



FROM THIS ...



TO THIS ...



... THEN 40 YEARS LATER ...

Thanks to our crowd-funding supporters and team of volunteers, the front verandah & sunroom of Quarters 2 is now restored to its former glory ... Thank you - well done everybody!

Photos: John Cook & Erika Shankley



It's amazing how time flies when you're having fun! Our working bee has come and gone - and was a great success. Now it's almost time to think of Christmas.

Wishing everyone a peaceful & safe festive season.

Erika



CHECK OUT OUR SHOP AT <https://wildcaretas.org.au/product-tag/tasman-island/>



What a year it has been! In February we had the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, then the April working bee, a planning weekend at Low Head in July, Crowd-funding in September and by the time you receive this newsletter, FoTI will have held its 26th working bee on Tasman Island.

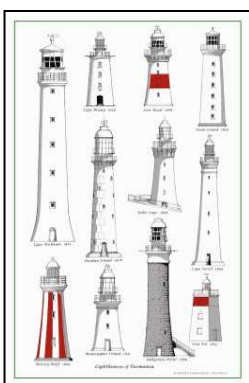
Conservation and restoration work by FoTI volunteers commenced with the first working bee on the island in April 2006 which celebrated the 100th anniversary of the operation of the Tasman Island lighthouse. However, all this effort comes at a cost - we have to raise all the funds ourselves.



The project for this year was to restore the verandah and sunroom on Quarters 2. A weekend at the Low Head lightstation laid plans for the reconstruction to begin at our November working bee. However, funds for the project still had to be raised and competition for funding through government, semi government and philanthropic sources is intense. Instead, FoTI planned a crowd-funding programme hoping to raise up to \$20,000.

A few FoTI volunteers attended a crowd-funding workshop to learn more about this method of raising money. Then, President Carol Jackson, spent many hours, labouring over a template, before details of our campaign finally appeared on the Pozible.com web site.

Fundraising got under way in earnest on Friday 8 September, with a catchy video, filmed by Joe Shemesh (thanks Joe!), outlining our aim to raise \$16,357 over the next four weeks towards the restoration.



With hearts in our mouths, we watched the total climb. Then, with just a few days to spare, we heaved a sigh of relief - we had surpassed our target. Thanks to David Edgar, Luke Wagner, PWS, the Rotary Club of Tasman Peninsula and FoTI's photographers, who donated rewards to our campaign, we had been able to raise \$20,127.

WORK GETS UNDER WAY

We already had builders lined up and had had a site visit to sort out priorities for the project. The team of dedicated volunteers were raring to go. It was thanks to our supporters who pledged to our campaign that FoTI's 26th working bee on Tasman Island finally got under way!

The logistics of transporting nearly 2 tonnes of building materials to the island by helicopter were mind-boggling.

Builder Chris Smith, had put together a long list of materials needed. These were then purchased and delivered to a central location where Chris Creese and Gary Gay spent a number of days weighing and securely packing everything, before delivering to the departure point.



The team met at the Simmonds Hill helipad, near Fortescue Bay. From there, Osborne Aviation flew everything - building materials, food, personal gear and passengers - to Tasman Island. Our 10 days on the island were about to begin and after a briefing and orientation tour, it was full steam ahead, working long hours to achieve our goal.

To complete the job in just eight full days was a big ask. Chris Creese and Mark Dickenson got stuck into the mowing and brushcutting to make access to the site easier. Then scaffolding was erected. Our builders - Chris Smith and David Davenport – with the help of other members of the team soon had the remnants of the old sunroom demolished.



Footings were prepared and there was lots of pencil sketching and calculations to ensure that everything would end up plumb and square. A new lintel and corner post were made and floor joists cut to size and installed. Artist Luke Wagner, who was soaking up the atmosphere for a future exhibition, had found a sheltered spot behind Q2 to exercise his painting skills on the underside of the floor boards.

We all had *“too much wind in our heads”*, as Carol’s Mum used to say to her. The gales came and went, but work continued regardless. By Day 4 wall plates had been added with new masonry anchors and a new entry door frame and threshold installed.



It was fortuitous that rain had damped down the site overnight. David, our accredited asbestos removalist and his team, donned safety gear before removing corrugated asbestos sheeting from the roof. This was wrapped securely in plastic and stacked in a crate, ready for removal. New corrugated iron roofing iron was then installed. Work continued till late in the day, as Dave and Luke were leaving the next morning.



As we farewelled David & Luke, four more volunteers arrived. Jo Castillo and Brett Hall teamed up to continue the programme of weeding, first commenced in 2009, while Rob Banfield joined the building team. Mark



Team 1
Erika, Ian, Chris Smith, Mark, Chris Creese, Carol, Luke & David

swapped cooking duties for brushcutting while newcomer Michele Smith joined Carol in the unenviable task of preparing meals for the hungry hoards. It was thanks to Hooters Restaurant and its team – Carol, Mark and Michele - that everyone was very well fed.



While work on Q2 continued, Erika, FoTI's photographer and historian, recorded work as it progressed and completed a photographic survey of historic artefacts on Tasman Island.

The pace over the last couple of days was hectic. A new verandah post was fitted, window frames (which had been in storage for many years) were re-erected, glazing bedded in, guttering, flashings and downpipes installed. There were many last minute touches including a handle and bolt fitted to the front door.



A cruise ship enjoyed the sights of Port Arthur and Tasman Island in the sunshine, but a sighting of black cockatoos confirmed the Bureau's forecast that the weather was deteriorating and it was decided to evacuate the island a day early. Luckily we had reached lock-up stage before our working bee came to an abrupt end. However there was satisfaction all round – we had achieved our goal of restoring the sunroom and verandah of Quarters 2 - made possible by the many supporters of our crowd-funding campaign who had been able to follow our progress, via Facebook.

A big thank you to everyone - but there's much more to do - we've only just begun



Team 2:
Chris Creese, Jo Castillo,
Chris Smith, Mark
Dickenson, Brett Hall, Ian
Ross, Michele Smith, Erika
Shankley. Rob Banfield &
Carol Jackson

Photos: Ian Ross, Mark Dickenson & Erika Shankley

SEE US ON THE WILDCARE WEB SITE <https://wildcaretas.org.au/branches/friends-of-tasman-island/>

FACEBOOK

A fantastic collection of anecdotes, historical and up-to-date information and photos about Tasman and other lighthouses around the world. Have you got something to contribute, add a comment or just click to like us!

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTasmanIsland>

THE KEEPER AND THE LIGHT

Barry J McGuire, 6/4/06

Across the waves and through the night
Shine the piercing rays of the lighthouse light,
Far from civilisation is this quiet outpost
Standing all alone on the rugged coast.

It was built long ago from hand hewn stone
By transported men who were far from their home,
To warn of the perils that lie in store
For any lost ship that comes too near the shore.



Photo Amanda Thomson

There has been many a ship that has come to grief
And now lies at the bottom of this treacherous reef,
Until the old light keeper lit the saving light
That shines forth its warning through the darkness of night.

And every night without fail he would trim his light
And send its life saving beam out into the night,
An old man on whom the sailors could depend
Yes the keeper of the light was their unknown friend.

And when the waves and the spray against the cliffs would pound
He would sit by his fireside safe and sound,
In his little stone house at the foot of the tower
He would listen to the wind shriek hour after hour.

Yes the man and his light was a welcome sight
To the shipmates who passed by day or night.
And the lives that have been saved will never be known
By the light that shone out across the treacherous foam.

The *Lighthouses of Tasmania Calendar* provided funds for FoTI's volunteer work for a decade.

Our 'retired' chef-extraordinaire, Jo Ainslie, was recently presented with a *Lighthouses of Australia* tea towel. It looked pretty good, she thought, so did a bit of research - and now FoTI has another fund-raiser - the **Lighthouses of Tasmania tea towel!** Exclusive to Friends of Tasman Island, the tea towel was designed and drawn by artist and FoTI member, Peter Gouldthorpe and printed in India on 100% cotton through www.allgifts.com.au . Thanks Jo!

Exclusive to Friends of Tasman Island

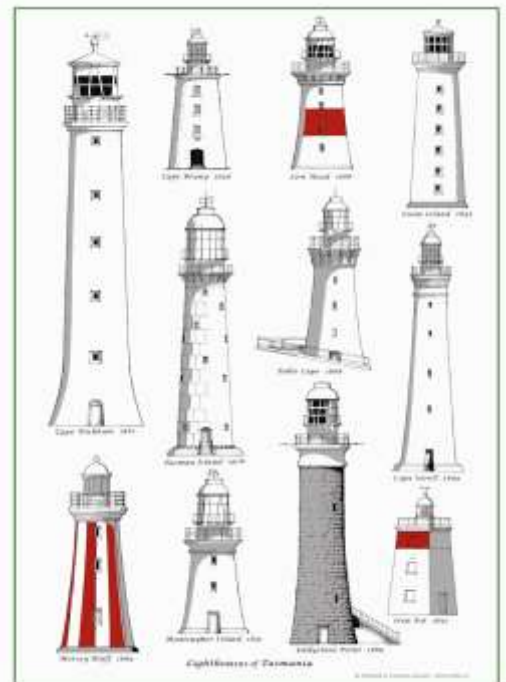


**Order now
for Christmas!**

\$12,
plus postage
email

friendsoftasmanisland@gmail.com

for an order form



Wear your heart on your sleeve/
beanie/backpack
FoTI's logo, drawn & designed by
Gavin Reynolds

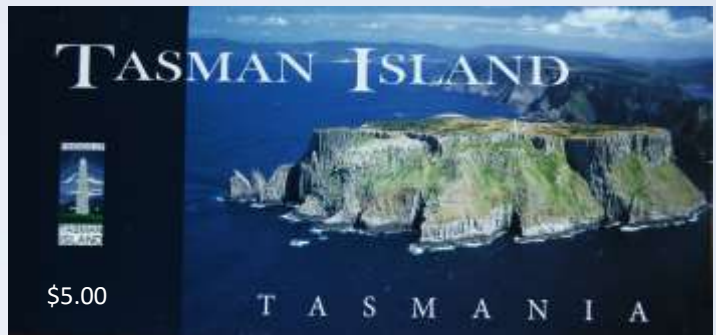
\$15



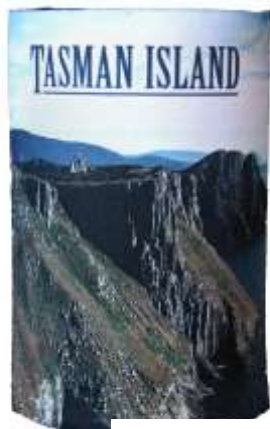
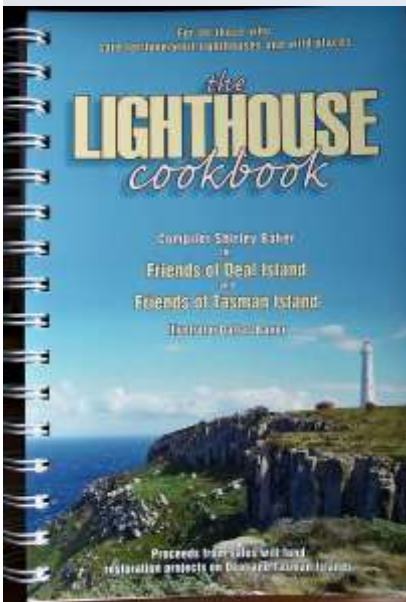
**CHECK OUT OUR MERCHANDISE
NOW AVAILABLE AT THE WILDCARE SHOP**

<https://wildcaretas.org.au/product-tag/tasman-island/>

- Tasman Island beanies \$15.00
 - Gift cards \$3.00 each
 - Tasman Island hand book \$5.00
 - Lighthouse Cookbook \$20.00
 - Cardboard model kit of Tasman Island lighthouse \$5.00
 - Stubby holder \$10.00
- All items + postage*

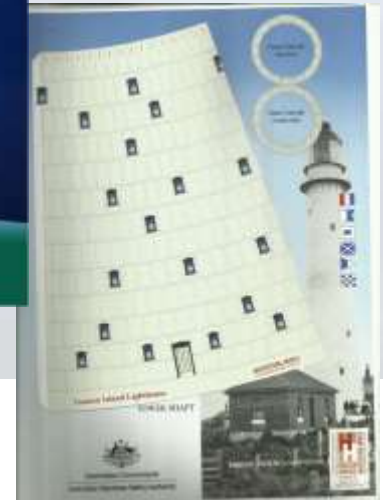


\$20.00



Stubby holder \$10

Build your own Tasman Island Lighthouse Cardboard model kits \$5.00



NEW!
Beanies \$15



Selection of cards \$3.00 ea





HEAD KEEPER !



AKA Chris Smith, builder & volunteer
extraordinaire ...
Thanks, Chris, for all your hard work getting
the restoration of the verandah & sunroom of
Quarters 2 to lock-up stage in just 8 days!

Photos: Mark Dickenson



One volunteer is worth ten pressed men
(It's a naval expression used again and again)
So here's to the Friends and their mission bold
And time well spent in Tasman's fold!
Helen Gee, March, 2010