

WILDTIMES

Issue 33
December 2008



In this issue

- Wildcare Supports Local Projects
- Gift Fund News
- Bill Forsyth's Reflections on PWS Staff
- Volunteers at Haunted Bay
- Wildcare Book Reviews
- and more...

Newsletter of WILDCARE Inc

Tasmania's largest incorporated volunteer organisation, caring for wild places, wildlife and cultural heritage

C/o GPO Box 1751 Hobart
TAS 7001 Australia

Ph: 03 6233 2836.
Fax: 03 6224 0884.

E-mail general:
office@wildcaretas.org.au
E-mail newsletter articles:
wildtimes@wildcaretas.org.au

Web: www.wildcaretas.org.au

Wildcare's Island Summer

If you're interested in longer term volunteering this summer and spring then it seems Tasmania's off-shore islands are the places to be.

Whatever it is about islands it seems that Wildcare volunteers and CAREs groups move there en-masse each year about now. Over the next 2-3 months there are large scale projects on each of Deal, Maria, Schouten, Tasman and Maatsuyker Islands. You may be already too late for most of these programs this year but if you like the look of them keep an eye on the Wildcare Calendar of Events (see the web at www.wildcaretas.org.au) and make sure you have nominated as members of the appropriate groups.

Here's a few details about what's happening this summer, just to wet your appetite.

On Maatsuyker Island in November Friends of Maatsuyker Island will continue their Envirofund weed control project. 10 volunteers will be on the island 10-20 November, travelling to and from by helicopter. Participants will be continuing a weed survey of the island and when weather permits, primary control of the invasive shrub *Hebe elliptica*.

On Deal Island over the period 22 November to 8 December 7 Friends of Deal Island volunteers, funded again by Envirofund, will be clearing vegetation as a firebreak

from around the lighthouse and using this material as slash to lay on the ground and promote revegetation elsewhere on the island. Volunteers travel by chartered fishing boat and stay in ex-lightkeepers' quarters.

On Maria Island it's weeding again, but what a place to weed! 8 lucky volunteers from Friends of Maria Island will travel by PWS workboat to Haunted Cove on South Maria Island over the period 11-16 December to continue control (see article in this edition) of Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*). This work is funded by PWS and NRM South.

On Tasman Island volunteers will travel by helicopter to the island for the period 8-16 November to carry out a broad range of general maintenance activities, including some weeding, mowing, roof and building repairs.

On Schouten Island pairs of volunteers will stay for 14 day periods as part of the summer Campground Host Program. Volunteers for this program will provide a visitor information service for boat based visitors to this little corner of paradise, staying in a purpose built standing camp on the north coast at Moreys Bay.

Add to these working bees longer term volunteer caretaker programs on Deal, Tasman and Maatsuyker Islands and you can see where it's all happening this summer.

Craig Saunders



Volunteer Transport Arrives At Maatsuyker Island

Wildcare Board Supports Local Projects

A simple measure of the health of Wildcare finances has always been the amount of money available above normal administrative commitments to support projects run by our own sub branches or Community Action in Reserves (CARes) groups through Wildcare's own Internal Grants Scheme.

In recent years money has been a bit thin and so few projects have been supported but over the last 12 months things have looking a bit

healthier and so the tap has started to flow, if not gush.

At present the Wildcare Board of Management (BOM) has a standing policy of contributing one quarter (25%) of our membership income to this scheme. Funding requests to a maximum of \$2,000 (plus GST) can be made using the simple form available on the Wildcare website.

More recently though, the Wildcare Gift Fund committee has determined

that interest earned from their investments will be allocated to the Wildcare Internal Grants Scheme. With currently over \$150,000 invested this offer is likely to make the project list for 2009 even longer.

The projects supported in 2008 are shown in the table below.

Craig Saunders

Wildcare Inc Internal Grants Scheme Projects Supported in 2008

CARes Group	Amount	Project
Friends of Deal Island	\$2,500	To provide fencing materials in support of the Envirofund weeding and revegetation project
Friends of Tasman Island	\$570	To replace missing and rotten timber on the fascia and soffit boards of Oil Store Shed
Friends of Maria Island	\$240	To supply tools for volunteer weeding working bees
Southern Cave Care	\$1,165	To upgrade cave abseil anchors in Midnight Hole cave in southern Tasmania
Friends of Tasman Island	\$957	To replace a rusty leaking water tank at the Oil Store and repair spouting on quarters Q3
Friends of Maatsuyker Island	\$700	To assist with the purchase of original drawings of the Maatsuyker Island Light Station
Mole Creek Karst Care	\$847	To assist with provision of equipment for the cleaning of Tailender Cave
Friends of Coningham NRA	\$300	To provide personal protective equipment for volunteer weeding working bees
Friends of Trevallyn NRA	\$522	To provide tools and personal protective equipment for volunteer working bees
Total for 2008 Projects	\$7,801	

Eaglehawk Neck Backpackers



Close to:
Cape Raoul, Cape Hauy and
Cape Pillar (Highest sea cliffs in the
Southern Hemisphere), walking tracks.
Tasman National Park
Eaglehawk Neck
Ph: (03) 6250 3248

\$2 discount per night for WILDCARE members

Rare & Heirloom SEED

"Bringing back the foods our forefathers enjoyed."

- Non-Hybrid Non-GMO
- Lots of Heritage Varieties
- Open-Pollinated



Contact us today for your
FREE Mail Order Catalogue
ph: 03 6491 1000

email: mail@thelostseed.com.au

www.thelostseed.com.au

5% Discount for Wildcare Members when
placing order by phone only



PWS Nominates Wildcare as Preferred Gift Fund

In June 2008 Peter Mooney, General Manager of the Parks and Wildlife Service, approved the nomination of the Wildcare Gift Fund as Preferred Gift Fund to be used for any donations for the purpose of reserved land management in Tasmania.

This nomination recognises both the PWS requirement to establish a relationship with appropriate DGRs (Deductible Gift Recipients) to manage donations it received and the existing close partnership between PWS and Wildcare Inc.

And what does this new policy mean for Wildcare? It means that our Gift Fund is likely to be managing more donations, especially those larger corporate donations such as received earlier this year from Dick Smith (\$1,000,000 over 10 years) and Bruny Island Charters (\$40,000 ongoing). In turn our Gift Fund Committee will be busy working with appropriate agencies (principally

PWS) to identify projects to match to donations and further down the line our own Internal Grants Scheme will benefit from the interest Gift Fund holdings attract.

PWS are now also working with their advertising gurus to promote this

new arrangement. The advertisement shown with this article illustrates the theme PWS will be using in this campaign, funded of course by PWS. Craig Saunders

We're looking for protection money.

There's no point beating 'round the bush when it comes to protecting Tasmania's unique natural environment. We need your help. By making a contribution to the Wildcare Gift Fund, you'll be assisting an established organisation of experienced professionals and volunteers care for the state's many parks and reserves, as well as the animals living in them. To find out how you can make a difference, visit www.wildcarea.org.au

Share the wonder
www.parks.tas.gov.au

Tasmania

Wildcare Gift Fund Donors

Wildcare acknowledges the following donations to the Wildcare Gift Fund

Donations of \$100 or more

ICS Multimedia Pty Ltd, Peter and Bunty Jackson, Phil Wyatt, Chris Arthur, Michael St Henry, Kellie Wright, Rehabilitation

Tasmania (Ingrid McGaughey), Local Government Association of Tasmania, Peter Fleming

Donations up to \$100

Andrew Smith, Oma Rodger, Denise Schultz, Nick Gill, Jimmy Bigelow, Martin Hudson, Kym Corfield,

Pamela Fenerty, John Hunter, Catherine Blackmore, Craig Hilder, Michelle Gofton, Paul Cantell, Simon Curtis, Caroline Bendixsen, Peter Davis, Mary Bainbridge, Paul Chiron.

WILDTIMES publication schedule

Issue #	Article Submissions Due	Publication Date
34	1 March 2009	April 2009
35	1 July 2009	August 2009
36	1 November 2009	December 2009

Discovering...

An exciting union of cutting-edge design, plantation wood and technology with principles of sustainability. The EcoCentre is the first of its type in the Southern Hemisphere, combining forest tourism, regional promotion and Forestry Tasmania's offices.

Discover Tasmania's north-east forests. From coast to mountain, past to present and from traditional bush skills to world-class wood design.

Open: 7 days a week, except for Christmas Day, at King St. Scottsdale.

General enquiries: (03) 6352 6466

Café bookings: (03) 6352 6458

10% Discount to WILD CARE members

Forest EcoCentre

Forestry Tasmania

Spurging on the South and Southwest Coast

Last summer saw 26 volunteers from the Wildcare SPRATS (Sea Spurge Remote Area Teams) group dropped into various sections of the southwest coast by helicopter, float plane and boat, to tackle the invasive weed sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*). Working mainly in teams of four, they walked more than 200 kilometres of coastline, tackling everything from isolated seedlings to large established infestations. One of the volunteers, Jon Marsden-Smedley, was a member of three consecutive teams and thereby spent 36 days on the coast. A 27th volunteer, Julie Marshall, spent five weeks taking regular communications from the teams, making sure all was well in the field.

It was all made possible by the group's success in winning a \$50,000 two-year Australian government Envirofund grant late in 2007. (See Wildtimes July 07 for the history of the group.)

The results of the summer's comprehensive program exceeded expectations. While it was disappointing to find small outbreaks of sea spurge in unexpected locations, such as Port Davey, the results show that the group's approach is working. In nearly all cases no flowering plants were found at sites which had been treated in the previous season's program. The group has now removed all mature sea spurge from 95% of the wild coastline between Cockle Creek and Cape Sorrel. New plants will arise from existing seed banks and future sea-born invasions, so the work will be ongoing at these locations, but less intense.

But this is not all. The remaining 5% of the coastline contains some of the densest infestations. Wildcare SPRATS are working in partnership with the PWS at Strahan and Huonville. The Strahan staff will spray these areas from quad bikes flown in by helicopter. SPRATS will then follow up and remove the survivors. The aim for this year is to complete the removal of all seed producing spurge from the target coast and much depends on the success of the spraying program.

Planning is well advanced. So far 40 volunteers have stepped forward. Commencing in late December the



Volunteers Jon Marsden-Smedley and Peter Barrett traversing a tricky section of shoreline (photo Clive Curson)

program needs to finish in early February before the spurge sets a new crop of seeds. Planning for safety and to cover the logistics of transferring and tracking so many volunteers in such remote country is complex. SPRATS have a formal organisational structure and operate to tight planning. As with many volunteer groups it is hard, but often enjoyable work that gets the things done.

remains scope for bushwalkers who are interested in doing less walking but more weeding. They will still have to be self-reliant bushwalkers, and may find themselves walking a few kilometres 'to work' each day.

If you are interested in becoming involved, log on to www.wildcaretas.org.au, join Wildcare if you have not already done so, and tick your interest in the SPRATS group.



Weeding sea spurge at Meerim Beach (Nick Fitzgerald)

Like Louise Shepherd in the accompanying article, most of the participants thoroughly enjoyed their experience last year and are keen to be involved this summer and beyond. There are still some places left. While 'hard-core' bushwalkers are being deployed on most of the coast, there

For enquiries about membership and becoming a SPRAT this summer, contact Sarah Truscott at reachsezza@hotmail.com or 0408 254 508. For more general enquiries contact Geoff Luscombe on geoffl@hermes.net.au or 0427 334 240.



A Wildcare group to combat sea spurge on the East Coast?

Many Wildcarer's will be familiar with the amazing work and outstanding effort put in by the SPRATS group controlling sea spurge along our rugged west coast. It now seems that sea spurge is getting a hold on the east coast – something we are desperate to prevent, so we are keen to start an east coast group to help purge the spurge.

Sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) is originally from Europe and is spread widely throughout southeastern Australia. It is particularly bad, as it is invasive on beaches and in dune plant communities, displacing native species and altering the structure of the beach. It is one of the few plants that can grow on sand spits and along the back of the beach – right where the sea birds nest, including Hooded Plovers and Fairy Terns. If that wasn't enough it also contains a toxic sap that may burn the skin on some people.

Many community groups on the east coast are already doing a large amount of work to combat this weed, however it's a big job, and we need to be vigilant and keep up a continuous effort – never let our guard down! This is why we need to form a group on the east coast – to support and assist the groups already doing the work and to fill in the gaps that they can't get to.

This group is not all about just walking beaches and pulling out sea spurge (although there is a lot of that.) We also need to map and record the sea spurge, to help with future strategic planning – so if data management is more your thing, we need you too. Community education could be another role if it is your interest.

Boogie boarding and snorkelling at the end of the day have also been mentioned as one of the bonuses of walking all day on a beach, pulling the spurge.



Sea Spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*)

If you would like more information or to become involved, please contact Jackie Bice, PWS Volunteer Facilitator – South East, on 6214 8107 or email jacqueline.bice@parks.tas.gov.au.

Threatened Orchid Conservation in Tasmania

With close to 500 types of native plant in Tasmania listed under the Threatened Species Protection Act 1995, the resources of the Department of Primary Industries and Water Threatened Species Section (TSS) are stretched.

Tasmania's new Naturecare group Threatened Plants Tasmania (TPT) (formerly Threatened Plants Action Group) aims to harness the knowledge and support of the community to assist the TSS with enhancing the wellbeing of Tasmania's threatened species.

TPT has recently been awarded a Threatened Species Network Community Grant with a focus on threatened orchid conservation in Tasmania, for which there is a high level of enthusiasm amongst members.

Matt Larcombe, the TSS Orchid project officer responsible for implementing aspects of the Flora Recovery Plan: Tasmanian Threatened Orchids 2006-2010 (Threatened Species Section 2006), has helped to define the aims of the grant. Some activities provide

direct support to Matt, while others are distinctive initiatives of TPT. The grant will enable TPT members to:

- search for new populations of threatened orchids in recently burnt and other priority habitats near Hobart, Coles Bay and at Surrey Hills in the north-west of the State;
- effectively monitor priority populations over several seasons. Dr Fiona Coates is running two workshops for members in November to introduce techniques that she has applied successfully for over 10 years in Victoria;
- mentor other members and community groups to monitor additional threatened orchid populations in their local areas
- create Tasmanian Bushcare Toolkit resources concerning (1) planning and burning for conservation purposes; and (2) monitoring of threatened plant populations; together with
- a controlled burn of a property near Hobart airport to enhance



Monitoring a population of *Caladenia orientalis*: a threatened species in Victoria (photo by Phil Collier)

threatened orchid populations; this activity is to be conducted by professionals.

Reference

Threatened Species Section (2006). Flora Recovery Plan: Tasmanian Threatened Orchids 2006-2010. Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Hobart, www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/pubs/tasmanian-orchid.pdf.

Phil Collier, President of Threatened Plants Tasmania

Email: phil@rubicon.org.au

What's happening on Deal Island?

- a newsletter to FoDI Members

Friends of Deal Island (FoDI) held a very successful general meeting at Ross on the 4th October 2008. Twenty-six members attended and 17 apologies were received. Thirty-two agenda items were addressed and these were circulated in the minutes. A special thankyou is extended to those who were able to attend, especially to Ethel and Wes Ford who ferried across the ditch from Victoria.

The Deal Island calendar is continuing to sell and we are approaching the 1000 mark. Another thankyou to the members who have put long hours answering phone calls, talking to book shops and negotiating with friends etc to acquire the "perfect" Christmas present. This collaborative project with Friends of Tasman Island (FoTI) will help establish a healthy bank balance for FoDI.

The Island Cookbook being put together by Shirley Baker continues to seek recipes old and new and Shirley would appreciate more "interesting?" recipes so talk to your grannies, mums, and aunties etc for that secret delight that triggers memories and sets the taste buds to quiver.

Hopefully, in these times of financial uncertainty the federal heritage grants will emerge and we can plead the case for the preservation of the lighthouse. We have been keeping

the Deal Island story alive in the media through the calendar promotions and we must maintain the momentum. Does anyone know an entrepreneur who also loves lighthouses and would like to be loved by lighthouse lovers?

The plans for the remote power supply on Deal are progressing through the tender process and several companies have visited the island to gain first hand information. Let's hope the campaign is successful so that the rush up the compound to start the generator to receive that fax or turn on the washing machine etc will be a thing of the past.

The spring caretakers Gayle, John and David have been experiencing a dry season with only 5.5 mm of rain in Sept/Oct. but have started November well with 27mm on the 2nd. The Club Cadet (6 wheeler) has been "grounded" because of mechanical problems so shank's pony is the order of the day. The replacement vehicle is landlocked at Prospect awaiting a miracle to transfer it to Deal Island. Does anyone have access to a Chinook helicopter or a motorised landing barge? The newly constructed garden (by winter caretakers Angus and Alison) is producing its first vegies and things look good for the summer caretakers.

We are still waiting for State funding



Friends of Deal Island

to complete the memorial plaque installation on the 1943 aircraft crash site. Hopefully we can "stir" this along before Christmas.

The committee attended the launch of Trauti and David Reynolds book "Reflections" at Brookfield Vineyard on Friday 31st October. This day-by-day account of their three-month caretaker stint on Deal is interlaced with photos and drawings and is an exceptional memory trip of the many faces and moods of this special place.

FoDI has applied for a pull behind mower through the Volunteer Grants Program to ease the burden on caretakers as they toil to maintain the tracks and lawns on Deal.

Let's hope the Wildcare application is successful for ALL applicants.

Dallas Baker
President, Friends of Deal Island

Specialists in Adventure Equipment



Packs, Tents, Boots,
Clothing, Sleeping Bags,
Climbing Gear, Stoves,
Maps, Foods, Cookware,
Torches, Compasses,
Kayaks & Accessories.
Expert Advice.

104 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
Ph 03 6234 7877

Mail order welcome.
Phone for catalogue.

Prepare yourself for adventure

10% discount* to WILDCARE members
(Just quote membership number when making a purchase.)
*Does not apply to Kayaks, Chaco sandals and scouting.

**24 HOUR
FOX
SIGHTING
HOTLINE**

1300 FOXOUT

1300 369688

More information
www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/fox

Wildcare Whale Rescue First Response Team

The Wildcare Whale Rescue First Response Team is a newly formed group, with the aim of creating a network of trained, dedicated and equipped volunteers located around the state who can provide effective first aid to stranded whales prior to the arrival of specialists and assist specialists whenever needed at an event.

The group is administered from Hobart and has sub groups around the state.

A key factor in the success of rescuing stranded whales is a quick response. Around 80% of Australia's whale strandings occur in Tasmania, many in remote locations, such as King, Flinders, Maria and Bruny Islands, Stanley and Strahan.

The remoteness of these areas can result in delays of many hours before specialists and their gear arrive. Having trained and keen locals in these areas with access to the right equipment, and acting under direction of specialist staff from the Wildlife and Marine Conservation Branch of the Department of Primary Industries and Water (DPIW) is vital to the success of a rescue in these areas.

Training of volunteers for the First



Dolphin Stranding, Christmas Eve 2007

Response team is provided free of charge by the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service at several locations around the State each year in partnership with Wildcare and DPIW. Trained volunteers are then invited to join our First Response Team through Wildcare which maintains the database. These are the volunteers called out to strandings.

In the past 10 months the First Response Team members have been called out to be on standby to assist with three dolphin strandings, one minke whale stranding and to beach

sit a hauled out elephant seal.

The group also gets together regularly for meetings, BBQs and, coming up, a whale watching trip off the Tasman Peninsula. If you would like to join the First Response Team, please contact your local PWS Volunteer Facilitator to arrange training:

Jackie Bice, South East - 6214 8107
Pip Gowen, South West - 6264 8463
Caroline Shemwell, East Coast - 6256 7080
Jo Haining, North - 6336 5328
Steve Mansfield, North West - 6429 8727
Jackie Bice and Ingrid Albion

Wildcare Welcomes Financial Wizard to the Board

Wildcare has recently welcomed Tim Turner to the Board of Management to provide advice on financial matters.

Tim completed a Bachelor of Business-Accounting at the Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga in 1980 and held several appointments in financial management in both the private and public sector through the 1980s and 1990s. Tim also spent two years away from the 'money business' running his own antique furniture restoration business in Deniliquin, NSW.

Tim joined the Tasmanian state public service with DPIWE in 1998 and interestingly was involved in the original setting up of Wildcare just on 10 years ago.

Tim is currently employed by Tasmania's Department of



Environment, Parks Heritage and the Arts (DEPHA), the parent department for the Parks and Wildlife Service, as a budget analyst.

When not counting on his fingers and toes Tim enjoys sea kayaking, gardening and car restoration, and is married with a teenage son.

Tim will join our own 'in house' treasurer Craig Saunders in ensuring the Board of Management employs best financial management practice and provides quality advice to the Board.



Washable, reusable, products help you reduce waste, save money and support local small business!

- ✓ **Moon Pads®** 100% cotton menstrual pads hand made in Tasmania
- ✓ **The Keeper®** a small natural gum rubber cup used in place of tampons
- ✓ **Zappy Nappies®** fitted cloth nappies for babies & infants
- ✓ **Woollies** 100% wool over-pants for nappy-wearing children

*At Salamanca Market most weeks or contact:
Moon Pads, PO Box 118, Sandy bay 7006,
Tas. Ph: (03) 6223 5151
info@moonpads.com.au
http://www.moonpads.com.au*

10% discount to WILDCARE members when purchasing menstrual pads

Friends of Maatsuyker Island Day Trip to the Island

With another exciting day trip to Maatsuyker Island planned for November, Gwen Egg reflects on her trip to the island earlier this year.

Ask me what I did at the weekend!

Excited expeditioners gathered at 6 am on the Southport wharf. After sterilizing our shoes we boarded 'Velocity' exchanging introductions as we set off in the dark. On board were Ailsa and members of her family – descendants of R. Huckson, architect of Maatsuyker and other lighthouses, along with Mike (PWS), Ian (remembering trips around the coast with Denny King), Marina, myself and 'Velocity' skipper Dave with crew Matt.



Approaching Maatsuyker Island Aboard 'Velocity'

Forested shores, blue mountains and a silky sea appeared with the daylight. The rising sun illuminated a succession of mountains and capes – Whale Head, Pindar's Peak, South East Cape, Precipitous Bluff, South Cape and the Iron Bounds as cameras recorded a feast of sea and sky. To the south we caught a glimpse of Pedra Branca and then our attention turned west to our first sightings of the Mewstone and Maatsuyker. We passed close by Flat Top and Round Top and peered into sea-sculpted tunnels.

Near the Gulch we anchored below the luminous green slopes of Maatsuyker Island. Conscious of entering seal territory we waited in the inflatable to allow some seals to dive into the water. A superb female Elephant seal chose to stay put near the derrick as we disembarked.

I was first off the dingy, full of emotion, returning to the island after 31 years. Everyone climbed quietly and carefully, observing the guidelines that FOMI has developed in partnership with PWS to access Maatsuyker safely. The island's volunteer caretakers, Malcolm and Margaret, monitored the seals' behaviour from higher up the track and then welcomed us as we approached. They had been busy clearing the track of debris after the big storm during which the Maatsuyker weather station recorded a wind speed of 169 kph before the anemometer blew away. Later Margaret showed us a photo of the barometer when the needle fell below the page!

A stiff climb brought us to the Whim shed - missing part of its roof and

wall after the storm. Purple Diannella berries and Solomon Seal adorned the edges of the freshly mown road. The deep wheel ruts led us around to our first glimpses of the other side of the island: the Needles, the keepers' houses and the lighthouse. Margaret and Malcolm opened up Quarters 2 for us to have lunch and a cuppa and we organised parties to tour the lighthouse, Quarters 1 and the Met. Station. Marina and I paused on Macquarie Slopes to re-acquaint with the Mewstone before going on up to the 'Keeper's Tree' - a gnarly old eucalypt where plaques have been placed by the keepers who once manned the light. This tradition has continued with caretakers placing their plaques on the tree. I was photographed with the Blackwell plaque placed there by my Dad to mark time spent on Maatsuyker by members of my family, the last in 1977 when Peter Blackwell was a light keeper. I spent time on Maatsuyker in 1968, '71 and '77.

Marina was also keen to show off some of the achievements of the working party she had been involved in earlier in the year – 10 volunteers spent a week on the island in February working to remove the invasive shrubby weed Hebe. FOMI has undertaken an extensive weeding program in recent years, assisted by funding from Envirofund, Australia Post, the Huon Valley Council, Landcare and PWS.

Margaret and Malcolm were generous with their time showing us through Quarters 1 – their home for four

months – and the lighthouse. The light is a marvelous piece of engineering and, although no longer used, the mechanisms are kept in good working order. We wound up the weights, which rotate the prism, and took a turn around the gallery as did lighthouse keepers of the past at regular intervals during their night watch.

Then it was time for a quick walk back around the island and down to the boat (where some got wet feet scrambling back into the inflatable). Dave took us past Walker Island for a brief and exhilarating encounter with the wild sea beyond the protection of the islands and rocks. We passed close to the rugged side of De Witt Island to marvel at geology exposed by the sea and explained by geologist Matt. Tired and utterly satisfied we settled in for the journey back as albatross soared above the waves and the setting sun lit up the western slopes of Tasmania's rugged south coast.

Thank you Ailsa for juggling weather, people, and arrangements to make the day possible, to Mike Garner for representing PWS, to Margaret and Malcolm our hosts on the island and to Dave and Matt for our safe and comfortable boat ride there and back.

Gwen Egg for Friends of Maatsuyker Island



Volunteers at Haunted Bay!

On 19 September a team of 8 boated in to Haunted Bay. Were they ghostbusters? No, they were weedbusters. In this particular case they were about to undertake primary control of a large patch of Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*) located on the eastern slopes of Middle Hill on south Maria Island. This remote patch was discovered some time ago and has been the subject of surveys by Richard Koch and more recently by Ranger Margie Jenkin and Anne Booth of the Friends of Maria Island.

Following discussion with the contractor involved with the Spanish Broom control program on the island it was decided to undertake control using a Wildcare team of volunteers. Thus it was that Captain Craig and his crew in PWS (Parks and Wildlife Ship) Solen picked up Margie, Anne and husband Peter Booth, Vicki Campbell, David and Trauti Reynolds, and David and Christine Harris from Triabunna and transported them and their gear to the small bay. Earlier in that week PWS had transported water, food and other gear to the bay.

Over the next 5 days the team cut and pasted a huge infestation of heath, walking to and from the site each day



Volunteers at Haunted Bay, South Maria Island, from left Vicki Campbell, Dave Harris and Christine Harris

from base camp at the small beach. The plants were mostly large with very few small seedlings, and required saws and large loppers. The infestation was taped and the team worked along the tape lines to ensure the control was as effective as possible. The patch was so large and dense that we estimate another 6 days to complete the job

Haunted Bay is a Fairy Penguin colony and care had to be taken around camp, but it is a wonderful place and we thoroughly enjoyed the

experience. Mention must be made of the cooperation of PWS and Margie in particular, her food, planning and leadership was first class!

Funding was provided by a grant from NRM South, which also covered the appointment of a contractor to work on the Canary Broom in Bernacchis Valley and to act as a consultant on the Spanish Heath.

We will be back to finish the job.

Anne Booth and Dave Harris

Balmy Summer Nights in National Parks with Discovery Rangers

Imagine catching a fantastic slide show at a national park, staying the evening for free in parks accommodation and waking up to a bird watching activity. In January 2009 the Discovery Ranger program requires volunteers to do just that...and a little more!

We hope that volunteers will be administering a survey designed by the CRC for Tourism. The survey is intended to gain feed back from participants in Discovery Ranger activities. The Discovery Ranger program requires volunteers to spend a few days at various national parks and reserves around Tasmania.

"Evaluation is a vital part of the Discovery Ranger program, we want to have the most comprehensive project we have undertaken in years" Jen Fry, the project coordinator said. "We need as many Wildcare volunteers as possible to help us get there."



Discovery Rangers out and about in Parks this summer

We'll need volunteers to be on-site before and after an activity, over a number of days. They will be handing out survey forms to randomly selected participants and collecting the forms afterwards. Volunteers will work in teams of two. Where possible; free accommodation in parks housing will

be provided. The selected Wildcare volunteers will need to participate in a day's training course in Hobart in late December or early January.

Please contact Jen Fry, 0429 822 338, if you would like to spend some summer nights in a national park or reserve this January.

Parks Staff I've Met

(from Bill Forsyth, one of Wildcare's most widely travelled volunteers)

This is a lead up to several articles about Park staff, statewide, that I have worked with since I commenced volunteering.

I will be talking about Hank Schenkel, who was Senior Ranger and then Manager at Cradle Mountain. Cathie Plowman will feature in stories from the early days. Both were involved at the start of the Overland Track Hut Warden Program. In fact the program was Hanks' idea following his time in New Zealand. He and Cathie were talking about the age old Parks problem of how to get things done without money. Their great ideas kicked off the program and it is still in operation twelve years later.

Next comes Krissy Ward, a Ranger stationed at Strahan, who had a lot to do with the volunteers on the Orange-Bellied Parrot Program at Birches Inlet and later with the Overland walkers survey at Narcissus Hut. At present Krissy and her partner are in Ethiopia collecting additions to their family. Krissy already has a daughter about eight or nine, from Africa.

Of course, at Cradle more recently I met Ted Bugg and Eddie Firth. They have served the area a good many years and I shall tell you more about

them as time goes on.

Kathy van Dullamen was stationed at Cradle for several years and was connected with the Overland Track Program as supervisor and enlisted volunteers when at Circular Head, St. Helens etc. More about her too.

Melaleuca was also a place that I volunteered at, with the OBP Program, as well as several stints on working bees.

Craig Saunders was a Ranger I had a lot to do with in the South, along with of course, the king-pin of the OBPs' Mark Holdsworth. I shall tell you how he had me down there prior to the nesting season, gathering nesting material from Claytons area. He scaled the trees to inspect the nesting boxes and replenished the nesting material, while I was in charge of ground operations! I was stuffed after



Bill Forsyth volunteering with PWS somewhere, sometime!!

being with Mark. Mark is like a giant wombat who charges thru' the scrub and creeks as if it were a paddock. He fancies himself as a chef. He brought steaks, wine and sauces and herbs. He ate alone. As I said, I was stuffed.

So, you will hear much, much more of these Rangers as time goes on.



Something Wild is a rehabilitation and conservation sanctuary for orphaned and injured animals. We nurture our native wildlife back to good health and prepare them for eventual release. Something Wild also has a number of habitats for animals that are unsuitable for release or may have been bred in captivity.

Come and visit Tasmania's Premier Wildlife Experience, on the road to Mt Field National Park and the SouthWest wilderness.

Ph: 03 6288 1013
Fax: 03 6288 1341
Mob: 0408 128 325
www.somethingwild.com.au



We take care of YOU and the environment

10% discount on all services for WILDCARE Members*
*Excludes bulk rates on colour copying and seasonal promotions

Printing • Secretarial Services • Serviced Meeting spaces
 Association/Body Corporate Management
 Bookkeeping • Graphic Design

Proud supporters of WILDCARE Inc

Cnr George and Cameron Streets
 Ph 6334 4355 • Fax 6331 3496
 reception@branchoffice.com.au




A Walk on the Weedy Side –

Weeding Tasmania's World Heritage Area of sea spurge and marram grass.

A few years ago, I sailed to the remote Deal Island in Bass Strait. Walking up from the jetty towards the lighthouse, I saw three or four people further up the slope wearing rubber gloves and with their bottoms in the air. At first I suspected that the isolation of Deal Island had driven them to desperate measures for entertainment.

My suspicions were not far from the truth. Deal Island, like much of coastal south-eastern Australia, is infested with sea spurge. Part of the caretakers' role is to control weeds. Indeed, the path was piled high with large piles of sea spurge, evidence of days of hard labour. But it seemed a hopeless task. Acres of sea spurge remained, waving in the breeze, along the beaches and all the way up the path to the caretakers' cottages.

Fast forward to January 2008. "Would you like a cray for dinner?" asked Jon Marsden-Smedley, the leader of our little group of walkers. "It'd be no problem at all". This was in Elliot Bay, on day two of a 12 day off-track bushwalk in the remote west coast of Tasmania's southwest, with a helicopter drop-off and pick-up. Sound like heaven?

There was a catch. Our mission was to eliminate every sea spurge and marram grass tussock on our walk. Some groups of weeders had many thousands of weeds in one patch, which took them days to pull up. We were fortunate, having only light patches. However, as Jon emphasized, each adult spurge can produce up to 50,000 salt-tolerant seeds per year.

The currents off Tasmania's west disperse the seeds down the coast where, without control, they will infest the wilderness coast. Hence it was crucial that we actually walk into every remote cove and check it out for both adult and juvenile spurge plants.

The bushwalking was no picnic. There were no tracks. The organizers had selected the team for our sector partly for our rock climbing experience. Peter had done rock climbing through his course at Charles Sturt University, and Clive and I have been rock climbing for 30 years.

Jon had walked and rock scrambled the entire west coast several times (which accounted for his precise knowledge of every crayfish crevice).

Our sector had long hauls of rock hopping and scrambling in between beaches and coves. Other sectors further north had more walking on sandy beaches, but they also tended to have heavier weed infestations.

The west coast is geographically varied, and indented with inlets, cobblestone coves, beaches and tannin-stained creeks. A gruelling few hours of rock scrambling requiring total concentration would be rewarded with marvellous vistas from headlands.

Every day turned up something novel: the skull and vertebrae of a pilot whale, a dead leatherback turtle, Aboriginal middens and hut sites, tiger and whip snakes basking in the sun, the rusting hulk of the Svenor at Wreck Bay, superb camping sites on marsupial lawns, and the stunning crimson berry. This coastal shrub up to 3 metres high was fruiting while we were there, and it was covered en masse with small fleshy pink berries.

The only detracting aspect on the walk was the amount of rubbish washed up on the shores by the same currents that bring the weeds. I guessed that 95% of it was non-biodegradable plastic or nylon from fishing vessels: fishing nets, craypots, bait savers and softdrink bottles.

Like the rest of Tasmania, the southwest was in drought. We experienced blue skies and 25 degree maximums on almost every day of our trip.

Because of this, and because our sector was light-on for weeds, we had extra time up our sleeves. We decided to extend our walk and finish at Port Davey instead of Wreck Bay. We had no maps for the unplanned section, but Jon assured us that he knew the area like the back of his hand.

We had one slight diversion from the optimal route, but Jon shimmied up a tree and scouted for a way out of the eucalypt jungle and onto the open button grass. It was also the only day

when we walked in sporadic rain.

We reached Bond Bay on Port Davey, and by fortuitous coincidence we ran across a team of PWS staff and Wildcare volunteers surveying the endangered orange-bellied parrot.

And so it was that we had a boat ride out to Melaleuca, instead of the planned helicopter trip back to Strahan. The trip across Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour was an unforgettable finish.

The Port Davey cirque was rimmed with storm-scoured quartzite rock, gleaming white in the late afternoon sun. Above the white stripe of rock stretched the lush green of the southwest forests. Below, the deep ocean blue, rolling in rhythmical swells.

Three horizontal stripes of blue, white and green—perhaps a flag for the southwest.

Louise Shepherd – SPRATS volunteer

Gordon Gateway

The Ultimate
Strahan
break



10% discount on door prices for
accommodation to WILDCARE
members

The new look Gordon Gateway!



with the finest views of Strahan

The Esplanade, Regatta Point,
Strahan, Tasmania, 7468, Australia.
Ph: 1300 134 425 Ph: 03 6471 7165
Fax: 03 6471 7588
Email: ggs@tassie.net.au
Web: www.gordongateway.com.au

New Team of Parks Volunteer Facilitators

Regional Volunteer Facilitators (RVFs) employed by the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) are key people in the ongoing partnership between Wildcare and PWS. It is therefore very encouraging to see that PWS has this year employed new staff to fill long term vacancies in this area.

RVFs do many things but generally they are acting as a 'bridge' between PWS staff and partnership organisations such as Wildcare. They can assist new groups build a relationship with PWS, advise on funding options and grant applications, provide training, plan and supervise on ground projects and even sometimes muck in with the volunteers getting their hands dirty!

The RVF program has been running now since 2002 and now boasts 5 RVFs across the state. 4 of these have been appointed in 2008 with Caroline Shemwell at Freycinet being the sole survivor of the original intake.

At a meeting recently I asked the 4 new appointees to introduce themselves to Wildcare members:

Pip Gowen replaces Craig Saunders at Huonville looking after that half of the Southern Region west of the Derwent River. In Pip's words:

I am what some might describe as a

'South Sea Pom' - that is born in England and raised in New Zealand. It wasn't until I was with my husband Chris driving down the western seaboard of USA migrating with the Humpback whales between work in Alaska and Baja Mexico for the National Outdoor Leadership School, that we realised having been working under the stars for 10 years, we really wanted to make a home closer to family.

Chris then said, "You write on a bit of paper where you want to live and I'll write on a bit where I want to live, then over a bottle of nice wine, we'll open them to see where we are going"...

Well, when the pieces of paper were opened they both said...'Tasmania'

The time away leading remote 3 month expeditions was centred on environmental education, leadership, personal development through the natural environment. (Wilderness) As a trained teacher this was a most fantastic opportunity, one I absolutely loved. I loved moments in every day like... the day I managed to get the group, who were talking away loudly about everything BUT where they were ie movies they had seen, to paddle in silence for a change, to see what they noticed.

5 minutes after they agreed to this. a Humpback Whale surfaced in front of our kayaks, showed us its fluke and then dove for the depths of the ocean. This moment for me as an educator was precious, looking around to see tears rolling down the cheeks of one of my students.

Everything I do now relates to that moment and many other heartfelt moments I had the privilege to experience. I am passionate about ensuring I contribute in some way to looking after our natural environment and also in providing similar opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

Tasmania has been home now for 26 years. Work in Tasmania has included developing and running Leadership and Risk Management Training courses for Outdoor Leaders, heading up the Tasmanian Outdoor Recreation Council and managing the Greening Australia and then CVGT State Green Corps program, which partnered with PWS on many occasions.

Family, friends, kinfolk, vege and native gardening, birding, the ocean under and on in various vessels including the favourite Tasmanian Timber Cutter called

'Wild Honey' and Little Bear, playback theatre, singing and just starting the Saxophone are amongst the things that feed my soul in addition to my work.

Jackie Bice works from Seven Mile Beach Field Centre and looks after the other half of the Southern Region east of the Derwent River.

Jackie hails originally from Adelaide but now lives in Tarooma with partner and two small children Ishmael (3) and Ava (5).

Prior to this job I was in Mozambique, working part time for the Ministry of Tourism on the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, producing a monthly newsletter for all stakeholders (Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe). Prior to that I was the Indigenous Protected Area coordinator in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands in northern South Australia. I worked in threatened species research and management in arid zone SA for 15 years. I started my career as a zookeeper in Adelaide Zoo. I have a science degree in Natural Resource



Parks Shop

24 Main Road Huonville

Ph: 03 6264 8460



- Range of pre-visit information relating to Tasmania's National Parks & Reserves
- Parks Passes
- Maps
- Books – Adult and Children's Range
- Australian Animal Puppets
- Jigsaws – 24 to 2000 piece, including Southwest National Park
- Souvenirs
- Clothing – fleecy jackets, vests, ponchos, raincoats, t shirts
- Posters
- And more

10% discount to WILDCARE members



Management and a graduate diploma in Aboriginal Studies.

I've always loved being an ecologist and focussing on flora and fauna, but people are really what is shaping the environment, therefore I decided to change direction and focus on people. Volunteers are the crème de la crème of people working in environment and conservation – they are doing it because they genuinely care, not just because it pays the bills!

When not at work I enjoy Taiko drumming, travelling (anywhere/ everywhere), music festivals, taking kids to swimming lessons, taking kids to dancing lessons, taking kids to birthday parties, taking kids to festivals, taking kids to the beach/ playground/mountain/etc,etc,etc – this is why you won't see me at very many working bees on weekends!

Stephen Mansfield works from Ulverstone and has responsibility across the entire North West Region. The following is reprinted from Stephen's introduction to PWS staff in a recent news article.

Recently appointed Northwest Region volunteer facilitator Steve Mansfield is one of a growing number of staff who have come to the Parks and Wildlife Service seeking a major change after decades in another, often unrelated profession.

Steve admits he was always attracted to the idea of being a ranger or a similar job, but that things never quite worked out that way.

"I can remember thinking at high school that the main criteria for any job would be that I would work outdoors, but it didn't work out very well considering I spent the next 28 years in an office," Steve said.

The 'office' was in financial services and Steve was qualified as a Certified Financial Planner. His most recent position in the finance industry was with the Commonwealth Bank as Investment and Insurance Division manager for Tasmania.

After that he spent four years managing a project for a community group on the Central Coast.

"The focus was on improving retention rates post-compulsory education years. I worked with businesses and schools to develop initiatives that helped to keep kids in school and helped them plan their future directions."

When the volunteer facilitator position



Pip Gowen, Andrew Smith (Manager, PWS Community Programs), Jackie Bice, Stephen Mansfield, Jo Haining

was advertised, Steve said it seemed like a great way to get involved and employ the skills he had gained.

"I've been just amazed at how committed PWS people are to the task and the volunteers I've met so far have been amazing. All of them are giving a huge number of hours," he said.

"My goal is to have all our volunteers feel they are well supported by Parks and appreciated and I'm also aiming to develop more opportunities for volunteers to be involved."

Steve is married to Jan, who's a primary school teacher. They have two boys 20 and 18, Tom and Sam.

Jo Haining works from Launceston and is responsible for RVF matters in the Central North.

Jo is the newest Regional Volunteer Facilitator, having joined the Parks

and Wildlife Service Northern Region in October this year. Jo has more than fifteen years experience in emergency service response operations, including five years managing volunteers with the NSW SES.

Jo was previously with the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation Queensland, where she developed and implemented a best practice model for management of volunteer services across the range of operations within the hospital complex.

A self-confessed nomad with an insatiable travel bug, Jo has bushwalked and backpacked in the Middle East, Scandinavia, North and Central America, Central and Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

Craig Saunders
(recently departed PWS Volunteer Facilitator)



Bruny Wildlife Adventure

Natural beauty, extraordinary wildlife and fine produce merge to create the ultimate Tasmanian expedition.

Ph: 1300 137 919

www.brunywildlifeadventure.com.au



WILDCARE Book Reviews

Reflections by David and Trauti Reynolds (Forty Degrees South 2008)

'Reflections' is best described by David and Trauti's subtitle, 'A diary of a memorable experience on Deal Island, Spring 2006'.

The book is a classy reproduction of the journal Trauti kept on the island while acting with David as volunteer caretakers over the period September to December 2006. The text, reproduced as it appeared in the original journal, is beautifully illustrated with Trauti's own drawings and Trauti and David's photographs.

Trauti's journal describes in fascinating detail the many ordinary and not so ordinary duties of an island caretaker as the seasons unfold around them. Duties range from normal domestics such as cooking and cleaning, to regular building and garden maintenance and on the better days exploring the island.

On Friday 20 October she writes, "When we wake it is calm, dull, moist



looking. To beat the weather we do our jobs early: David is taking down some old, rusty wire fences – myself, weeding the strip where the new allocasuarinas have been planted."

And on Wednesday 8 November a special treat, "We treat ourselves to a visit to Winter Cove, always a wonderful and rewarding experience. The colour of the water in this cove makes my heart leap, happiness at such exquisite beauty, enhanced by the green hills and the warm colours of the rocks."

In his forward to Reflections Warren Boyles (editor of 40 Degrees South magazine) writes of the dream of escaping to a remote island lighthouse, and of David and Trauti living this dream. He concludes with, "You may never find the time to escape to a remote island lighthouse. Read and enjoy this journal and you can in some measure live this dream; you will be the richer for it."

David and Trauti Reynolds are regular Wildcare volunteers, seen working in many of our reserves, especially our island National Parks. Their Deal Island journal Reflections is available in most bookshops or direct from them at reynoldsfamily@netspace.net.au for \$70.00 (RRP).

Craig Saunders



Our resident robin is a little busy-body (drawing by Trauti Reynolds)

Thirsty Country, Options for Australia by Asa Wahlquist (Allen and Unwin 2008)

One of the first things I do when a book comes into my hands is to ask the question, "What does this writer know and what qualifications does he or she have?"



Asa Wahlquist has been about a fair while in the writing business. She became interested in the water problem in 1991 and has won several awards for rural writing. She writes for The Australian newspaper.

In this book she writes about Australia's climate and where the rain comes from. Yes, out of the sky, I know, but from which direction? Her section on urban water use and what happens to water in the five big cities is extremely informative.

And what can we do about the present water shortage? Not so much in Tasmania. We are the best off of all the States. She stresses that a must for individual homes is to install rain water tanks to ease the pressure on larger community water storages.

All in all a must read for everyone, and a great motivator for action.


Bill Forsyth

Platypus Park
Country Retreat
Bridport




**Country Hospitality
by the Seaside**

Ada Street, Bridport, Tasmania 7262
Ph: 03 6356 1873
Fax: 03 6356 0173
Web: www.platypuspark.com.au
Email: platypuspark@tassie.net.au
15% discount to WILDCARE members.



TASMANIAN
minerals - crystals - gemstones
fossils ...and from around the world



175 Lune River Rd, Lune River
Open most days 9-5
(near Hastings Caves)
ALSO
Saturdays at Salamanca Market
Ph: (03) 6298 3182
10% discount to WILDCARE members

Wilmot Heritage Trails (Wildcare) Works Warrawee

As the fire crews of Forestry Tasmania (FT) Mersey District worked to suppress an intense bushfire two summers ago in the Warrawee Reserve just south of Latrobe they found evidence of an industry that had been there almost a century ago.

Several vertical ventilation shafts of six to seven meters in depth were found spread over the area and the fire crews also found mining tunnels with heavy wooden framing still in fair to good condition. After more exploration and research, FT found out that there had been two periods, several years each, of extensive shale-mining in Warrawee up to 1936.

Warrawee is managed for recreation and as a flora reserve under the Regional Forest Agreement. The Latrobe Landcare Group has put in great efforts over the past decades to create and maintain walking tracks, lookouts, picnic facilities, and the beautiful Platypus Pool close to the Mersey River in the Reserve – which is worth its name... we've seen platypus many times over the last months.

Interest from the local community increased with the re-discovery of the shale mines and associated

production equipment. This led to a GreenCorps project in cooperation with Wilmot Heritage Trails Cares (a Wildcare branch), Forestry Tasmania and Latrobe Landcare.

The young people we work with enjoy the hands-on work. The project includes the construction of a safe pedestrian 2 ½ km trail showing production equipment associated with the mine, evidence of old buildings and eventually leading to an old tramway. An interpretation shelter has been constructed at the start of the trail as, well as signage to direct people and explain the overall history of the area. These will facilitate interpretation of the historic relics relating to the shale-mining industry of the early 20th Century.

The Green Corps team is also building a large picnic shelter next to the Platypus Pool (Hedditch Lake). The crew members are involved in every step, from the environmental review, planning, risk assessments, surveying and site preparation, material transport, post setting and concrete work up to the roofing and general construction of the shelter. It is inspiring to see their enthusiasm and



Green Corps team working with Wildcare Volunteers at Warrawee Forest Reserve

to share their learning and growing confidence. Pam Skurulis of Latrobe is an exceptional team leader. She provides care, good humour and a rich learning environment. This makes the day-to-day working atmosphere between the Green Corps team and WHTC enjoyable and productive.

The project will end officially on the 2nd of January 2009, by then all the new facilities should be in place. We invite everybody to have a look at the Warrawee Reserve when you happen to be in the area.

Jerry Kreger

Par-Avion Wilderness Tours

For enquires and bookings
Phone (03) 6248-5390
Fax (03) 6248-5117

Flights to Tasmania's South West National Park –
World Heritage Area.

Award winning Par Avion can take you to this
pristine and remote region allowing you the
opportunity to experience Tasmania's inspiring
wilderness.

Tours range from half to full day World Heritage
Flights to overnight camps as well as luxury cruises
aboard MV Southern Explorer.

**1995, 1996, 1997
Tourism Award Winners.**

10% discount to WILDCARE members
(Just quote membership number when making a booking.)



A deeply moving experience

Lake St. Clair Wilderness Resort promises you a truly unique wilderness experience. Right on the shore of Australia's deepest freshwater lake, the resort is far more than a place to rest your head.

The resort includes a gourmet restaurant, café, bar, convenience store, internet access and equipment hire including canoes. The ferry that meets the famous Overland Track also leaves from here. To keep you on track, the National Parks Visitors Centre is right next door. And don't forget to say hello to your nearest neighbours – the Pademelons and Bennett's Wallabies.

Fish, hike, canoe, climb or just relax at the resort. The choice is yours. Whether you are camping, caravanning, backpacking or looking for a more luxurious hideaway, staying with us is better in every sense.

Special 10% discount on accommodation for WILDCARE members. Please present your valid WILDCARE membership card. Depends on availability

Lake St. Clair
Wilderness
Resort Tasmania

www.lakestclairresort.com.au

Thank you!

WILDCARE Inc wishes to thank the following sponsors for their continuing support, especially...

- Parks and Wildlife Service for providing office space and support for the WILDCARE Office,
- Staff of Parks and Wildlife Service and the Resource Management & Conservation Division (DPIW), local councils and others who work alongside and support our volunteer members.
- The WILDCARE Board of Management, WILDCARE Office volunteers and Group Presidents who all contribute to keeping WILDCARE Inc active, exciting, productive and worthwhile.
- Our members, extraordinary people doing extraordinary things to benefit Tasmania's natural and cultural environment.

Natural Partners

The following organisations have, as a result of their passion and significant commitment to giving, inspired WILDCARE to create Natural Partner Funds, allowing everyone to contribute donations, large or small, to specific nature conservation and reserve management objectives. Links to our Natural Partner Donors web sites can be found under 'Our Sponsors' on www.wildcaretas.org.au If you would like to discuss opportunities for becoming a Natural Partner to WILDCARE Inc contact acochair@wildcaretas.org.au or phone 0419 361 876.

- Bruny Island Charters/Tasman Island Cruises
Tasmanian Coast Conservation Fund (Reserved coastal land management, marine and seabird conservation)
- Leishman Associates
WILDCARBON Fund (Re-vegetation on reserved land)

Sponsors

Bruny Wildlife Adventure – Category 3 (\$1,000+) Supporting WILDCARE Inc to give hands on help for reserve management, nature conservation and cultural heritage conservation

Business partners

The following organisations have contributed services and product at a discounted rate or as in-kind contribution to projects undertaken by WILDCARE Inc. Links to our Business Partners websites can be found under 'Our Sponsors' on www.wildcaretas.org.au If you would like to make a business discount offer please contact acochair@wildcaretas.org.au or phone 0419 361 876

- Internet Tasmania – internet services
- White Dog Green Frog – internet host
- Kemp and Denning Mitre 10 Hobart – account discount card

Discounters

The following organisations offer discounts to members, on presentation of a valid WILDCARE membership card. Links to our discount sponsors websites can be found under 'Our Sponsors' on www.wildcaretas.org.au Also check advertisements in this newsletter. If you would like to become a discount sponsor contact acochair@wildcaretas.org.au or phone 0419 361 876

- Wildtimes Safaris of Distinction, Kenya – 5% discount on tour prices
- The Lost Seed - 10% more seeds
- The Branch Office – 15% discount,
- Something Wild , Tyenna – 15% discount at shop
- Snowgum - 10% discount (does not include kyaks),
- Platypus Park Country Retreat Bridport – 15% discount
- Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania - \$25 discount on Annual and Two Year Park Passes,
- Par Avion Wilderness Tours – 10% discount on tour flights,
- Moonpads – 10% discount
- Lunaris Gemstones – 10% discount
- Lake St Clair Wilderness Resort – 10% discount on accommodation
- Gordon Gateway Strahan – 10% discount on accommodation door prices,
- Eco-Discovery Centre Scottsdale – 10% discount,
- Bruny Wildlife Adventure – 10% discount on eco-cruises

