

Tasmanian Field Naturalists Inc

The Secretary's Report – March 2011

1. 2010 Committee:

At the March 2010 AGM Jane Catchpole decided not to stand for re-election as a general committee member and was replaced by Nellie Hilliard. Geoff Fenton did not stand for re-election as Bulletin Editor and was instead elected as a general committee member. Annie Rushton, a current committee member, was elected to replace Geoff as Bulletin Editor. All other members were re-appointed to their positions.

2. General meetings:

These were held on the first Thursday of each month with the exception of January when no meeting is held. The average attendance at meetings during 2010 was 35, a slight increase on the 2009 average of 33. Talks presented in 2010 were:

March – Michael Driessen “Fauna of Tasmania’s Wilderness World Heritage Area”

April - Lisa Cawthen, ‘The secret world of Tassie’s bats’.

May - Lisa Gershwin Jellyfish

June - Barbara Wienecke 'Emperor Penguins'

July - Eleanor Cave, Flora Tasmaniae: How amateur botanists shaped the first Darwinist case study'

August - Dr Peter McQuillan the Fascinating World of Tasmanian Ants

September - James Wood A Visit to China

October – Mark Wapstra Tasmanian plant names

November - Karen Gowlett-Holmes, The marine life of the Bathurst Channel—a truly unique environment.

December – Members’ night

February - Erik Wapstra Tasmanian Lizards

The highest attendance at meetings were the May presentation by Lisa Gershwin on jellyfish, the June presentation by Barbara Wienecke on Emperor penguins and the February presentation by Erik Wapstra on lizards. Each of these attracted more than 40 members and guests.

3. Excursions

There were 9 excursions and an Easter camp in 2010 with the September excursion being abandoned due to bad weather. Average attendance at these events was around 25, which is a considerable increase on the 2009 average of 18. The most popular outing was Bat trapping at Peter Murrel Reserve in May, which attracted around 40 members and visitors. A number of members also attended the Federation of Field Naturalists weekends during the year.

Excursions in 2010 were:

March - monitoring at Peter Murrel reserve

April – Easter camp at Blandfordia

May - Bat trapping at Peter Murrel reserve

June – sorting of invertebrates from the monitoring excursion at Peter Murrel Reserve

July – Tour of the Tasmanian Herbarium

August – Kaoota Tramway

September – abandoned due to bad weather
October – Cape Surville
November – Sentinel Range
December – Xmas BBQ at Tinderbox
February - . Looking for lizards on Mt Wellington

3. Committee Meetings:

Seven committee meetings were held in 2010, with an average of 9 members attending. The Club welcomed 10 new members, including several family memberships.