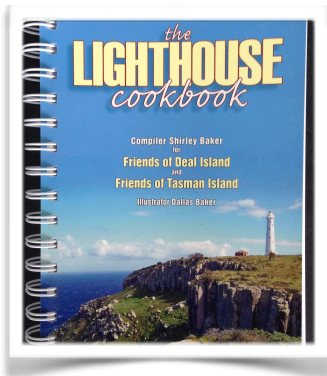
Wayne played an integral role in the very successful caretaker program for Deal Island and has had a long relationship with the Friends of Deal Island since its inception.

We take this opportunity to wish Wayne all the very best for his retirement, I'm sure there are lots of adventures ahead.

Dominique Couzens is covering the Furneaux Field Centre for 12 months.

Winter on Deal Island

A very quiet winter with almost no visitors (aside from a Pigeon early on) amazing weather for the most part including a very rare day on the 4th August where we had sleet! We waved goodbye to the old Daihatsu truck and greeted the new Polaris, enjoyed many fabulous sunsets and loved watching the arrival of the goslings and joeys.



Merchandise available!

Beeswax Wraps - a great environmentally friendly alternative to plastic wrap and an essential for any caretakers! \$14 plus \$2 postage

The Lighthouse Cookbook - whether your caretaking an island or just feeding a gathering this is a great addition to your recipe collection \$12 plus \$8 postage

Both available through the Wildcare site or send us an email if you wish to collect in either Hobart or Launceston

THANK YOU!

A big Thank you to FODI member David Reynolds who has very kindly allowed us an electronic copy of the draft of his book "Deal Island an Historical Overview". This has been saved in the branch files for viewing.

DID YOU KNOW..

You can view the Museum collection online?
www.hivecom
(search Kent Group Museum)

Dont forget to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram. If you have any photos that you are happy for us to share please email them through to: dealisland@wildcaretas.org.au

Love to see some Deal Island pics on the ABC Weather if anyone is keen to send some in.. email: weatherphotostas@abc.net.au