

## Farewell to Ian Marmion

PWS event at Hadleys, 3.30pm 14 July, 2022

### from Friends of Melaleuca

Thank you, Ian for your long involvement with, Friends of Melaleuca, one of the many branches of the volunteer organisation, Wildcare Tasmania.

This has been a mutually supportive and friendly relationship ever since Ian started with the Huon Field Office. He has guided planning for working bees and provided support and hands-on work on the ground since 2014. FoM began in 2009, with our first working bee in 2010, so Ian has guided FoM through most of its existence. We appreciate that active relationship and the continuity over a long period of time. Ian's involvement has been wide-ranging, from the administrative to the hands-on. He's patiently guided us through work approvals, volunteer induction and workplace safety, and got his hands dirty on site, cheerfully grovelling under buildings, dealing with European wasp nests and (perhaps the worst case) the temporary refurbishment of the temporary toilet at Claytons. And with Ian it was all still a laugh.

Ian has attended most of FoM's general meetings, as well as planning meetings, and he was there on the end of the phone for our many questions. With his unruffled personality and sense of humour, Ian is good in a social context and got on very well with the varied personalities in our working bee teams.

Melaleuca and the wider Port Davey area is a complex region, and Ian had responsibility for many other PWS sites as well, so we appreciate all of the time that he was able to devote to our patch and act as an effective conduit between volunteers and PWS.

Friends of Melaleuca is a large Wildcare branch, currently with a membership of 215, and with varied skills and expertise amongst our membership. Many of us have a very long association with the place (even going back before the formation of PWS!). We have detailed knowledge and interest in its history and natural history. Ian respects this knowledge, and the expertise that our group can bring to the table, just as we respected his position as Ranger-in-Charge.

Ian has an interest in history himself, having studied archaeology and interpretation in his training. With his heritage experience from Port Arthur and Maria Island, and his understanding of the PWS system, he has been very helpful with FoM's various historical heritage projects such as the development of the Deny King Heritage Museum, bushwalkers huts interpretation, heritage maintenance at Claytons Corner (downstream from Melaleuca), and planning for the Heritage Mining trail at Melaleuca.

Ian has a talent for writing and a keen eye for detail and for editing. So, when you write an email to him, be sure to check and correct before you hit the send button!

Last, but definitely not least, Ian shares our deep love of the place.

On behalf of Friends of Melaleuca, thank you Ian, and we wish you well, and look forward to a continuing friendship.

Janet Fenton