

## Tasmanian Field Naturalists Inc

### The Secretary's Report – March 2013

#### 1. 2012 Committee:

At the March 2012 AGM three new office bearers were elected Genevieve Gates as Secretary and Simon Grove and Tony Bill as general committee members, all other office bearers were re-appointed to their current positions. Tony Bill resigned soon after and the committee appointed Greg Heap as provided for within the club rules.

#### 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 2011 was 33 members and guests Talks presented in 2012 were:

Month	Speaker	Topic	Attendance
Mar	Michael Driessen	Roadside Wildlife of Northern Australia	-
Apr	James Wood	New Zealand Plant	-
May	Mark Hindell	Shearwaters	-
Jun	Erika Shankley	Non compos mentis: Tasman Island and friends	31
Jul	Bronwyn Fancourt	Drought, disease or destiny? Identifying the cause of decline of the eastern quoll	29
Aug	Sally Bryant	Pardalotes	43
Sep	Richard Tomlin	Fox eradication program	38
Oct	Mick Statham	European wasps - history and life-cycle	31
Nov	Peter McQuillan	New Insights into Moths	
Dec	Members night: Elizabeth Biceuskis Simon Grove Erika Shankly Geoff and Janet Fenton	Fungal studies group presentation Canberra ANN Norfolk Island Platypus	40
Feb	Els Wakefield	Working on Goose Island, home to the world's - largest colony of Pacific gulls	

#### 3. Excursions

There were 5 Saturday excursions and 5 Sunday excursions, with one excursion cancelled due to bad weather. The club also hosted the Federation weekend at Murrayfield on Bruny Is.

Date	Location	Attendance
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Peter Murrell Reserve	20
6-8 April	Easter camp to Strathgordon	31
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Cloudy Bay Lagoon	12
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Mt Brown	18
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Mt Direction	17
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coal Mines	16
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Peter Murrell Reserve – Chaostola Skipper with Phil Bell (DPIPWE)	30

Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Clifton Beach – Shearwaters with Caitlin Vertigan (UTAS)	13
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Bangor	38
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Cape Deslacs – Light trapping with Peter McQuillan (UTAS)	26
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Xmas BBQ – Trial Bay, Kettering	21
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Central Plateau – Miena jewel beetle survey	-
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Woodvine Nature Reserve	20
12-14 Oct	Federation Weekend – Cape Portland	3 TFNC

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#### **4. Committee Meetings:**

Six committee meetings were held in 2012/13, with an average of 8 members attending.

#### **5. Highlights/Notable Issues:**

##### **Bangor report**

Beth Heap has produced a very attractive report on the excursion to Bangor that was written by Janet Fenton and illustrated with photos taken by club members. A copy was sent to Bangor and there are 2 copies in the Library.

##### **Bulletins**

Beth has also produced 4 bulletins with excursion reports and other contributions from members.

##### **Tasmanian Naturalist**

Another very successful issue of the Club's journal 'The Tasmanian Naturalist' is out, thanks to Mark Wapstra and all those who contributed articles.

##### **Easter Camp**

Very enjoyable camp to Strathgordon with 31 members attending

##### **Australian Naturalist Network**

Decision to host the ANN in 2014 and Simon attended the Canberra meeting. This event will require a significant contribution from members to ensure the event is successful

##### **Club Grant**

The committee has developed a model and process to provide grants to researchers who wish to improve the description and understanding of Tasmania's natural history in line with the clubs objectives.

##### **Revamp of the club website.**

Significant progress has been made in revamping the club website thanks to Simon Grove and Greg Heap. We expect the new website to be up and running this year.

##### **The rediscovery of the Miena Jewel Beetle**

Well done to Don Hird and others for organizing this annual survey over the past four years.