

Bulletin

<https://tasfieldnats.org.au>

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*Left: Field Nats hard at work at Marchweil Marsh behind Marion Bay, October excursion.
Photograph: Genevieve Gates*

Program

Thursday 5th November, 7.15 for 7.30pm	General meeting at Mathers House. Guest Speaker Dr. Keith Corbett, author of “Child of Gondwana-Tasmania’s Geological Heritage” Bookings necessary through TryBooking
Saturday 7th November	Excursion to Growling Swallet with Dr Corbett. See website for details.
Thursday 3rd. December 7.15 for 7.30pm	Members’ Night at Mathers House. Members are invited to make a short presentation on a relevant subject. Please email your interest and topic to president@tasfieldnats.org.au
Sunday 6th December	Christmas BBQ/Excursion. Venue: Poimena Reserve Austins Ferry.
Thursday 4th February	First meeting for 2021. Please check website for venue and speaker details

General Meetings start at 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month and feature a guest speaker on natural history (no meetings or excursions in January). Venue for meetings in 2020 and 2021 will be dependent on number restrictions and bookings may be necessary. Please check on our website for the latest information.

Excursions are usually held the following Saturday or Sunday. Final details will be decided at the preceding Thursdays meeting and published on the website after the meeting. Bring lunch and all-weather outdoor gear.

Tinderbox Area Excursion

Sunday 9th August 2020

It was a fabulously fine winter's day, as only Tasmania can turn on: Sunny blue sky, cool, with a gentle breeze, as 27 field naturalists, including some visitors, gathered at Pierson's Park, Tinderbox, for part 1 of an excursion in 3 parts.

Annabel commenced the morning with a brief but informative history of the role this place had played in the planned wartime defence of Hobart before we dispersed for an hour to pursue various interests in the adjacent bushland and enjoy the sunshine, views and the opportunity to gather together to share our interests.



Tinderbox Lighthouse
Photograph: Lynne Maher

The serious ornithologists headed towards an area where previous sightings for Forty-spotted pardalotes had been reported and were rewarded, with one individual Forty-spotted pardalote almost landing on Vicky's head. Various, insects and fungi were observed and recorded by others.

Annabel had informed us that the trees had been cleared when fortifications were installed, but planting and regrowth provided both eucalypt and casuarina dominated areas to investigate.

The re-gathering of the group to move on to Tinderbox beach was an effort akin to herding cats but finally the group was gathered, instructions shared and we re-grouped at Tinderbox beach where the convenient picnic shelter provided an excellent place to present new Field Naturalists' mugs to life members and the previous week's guest speakers.

Some simply enjoyed sitting in the sun to eat their lunch while others spent less time on this and more time on the beach where a quantity of seaweeds dominated the beachwash offerings. The variety of seaweed reflected the biodiversity of the marine environment (which has been declared a marine

reserve) and provided habitat for other organisms. While no serious attempt was made to document the range of seaweeds, the following were possibly among the observed:

Rodophyta

Grateloupia filiciana
Callophyllis rangiferina
Laurencia sp

Chlorophyta

Ulva rigida

Phaeophyta

Undaria pinnatifida
Hormosira banksii (showing reproductive structures)
Lessonia corrugata
Colpomenia sp
Durvillaea potarorum

Also amongst the algae was one cuttlefish "bone" and some nice examples of the encrusting bryozoan, *Membranipora membranacea*. A couple of sponges, I will not even attempt to identify and some pacific oyster shells.

The sandstone rock platform didn't not yield an overly abundant variety or number of rocky shore species, although there were some limpets and small barnacles in the wet cracks and the odd *Littorina littorea* and *Austrocochlea constricta* on the exposed rock

Another gathering back of the group, with some slightly confusing requests for identification of those who would proceed to Stinkpot Bay eventually resulted in 20 proceeding to the third location and we walked to the bay, enjoying the day and the views and investigating the flora and fauna. At least 2 sightings of a Tasmanian Pademelon, *Thylogale billardierii*, close to habitation provided additional justification of the reserve status of this area of land.

Lynne Maher



David and Don chatting on the way to Stinkpot Bay.
Photograph: Amanda Thomson

It was delightful to note, through the day, the wonderful contrast of photographic devices in use, from phones, through pocket cameras to some very serious lenses and lighting to achieve accurate photographs.

A most enjoyable day for both novices and experts in their field – learners together, just some further on the learning journey. Thank you to whoever voiced those wise words.

Lynne Maher

Invertebrates

scientific_name	common_name	taxon_order_name
<i>Lemidia subaenea</i>		Coleoptera
<i>Cryptinae</i>		Hymenoptera
<i>Poecilasthena pulchraria</i>	Native cranberry moth	Lepidoptera
<i>Platygastridae</i>		Hymenoptera
<i>Neuroptera</i>	Antlions, Lacewings, and Allies	Neuroptera
<i>Eriophora pustulosa</i>	Knobbed Orbweaver	Araneae
<i>Storeini</i>		Coleoptera
<i>Misophrice</i>		Coleoptera
<i>Aphanogmus</i>		Hymenoptera
<i>Platygastridae</i>		Hymenoptera
<i>Zaprochilus australis</i>	Australian Twig-mimicking Katydid	Orthoptera
<i>Ichneumonidae</i>	Ichneumonid Wasps	Hymenoptera
<i>Braconidae</i>	Braconid Wasps	Hymenoptera
<i>Entomobryoidea</i>		Entomobryomorpha
<i>Hypogastrura</i>		Poduromorpha
<i>Curculionidae</i>	True Weevils	Coleoptera
<i>Caeciliusidae</i>	Lizard Barklice	Psocodea
<i>Deltocephalinae</i>		Hemiptera
<i>Ommatodema leanum</i>		Hemiptera
<i>Acizzia</i>		Hemiptera
<i>Coccinellidae</i>	Lady Beetles	Coleoptera

Keith xxxxx

Note: For bird list and mammal list see page 10

Snails

Snails and slugs seen (all introduced except where noted otherwise):

Piersons Point

Gratilaoma sp "Knocklofty" (native)
Oxychilus cellarius
Candidula intersecta
Lehmannia sp.

Tinderbox

Vitrina pellucida

Stinkpot Bay

Paralaoma hobarti (native)
Cornu aspersum
Oxychilus cellarius
Oxychilus alliaris
Prietocella barbara
Candidula intersecta
Arion intermedius

Plants

Dicots

Acaena novae-zelandiae
Acacia dealbata
Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia verticillata
Allocasuarina littoralis
Allocasuarina verticillata
Astroloma humifusum
Banksia marginata
Bursaria spinosa
Cassinia aculeata
Einadia nutans ssp nutans
Eucalyptus globulus
Eucalyptus obliqua
Eucalyptus ovata
Eucalyptus pulchella
Eucalyptus viminalis
Exocarpos cupressiformis
Geranium potentilloides
Hakea lissosperma
Hakea microcarpa
Kennedia prostrata
Lissanthe strigosa
Melaleuca pallida
Oxalis sp.
Pimelea humilis
Plantago sp.
Pomaderris elliptica
Rhagodia candolleana
Richea dracophylla
Richea procera
Senecio sp.
Tetragona implexicoma
Urtica incisa
Viola sp.

Monocots

Austrostipa stipoides
Dianella brevicaulis
Dianella revoluta
Dianella tasmanica
Distichilis distichophylla
Juncus sp.
Lomandra longifolia
Poa spp.
Themeda sp.

Ferns

Pteridium esculentum



Forty-spotted pardalote, best bird sighting of the excursion!
Photograph: Geoff Carle

Excursion to Tasman Peninsula

Sunday September 7th.

A meandering herd of twenty-five or so field naturalists spent a very pleasant, mild and sunny afternoon exploring the shoreline between the Tessellated Pavement and Clyde Island on Sunday 7th September. Seashells were the notional quarry, but this short stretch of coast abounds in all sorts of marine life; and with a receding tide progressively exposing lower-shore habitats, there was plenty to see, to photograph and to document.

Some of us whose gaze wandered seawards on arrival were rewarded with the momentary sighting of a couple of dolphins working the shallows just offshore. Then, before the herd dissipated, we took a closer look at handfuls of shell-grit scooped up from the strand-line; and before long, one of those truisms in nature observation became very apparent: the closer you look, the more you see! Twenty, thirty species of little seashells, some scarcely visible to the naked eye. The first (and only?) ribbed-cowrie of the day was found this way. We talked about the limpet way of life – so popular among rocky-shore gastropods that a couple of dozen Tasmanian species in various lineages have adopted it – including some (the siphon-shells and the shell-less, air-breathing sea-

slug) that are more closely related to land-snails than to the ‘true’ limpets. We compared and contrasted the rounded, ‘salad-bowl’ apertural shapes of typical vegetarian gastropods such as winkles and top-shells with the spouted, ‘gravy-dish’ openings of the predators and scavengers such as the whelks.

Then we ambled and clambered along the shoreline towards Clyde Island. Although it’s a distance of only a few hundred metres, some of us scarcely made it that far before it was time to turn around, such were the many distractions along the way. Kelp-flies scuttled among piles of beached Japanese kelp on the sandy shore. On the rocks, dense carpets of flea-mussels neatly delineated the crevices between the pavement slabs made perilously slippery in places by thin films of laver and other algae. Pink coralline algae encrusted and fringed the rockpools in which waratah and swimming anemones, rockpool sea-stars, eleven-armed sea-stars, hermit-crabs and shore-crabs lurked. A wonderful living specimen of reddish rock-whelk, our temperate-seas version of the tropical triton’s trumpet, was encountered in a deeper, weed-filled crevice. ‘Flocks’ of black crows (nerites) huddled together under rocks; when dislodged, it was clear from the differing colours of their opercula (‘front doors’) that they comprised both the eastern and the western species (the latter dubbed the ‘Adelaide crow’). Alas, no live-bearing sea-stars were spotted this time – something to come back for.

The gulch separating Clyde Island from the ‘mainland’ was a source of great delight for some, but frustratingly proved a bit too treacherous and slippery for others. Witnessing the mesmerising slosh of the swell gently lifting and lowering the seething forests of bull-kelp is one of those quintessential rocky-shore experiences. Exploring the seaweed-strewn boulders in the lee of this gulch revealed a wealth of marine life normally hidden from our gaze. There were strawberry sea-cucumbers, bubble anemones, predatory sea-slugs, elephant-snails, encrusting bryozoans, eight-armed sea-stars, trundling isopods and skittering amphipods, and a range of chiton species – those armadillo-like molluscs whose shells comprise eight plates. Meanwhile, fine lines of seashells deposited by the tide on the adjacent beach offered rich pickings for those with the necessary combination of patience, eyesight and sufficiently well-behaving joints required to get down on all fours and take a closer look.

A few brave souls ventured onto Clyde Island, some going all terrestrial and scaling its lofty summit. It was probably a good thing that the leopard seal, photographed on the island two days previously, had departed, leaving the sooty and pied oystercatchers to probe the mussels and barnacles in peace – until a passing sea-eagle got them all flustered.

And then it was time to turn around, towards the setting sun and the prospect of dry footwear and a cup of tea. But not before this lucky observer almost tripped over one of the prize shell finds of the day – a beautiful, freshly beached Comptons cowrie!

Molluscs observed – taxonomic list

* included living animal(s)

Chitons

Sypharochiton pelliserpentis (snakeskin chiton)*
Ischnochiton australis (southern chiton)
Ischnochiton variegatus (variegated chiton)*
Ischnochiton versicolor (variably-coloured chiton)*
Plaxiphora albida (whitened chiton) *

Bivalves

Auromytilus rostratus (common beaked-mussel)*
Modiolus areolatus (bearded horse-mussel)
Mytilus galloprovincialis (Mediterranean blue mussel)*
Xenostrobus pulex (flea mussel)*
Ostrea angasi (common mud-oyster)
Mimachlamys asperima (doughboy scallop)
Pecten fumatus (king scallop)
Hiatella australis (southern crypt-dweller)
Fulvia tenuicostata (thin-ribbed cockle)
Lasaea australis (southern lasaea)
Wallucina assimilis (common mud-lucine)
Paphies angusta (elongate wedge-shell)
Bassina disjecta (wedding-cake venus)
Dosinia caerulea (blue-tinged dosinia)
Irus carditoides (cardita-like boring-venus)
Tawera gallinula (feathered venus)

Gastropods

Eoacmaea calamus (delicate limpet)
Notoacmea flammea (flame limpet)
Notoacmea petterdi (Petterd's limpet) *
Patelloida alticostata (tall-ribbed limpet)*
Patelloida insignis (Maltese-cross limpet)
Patelloida latistrigata (lateral-striped limpet)*
Patelloida victoriana (Victorian limpet)
Cellana solida (orange-edged limpet) *
Scutellastra chapmani (Chapman's limpet)
Scutellastra peronii (scaly limpet)
Emarginula candida (white notch-limpet)
Montfortula rugosa (rough notch-limpet)
Scutus antipodes (common elephant-snail) *
Haliotis rubra (blacklip abalone)
Austrocochlea constricta (ribbed top-shell)*
Bankivia fasciata (banded kelp-shell)
Chlorodiloma odontis (chequered top-shell)
Clanculus limbatus (keeled top-shell)
Clanculus plebejus (people's top-shell)
Diloma concameratum (tessellated top-shell)*
Phasianotrochus eximius (choice kelp-shell)
Phasianotrochus irisodontes (rainbow kelp-shell)
Bellastraea aurea (golden star-shell)
Lunella undulata (wavy turban) *
Nerita atramentosa (western black nerite) *
Nerita melanotragus (eastern black nerite) *

Cacozeliana granarium (grainy creeper)
Alaba monile (spotted alaba)
Maoricolpus roseus (New Zealand screw-shell)
Notocypraea angustata (brown cowrie)
Notocypraea comptonii (Compton's cowrie)
Notocypraea declivis (freckled cowrie)
Opalia australis (southern wentletrap)
*Afrolittorina praetermissa** (checkered australwink) *
Austrolittorina unifasciata (banded australwink)*
Bembicium nanum (striped conniwink)*
Conuber conicum (conical sand-snail)
Eunaticina umbilicata (umbilicated sand-snail)
Rissoina fasciata (banded rice-shell)
Semicassis pyrum (pear helmet)
Semicassis semigranosa (half-grained helmet)
Charonia lampas (reddish rock-whelk)*
Cymatiella verrucosa (warted rock-whelk)
Sabia australis (southern bonnet-limpet)
Ellatryia merces (southern ribbed-cowrie)
Cominella lineolata (lined whelk) *
Mitrella leucostoma (white-mouthed dove-shell)
Mitrella semiconvexa (semiconvex dove-shell)
Australaria australasia (Australian tulip-shell)
Fusinus novaehollandiae (New Holland spindle-shell)
Nassarius nigellus (little dog-whelk)
Conus anemone (anemone cone)
Mesoginella pygmaeoides (pygmy margin-shell)
Mitra badia (dark brown mitre)
Agnewia tritoniformis (triton-like rock-shell)*
Bedeva vinosa (purple-mouthed rock-shell)
Dicathais orbita (common cartrut-shell)*
Phycothais reticulata (knobbly rock-shell)
Amoria undulata (wavy volute)
Ericusa sowerbyi (Sowerby's volute)
Pleurobranchaea maculata (spotted sea-slug)*
Siphonaria diemenensis (common siphon-shell)
**Siphonaria funiculata* (corded siphon-shell)*
Siphonaria tasmanica (blue siphon-shell)*
Marinula xanthostoma (delicate air-breather)
Onchidella nigricans (limpet-like sea-slug) *



L. *Ecklonia radiata*, *Undaria pinnatifida*, *Phyllospora comosum*. R. *Sea tulip*. Photo: Eddie Gall

Other marine life

Brown algae

- Durvillaea potatorum* (bull kelp)
- Ecklonia radiata* (common kelp)
- Hormosira banksii* (Neptune's necklace)
- Lessonia corrugata* (strapweed)
- Macrocystis pyrifera* (giant kelp)
- Undaria pinnatifida* (Japanese kelp)

Red algae

- Corallinaceae (coralline algae)
- Porphyra lucasii* (Lucas' laver)

Anemones

- Actinia tenebrosa* (waratah anemone)
- Anthothoe albocincta* (white-striped anemone)
- Oulactis muscosa* (shell-grit anemone)
- Phylctenactis tuberculosa* (swimming anemone)
- Phylctenanthus australis* (bubble anemone)

Polychaete worms

- Eunice laticeps* (iridescent biting-worm)
- Galeolaria caespitosa* (reef-forming tubeworm)

Barnacles

- Catomerus polymerus* (surf barnacle)

Isopods

- Ligia australiensis* (Australian shore-slater)
- Zuzara venosa* (digitate isopod)

Amphipods

- Tethygeneia species?* (seaweed amphipod)

Crabs

- Cyclograpsus granulatus* (mottled shore-crab)
- Paragrapsus gaimardii* (spotted shore-crab)
- Lomis hirta* (hairy stone-crab)
- Metacarcinus novaezelandiae* (piecrust-crab)
- Notomihrax ursus* (hairy seaweed-crab)
- Ovalipes australiensis* (surf-crab)
- Strigopagurus strigimanus* (rasping hermit-crab)

Sea-stars

- Astrostole scaber* (seven-armed sea-star)
- Meridiastra calcar* (eight-armed sea-star)
- Parvulastra exigua* (rockpool sea-star)
- Coscinasteria muricata* (eleven-armed sea-star)

Urchins

- Heliocidaris erythrogramma* (purple urchin)

Sea-cucumbers

- Chiridota gigas* (strawberry sea-cucumber)

Sea-squirts

- Pyura species* (sea-tulip)
- * (inc living animals)

Simon Grove

Tesselated Pavement Plant List

Dicots

- Acacia melanoxydon*
- Acacia verticillata*
- Acaena novae-zelandiae*
- Apium prostratum*
- Bedfordia linearis*
- Coprosma quadrifida*
- Correa alba*

- Epacris impressa*
- Epacris myrtifolia*
- Eucalyptus globulus*
- Eucalyptus obliqua*
- Eucalyptus viminalis*
- Exocarpos cupressiformis*
- Goodenia ovata*
- Kennedia prostrata*
- Leptecophylla divaricata*
- Leptecophylla parvifolia* (Syn. *L. juniperina* ssp. *parvifolia*)
- Leptospermum scoparium*
- Leucopogon parviflorus*
- Olearia phlogopappa*
- Ozothamnus reticulatus*
- Pelargonium* sp.
- Pomaderris apetala*
- Pittosporum bicolor*
- Plantago* sp.
- Sagina* sp. (*Salicornia* sp.)
- Senecio* spp.
- Stylidium* sp.

Monocots

- Dianella tasmanica*
- Juncus* sp.
- Poa* sp.

Ferns

- Pteridium esculentum*

Eddie Gall

Orchids

- Acianthus caudatus* Mayfly
- Chilglottis triceratops*
- Pterostylus pedunculata* Maroonhood
- Pterostylis williamsonii* or ? *melagramma*,
- Pterostylis longifolia* complex
- Pterostylis nutans* Nodding Greenhood
- Corybas unguiculatus* (?) Small Helmet orchid

Amanda Thomson

Insect list

Waterfall Bay track

Diptera – flies

- Tachinidae*, *Triganospila* sp.
- Muscidae*, *Helina* sp ? *addita*
- Muscidae* *Helina nigrens/nigrohalterata* group
- Muscidae* – female *Helina tasmaniensis*
- Hover fly – *Melangyna* sp male

Spiders

- Araneidae* – *Plebs eburnus* in web with prey
- Araneidae* undescribed

Tesselated Pavement Carpark

- Braconid wasps and many others including ?
- Gasteruption sp.

Diptera, (flies):

- Lauxaniidae*, *Rhagadolyra magnicornis* ? gravid female,
- Dung flies, blue, stripey,

Amanda Thomson

Birds:

Whistler
Pacific Gulls
White-bellied Sea-eagle, ? prion at Waterfall Bay
Sooty Oystercatchers
Pied Oystercatchers
Peregrine from the car

Excursion to Marchweil Marsh, Marion Bay

Sunday 4th. October

A record number of Field Nats attended the Wetlands Excursion to the Marchweil Marsh at Marion Bay. A full report on the excursion together lists of sightings will be in the 2021 Naturalist.

Thirty-eight eager naturalists were greeted by mild sunny weather and a light breeze on arrival at the meeting point, Marion Bay beach car park. Initially scheduled for the first weekend in October an atrocious weather forecast had prompted the excursion to be postponed to the 11th October, a wise decision.

After gathering in the car park for the group photo we were led to the wetlands by Dr Vishnu Prahalad from the School of Geography and Spatial Sciences, School of Technology, Environments and Design, University of Tasmania while Dr John Aalders, from the same School brought excursion paraphernalia in the utas vehicle. Standing by the edge of the extensive wetlands backed by the gently rising green hills beyond the marsh Vishnu introduced us to the concept view of salinity-induced spatial vegetation distribution. And looking across the wetlands we could see what Vishnu was talking about, grey-coloured rushes and grasses lining the edges of the marsh where water was less saline and reddish-brown coloured succulent plants concentrated further out in the middle of the marsh.



Looking across Marchweil Marsh
Photograph: Sue Smillie



All abuzz in there!
Photograph: Sue Smillie

And while listening to Vishnu's talk, illustrated by schematic diagrams held-up by John, occasional interjections were made by keen birders who sequentially pointed out a marsh harrier, two sea eagles and a brown falcon flying over-head in the sunshine. Great sightings and we hadn't even left our starting point.

Sue Smillie

Note: Species list from the Marchweil Marsh excursion will be collated and added to a paper proposed for 2021 *Tasmanian Naturalist*.

President's Brief

COVID-19 Update

With the opening of Tasmania's borders on October 26th, we have strengthened TFNC's COVID-19 guidelines, until we see how things work out. These can be found on our website at <https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/>

- In a nutshell the two additions include, if you:
- have returned from interstate or been in contact with anyone who has returned from interstate in the last 14 days we ask you to not to attend our General Meetings or Excursions.
- attend an excursion we require you to use the TFNC COVID excursion book to record names and contact numbers.

General Meetings

We were pleased to resume our General Meetings in October in the Lower room at Mathers House in Hobart CBD. However, our November and December meetings will be held in their more spacious **Upper room. Entrance through main door closest to Bathurst Street.** Please be punctual as someone has to wait to let you in through this door.

- We will continue to limit attendance to 40 members and use 'TryBooking' to record names and contact details of attendees.
- The Mathers House AV facilities are a bit limited. We are therefore working on ensuring that the screen can be seen from the back of the room and that everyone can hear all the speakers and any member's questions.

Easter Camp 2021 postponed

In August the TFNC committee decided that we would not hold our Easter Camp in 2021. We would have needed to book accommodation by now and there are currently too many uncertainties. We will reconsider it for Easter 2022 depending on the COVID-19 situation at that time.

Book Sales

In less than six months we have sold/allocated all but 15 of the 1000 copies of the reprint of 'The Field Guide to Tasmanian Fungi' – 2nd edition by Genevieve Gates and David Ratkowsky. We will assess future demand for this book in the new year, but if you still want a copy go to the Club website <https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/bookshop/> to order one of the last books in this reprint.

The 2nd edition of the *Seashells of Tasmania* which was published in late 2019 is also selling well and has almost recouped its initial printing costs.

Your committee is also now looking for another book publishing project and have a couple of topics in mind.

Donations

Thanks to our book sales income, your committee agreed in August to make \$500 donations each to Bonorong Wildlife Park and Raptor Refuge both of whom have been missing the tourist dollars that underpin their businesses. Bonorong tells us the funds have gone towards purchasing some humidicribs used for orphaned animals. In addition, we donated \$500 to the Tasmanian Land Conservancy who have been raising funds to purchase land in the Tinderbox Hills as a refuge for endangered birds and \$500 to the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) based at Museums Victoria in Melbourne, whose work is almost entirely done by volunteers and who have nearly scanned and uploaded our entire, Tasmanian Naturalist, Easter camp and Bulletin/Newsletters collections. See: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/browse/contributor/TFNC#/titles>

The 2nd wave of COVID-19 in Melbourne has delayed the completion of this project, but we still hope for its completion by the end of 2020.

Membership form

We have also updated and simplified our membership information and form. This can be found at <https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/membership/>

The amended form will enable us to capture additional members names, email addresses and mobile numbers when required and not just those of the person paying the account! The Junior membership has been removed ('working with children' requirements make this too difficult these days), but we do still encourage juniors to come to our meetings and excursions as long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult member.

How to renew your membership and the payment options are more clearly defined and include direct deposit details. If your details have changed or you wish to add additional email addresses please just send them to our Treasurer at treasurer@tasfieldnats.org.au

Emailing the Bulletin

We also decided that we will continue (and not just during the COVID pandemic) always to email the Bulletin newsletter to members for whom we have an email address.

Club newsletters

Most of the newsletters from the other Field Naturalists' clubs in Tasmania have gone digital and we will no longer receive &/or send hard copies to them. Their excellent and informative newsletters can always be found on their websites. They are well worth checking out regularly! For the time being we will continue to receive/send a hard copy to/from Burnie FNC.

- Central North (Disjunct) Field Naturalists' Club: <https://www.disjunctnaturalists.com/natural-news/index.htm>
- Launceston Field Naturalist Club: <http://www.lfnc.org.au/publications.htm>
- North-eastern Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club Inc: <http://www.netasfieldnats.com.au/latest-newsletter/>

Our Website - Citizen Science Page

<https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/citizen-science/>

Keep checking our website for the citizen science projects in which you can become involved! Clare Hawkins recently updated her excellent "How to use iNaturalist" instructions which can be found on this page.

Annabel Carle and Anna McEldowney

10 August 2020

Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club Excursion Guidelines

Tasmanian Field Naturalist Club excursions are usually held on the weekend following the monthly Club meeting and are normally advertised in the Quarterly Bulletin newsletter and on the Club website www.tasfieldnats.org.au. Any changes to destination or changes due to weather are notified there.

Club excursions may vary from local slow and steady outings to more strenuous walks, some close to Hobart and others further afield involving longer drives. Please satisfy yourself that the trip is likely to be within your abilities and that you can participate in the excursion without being a danger to yourself or the rest of the group. Participants under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for them.

Sharing vehicles on Excursions

- If you wish to share a vehicle this can be arranged privately or at the monthly meeting, when the opportunity is always provided to arrange a lift with other Club members. Please ensure contact phone numbers are exchanged so any late changes to arrangements can be discussed.
- If you do arrange to vehicle share please be ready to leave at the appointed time and remember to pay the driver a reasonable share of vehicle costs at the end of the trip. Please note: this a contribution towards travel costs - it is not a fare. The current recommendation is \$5 per passenger for short trips e.g. Hobart environs up to 50km return and \$10 per passenger for longer trips – e.g. East coast, Tasman Peninsula or excursion greater than 50km return. Please discuss payment with your driver as some trips may be more flexible or longer/shorter.
- Please also respect your driver's vehicle and if the trip is likely to be wet or muddy, bring spare clothes/shoes to change into before travel home and a bag for muddy boots.

On the Excursion

- Our excursions are relaxed events, but will generally have a Club member who will be coordinating the trip. Please respect the coordinator's directions, any group decisions and comply with all reasonable instructions.
- Please arrive by the walk's appointed start time or text someone else attending the excursion if you are delayed.
- The coordinator will have checked the weather forecast, fire danger and maps and will advise participants.
- At the start of the excursion the coordinator will introduce the group and note numbers of participants. A group photo is usually taken at this point as a record. The coordinator will also advise their mobile phone number for use in emergencies. The general aim of the excursion, route to be covered, regrouping points and track junctions, lunch and break times and expected return time will be discussed.
- The coordinator will ask for a volunteer to write up a report on the excursion for the Club Bulletin. Members with expertise/interests will supply lists of sightings to this volunteer whose job is to write an overview of the excursion, collect up the species lists and email the report to the Bulletin editor at TFNC Bulletin Editor (tfn.bulletin.editor@gmail.com) in time for the next edition of the quarterly Bulletin. We request that participants volunteer to either write up the outing overview or contribute to the species lists at least once a year.
- On a longer trip the coordinator will appoint a 'tail-end-Charlie'. If you leave any trip early please report to this person or the coordinator so we are not searching for someone who we think may be lost. If you become separated from the group and cannot make your way back STOP WHERE YOU ARE and try to attract attention by calling, phoning the coordinator, or using your whistle so you can be found.
- It is your responsibility to make sure you have adequate and suitable clothing, water, food and any first aid supplies or medications you need. The Club's recommended 'Carry List' can be found at <https://tasfieldnats.org.au/data/documents/TFNC-Excursion-carry-list.pdf>
- Group numbers will be checked by the coordinator at regular intervals and at the end of the outing.
- It is the responsibility of the last people to return to the carpark at the end of the excursion to check that all participants have returned and that all vehicle engines have started and vehicles are under way. If this is not the group coordinator then they will have arranged with the last groups of walkers to undertake this check.

Tinderbox Excursion 9 August 2020

Mammals

Potoroo diggings
Echidna diggings
Bandicoot diggings (unconfirmed)
Rakali tracks

Birds

Pierson's point

Striated Pardalote
Spotted Pardalote
Grey butcherbird
Yellow wattlebird
Superb Fairywren
Grey Currawong
Brown Thornbill
Grey Fantail
Eastern spinebill
New Holland honeyeater
Forest raven
Starling
Grey shrike thrush
Yellow-throated Honeyeater
Forty-spotted Pardalote
Scarlet robin - female
Sea eagle

Crescent Honeyeater

Tinderbox Beach

Green Rosella
Grey Butcherbird
Pacific gull
Kelp Gull
Silver gull
Black-faced cormorant
Grey Currawong
Masked lapwings
Forest raven
Brown Thornbill
Little wattlebird
Yellow wattlebird
Little Black Cormorant
Sooty oystercatcher
Australian Magpie
Tasmanian Native hen
Australasian grebe
Wood duck



About The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club

We encourage the study of natural history and support conservation. People of any age and background are welcome as members.

For more information, visit our website

<https://tasfieldnats.org.au/>

or email secretary@tasfieldnats.org.au or

write to: GPO Box 68, Hobart, 7001

Subscriptions are:

Family \$35

Single \$30

Student/Pensioner/Concession \$25

Three ways to pay:

by cheque to the Club address,

by Paypal (follow the links on our website or EFT to the Club account:

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Editor: Deirdre Brown

Your articles and photos for the Bulletin are welcome. Please email to the editor at

tfn.bulletin.editor@gmail.com

Photographs above right

The pond where the chorus of Banjo Frogs was heard.

Photograph: Deirdre Brown

Banjo frog, one of many striking up a chorus at Marchweil Marsh.

Photograph: Sarah Bayne