

Friends of Maatsuyker Island

News from your Committee

A brief account of the June 2023 FOMI Committee meeting.

June 2023:

The Committee revised its Terms of Reference to better reflect current procedures and make the wording clearer.

Preparation for the next annual meeting with Tas Parks and Wildlife (PWS) in August was discussed. PWS has a new Historic Heritage Officer, who met with committee member Derek earlier in the year, and is keen to visit Maatsuyker in the near future. She has been sent details of FOMI's plans for various building restoration work projects on the Island, particularly for the whim.

The committee finalized, for submission to PWS, its proposal to each year run one or two day-trips to the Island by using a 14-seater helicopter (as boat visits are now ruled out by PWS).

The Committee discussed the outcomes of its 20th anniversary celebration at the Maritime Museum in conjunction with our current display on the landing, which ends on 30 July 2023.

Four members offered to undertake the Remote Area First Aid course offered by Wildcare, and two to undertake the refresher course in handling chemicals.

Offers to run a FOMI stall at the Cygnet Wildlife event on 5 November 2023 were gladly accepted.

Georgie and Ash, who have been attending committee meetings at the invitation of the Committee, will be heading for Maat in September to be the next caretakers.

The subcommittee on historic object handling has been gradually progressing its ideas. It was agreed that, while the long-term home for the kerosene burner, now magnificently displayed in the case made by David, is on-Island, it should be kept in Hobart for the time being in expectation of being displayed at the Maritime Museum again in late 2024 – early 2025.

The Committee was pleased to note the receipt of the following donations:

- A return helicopter trip from Ryan's Pt to Maat donated by Heli Resources, valued at around \$1500
- Annual donation from Pennicott Foundation valued at \$5,000 toward the weed control and shearwater monitoring programs.

The Committee was pleased to note the success of the following grant applications:

- Weed eradication and shearwater monitoring - \$18,500 from Wildcare Tasmania
- Marine predator study - \$6,000 (FOMI component) from Commonwealth *Our Marine Parks* program.

Greg Lehman has agreed to be the guest speaker at the FOMI AGM on 7 September at Ferntree Tavern.