

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB INC.

established 1904.

BULLETIN

<http://www.tased.edu.au/tasonline/tasfield/>
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The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club encourages the study of natural history and supports conservation. We issue our journal *The Tasmanian Naturalist* annually in October. People with a range of ages, background and knowledge are welcome as members.
Contact Genevieve Gates (6227 8638) for further information or GPO Box 68, Hobart, 7001.

General Meetings start at 7.45 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, in the Life Science Building at the University of Tasmania. Outings are usually held the following weekend, meeting outside the to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery entrance in Macquarie Street. Bring lunch and all-weather outdoor gear.

If you are planning to attend an outing but have not been to the prior meeting, phone to check as to the timing of the excursion (with Genevieve Gates; 62 278 638 or Don Hird; 62 344 293). Unforeseen changes sometimes occur.

Program

Thurs. 1 February. 7.45p.m.: Clare McArthur, University Zoology Dept., will speak about alternative strategies to the extensive use of 1080 poison against browsing mammals in Tasmania.

Sunday 4 February 10.00 a.m.: A general purpose excursion to an interesting area of "remnant rainforest" at Yarlington Tier, east of Kempton Quoin. A short but slightly scrubby walk gains access to the area of interest. Afterwards we plan to visit another botanical outlier, this time an isolated stand of Spinning Gum, *Eucalyptus perrineana*, near Tunnack.

Thurs. 1 March. Annual General Meeting and President's Address.

Sat. 3 March. 9.00 a.m.: Collins Cap is both accessible via a moderate walk and a fine viewing platform over the middle Derwent estuary. On the way to the dolerite summit are some very interesting habitats of subalpine vegetation over Triassic sandstone substrates.

Thurs. 5 April. Rob Allison will speak on Three Hummock Island, off NW Tasmania, where he runs an ecotourism facility.

April Excurs. We are planning a weekend away, possibly based around the Forestry house at Adventure Bay, Bruny Island. More details will be provided closer to the excursion.

2001 SUBS. DUE NOW

Subscriptions are normally due by the end of the prior calendar year. Rates for 2001 are Adults \$25 Junior / concession \$20 Family \$30

The Peter Rankin Trust for Herpetology offers financial assistance to worthwhile research projects on the biology of reptiles or amphibians. Committee members can provide details of how to apply.

We are saddened to report the passing of two prominent Tasmanian Naturalists, Marcus Hurburgh of this club and Mary Cameron of Launceston Field Nats. Obituaries will appear in the next Bulletin.

Federation News

The next meeting of the Federation of Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Clubs will be held on the weekend of 16 – 18 March 2001 at the Carnaroo Scout Camp at Paper Beach on the West Tamar.

The agenda includes a visit to a local bird reserve on the Saturday morning and to Mt George in the afternoon. There will be a catered meal in the evening, following the formal federation meeting (for delegates).

On the Sunday there will be a microscopy session followed by a visit to the native plants garden of John and Marian Symmons.

Marine Naturalists

On the March long weekend, the Marine Naturalists' Group is organising an excursion to Waterhouse Island in NE Tasmania. Committee members can provide contact details.

EXCURSION REPORTS

Koonya - 4/5 November 2000 Tom Terry

By Saturday morning our group of ten had settled into the University accommodation at Koonya. A good selection of bush birds were evident around the site.

Our first stop was the Coal Mine Historic Site. A crow chasing a juvenile White Bellied Sea Eagle and a Striated Pardalote attending a nest in a sandstone wall were highlights. Driving onto Lime Bay we carried our lunch to Lagoon Beach. There was a modest range of orchids along the track together with sea-birds in the appropriate places. We returned to the car along the southern side of Sloping Lagoon. A late circuit from the car park turned up more orchids and weary limbs. After dinner we commenced the evening on a scientific note with microscopic observations of plant parts. A very social and humorous evening followed. Sunday commenced with very heavy rain which cleared before we left. An interesting observation during breakfast was a pair of Ground Thrush carrying nesting materials. First stop for the day was the start of the Cape Pillar Track where the 'Fungi Folk' were starting to get into the swing of things. Second call was Fortescue Bay where we turned up some particularly noxious brown toadstools (*Leprocybe* sp.). Close to where we had lunch on the beach a Pied Oyster Catcher was sitting on two eggs. On the way home we stopped at the Camp Creek Nature Reserve near Taranna and enjoyed wandering through an attractive piece of rain forest.

It was a very enjoyable and varied weekend. I am sure many other members would have enjoyed the trip.

Orchid list: Saltwater River and Lime Bay track to lagoon, 04/11/00.

Acianthus pusillis (finished)

Caladenia atrata

C. gracilis

Caleana major (immature)

Chiloglottis grammata

Chiloglottis sp. (leaves only)

Cyrtostylus robusta (leaves only)

Dipodium roseum (immature)

Diuris sulphurea

Gastrodia sesamoides

Glossodia major

Prasophyllum sp. (seed pod stage)

Pterostylus nutans

P. plumosa

Thelymitra ixioides

T. juncifolia

T. pauciflora

T. rubra

Orchid list: Fortescue Bay and Cape Pillar Track, 05/11/00.

Caladenia fuscata

Pterostylus nutans

Orchid list: Taranna Forest Walk, 05/11/00.