



FRIENDS OF DEAL ISLAND



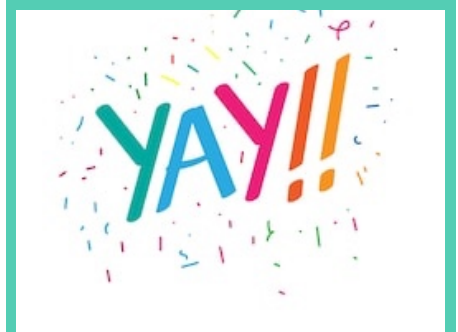
Thank you so much for your patience and understanding over the last year. We appear to be getting back on track and 2021 looks like a productive year for our branch.

Our AGM has been rebooked and will take place on Sunday 14th March in Ross at the Man o Ross Hotel 10 for a 10.30 start and will include our AGM, a general meeting and lunch. RSVP's are essential. As always, all committee roles will be up for grabs and we are keen to extend the executive further so there are sufficient people actively involved to ensure our branch remains productive and successful. "Many hands make light work" and sharing member expertise in our work makes us stronger.

We are hoping to hold two or more working bees this year if the stars align. An email asking for expressions of interest for our first working bee in April will be out in the coming week and planning will be included at our AGM. We will require a leader for the group and we need to ensure there is at least one member with a current first aid certificate*. If you intend to participate in upcoming working bees please ensure you have completed the Parks and Wildlife volunteer registration and Covid induction we emailed out late last year. We have again welcomed many new branch members over the last few months so a big welcome to you all and hope to see you at the AGM on the 14th March.

Cheers

Bob, Jo & Phillipa



Very excited to announce that we were successful with our application for a grant of \$5000 from the Tasmanian Weeds Action Grants Stage 2.

This will assist in funding two working bees to Deal Island over the coming year.

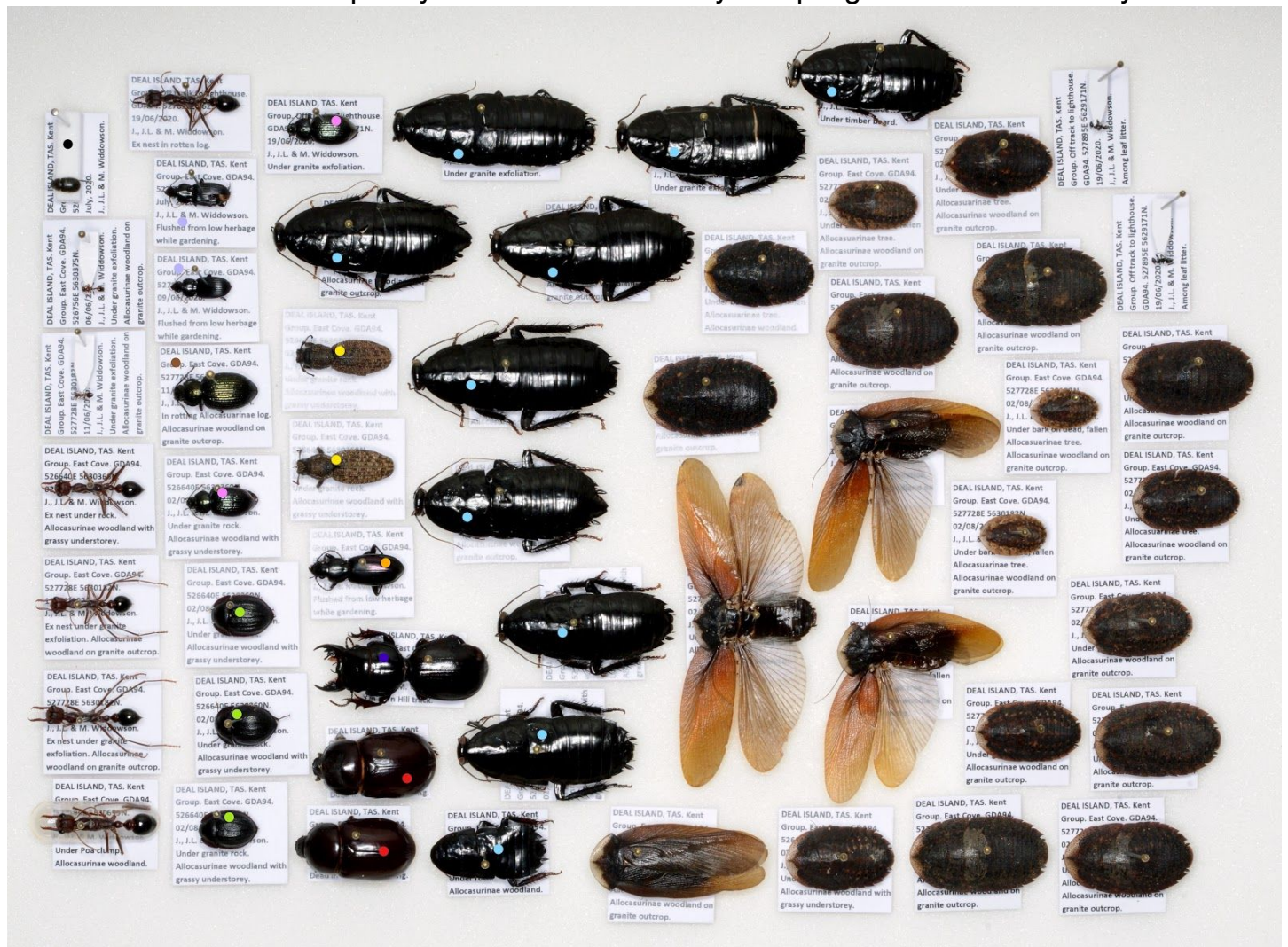
Big Thank you to Stuart Dudgeon and Bob Tyson for their work on this grant.

BUGS BUGS BUGS - Jo Widdowson

During our caretaker stint on Deal in the summer of 2017/2018 we sampled a few bugs and brought them back with us and gave to Simon Fearn the Collection Officer, Natural Sciences at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in Launceston. Although a small sample Simon was quite excited, especially with the trilobite cockroach! Certainly wasn't what we thought would be most exciting.

When my husband was seconded to Deal this winter we spoke with Simon and he was very keen for us to sample further.

We completed several samples this time across a variety of locations. These are just some of the bugs sampled that have been pinned by the museum - Simon is writing a paper on the Trilobite cockroach and a wolf spider we collected has been sent interstate to an expert and he has just determined this is a new species! Subject to authorisation from Tas Parks and Wildlife it would be great for our branch to continuing sampling. Simon has stated that the islands invertebrates are poorly documented and any sampling would be extremely valuable.



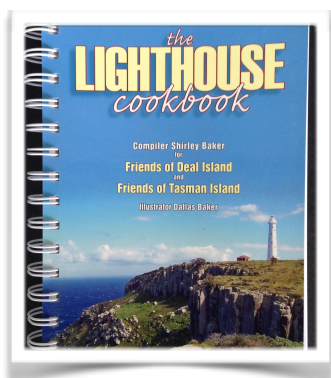
Exciting to hear of further Tas Parks and Wildlife works programs happening on the island. The replacement of the battery bank on the solar panel system is scheduled for early March which sounds simple but is both logistically challenging and expensive! We hope the weather is kind and project goes well. We will have a PWS update as part of our AGM.

FIRST AID TRAINING*

Keen to attend First Aid training?
Wildcare (funded through a PSW grant)
are holding a one day course on 23rd Feb
8.45-5pm in Ulverstone.

Applications are to be submitted by the branch so
if you are interested please advise Bob or Jo ASAP
(by 4pm 10th Feb) BYO morning tea, lunch and
afternoon tea and an additional online component
is required and numbers limited.

Cant make the Ulverstone course but keen to
complete? Please advise Bob or Jo and
we may look at funding some
additional training in other
locations



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