

Bulletin

Quarterly Bulletin No. 387 July 2022

<https://tasfieldnats.org.au>

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we study natural history.

Easter Camp 2022

Informal Excursion to Montezuma Falls

Thursday 14th April, 2022

A (very small) group of three Field Nats headed off to Montezuma Falls for a pre-Easter camp excursion.



Montezuma Falls
Photo: Lynne Maher

Departing the accommodation at Tullah Lakeside Lodge we proceeded via the road over Mt Black, noting the somewhat untidy clearing of the roadside – whether for visibility improvement or with intent to widen the road remains to be seen.

Heading up the Williamsford Road, we noted side roads and resisted the temptation for exploration, which was just as well, because our interests on the track filled our day quite well.

The trailhead was well signposted, and the track follows the North-East Dundas Tramway that transported the mining products from the Montezuma Silver Mining Company in times long gone. In sections, the sleepers from the narrow gauge (2') railway were evident, and in one gully the remains of the railway bridge hosted a most attractive community of bryophytes, ferns, some small members of the Liliaceae which were also quite common throughout the forest, and small woody seedlings taking hold. A little evidence of past mining activity was evident – a single adit close to the falls and signs advising that because of contamination (from mining activities) the water in creeks was not suitable for drinking.



Montezuma walking track
Photo: Lynne Maher

Being relatively flat, wide and with few trip hazards, we had plenty of time to enjoy the walk and admire the gloriously scenic forest. We noted how tall, slender and numerous the myrtle, *Nothofagus cunninghamii*, were, which, along with Sassafras (*Atherosperma moschatum*), Leatherwood (*Eucryphia lucida*), and Tree Ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*), dominated the forest. An interpretation sign informed us that the forest represented a little over 100 years of regrowth, as all forest had been cleared on both sides of the railway line to provide timber for construction and to stoke the furnaces in Zeehan.

Our intent to not spend time photographing on the walk to the falls failed dismally, as fungi provided a delightful distraction. While the diversity may have been limited due to reduced rainfall on the west coast in recent months, there was still an interesting range of species. *Russula sp* was present in purple and red, a variety of *Mycena sp*, and a small patch of what I thought to be *Hypholoma brunneum*, with its distinctive pattern around the margin. We found a patch of something that looked rather like the ghost fungus *Omphalotus nidiformis* but did not seem quite right for it. Eddie subsequently confirmed with Genevieve Gates that it is *Leucocybe aff. connata* syn. *Lyophyllum aff. Connatum*. There were many more species!



Hypholoma brunneum (Left) & *Mycena sp* (Right)
Photo: Lynne Maher

A patch of the world's tallest moss, *Dawsonia superba*, was also admired and photographed.



Dawsonia superba
Photo: Lynne Maher

We arrived at the falls and ventured across the recently repaired suspension bridge – an activity not for those faint of heart or with a fear of heights. While some of us were comfortable enough to make the crossing, only one chose to pause for photographs mid span. A track beside the bridge led to a viewing platform and a suitable spot for lunch – a spot we only needed to share with one other visitor despite the 3-4 dozen other walkers we saw on the track – mostly passing us as we engaged in our botanical and mycological photography.



Suspension Bridge
Photo: Lynne Maher

Montezuma Falls may be Tasmania's tallest waterfall, or is at least one of the tallest, and is classified as a horsetail waterfall. The creek the fall is on is a tributary to the Pieman River. Those basic facts aside, it is a stunning waterfall and well worth the time to walk there. We returned via the same route, at a pace similar to before, with many distractions, but those who might like a longer walk, and who have the capacity to organise a car shuffle, might like to continue the walk to Melba Flats, which follows a four-wheel drive track – one of a fairly challenging nature when I last travelled that route 15 years ago.

Lynne Maher

TFNC Easter Camp – Day 1 -Mt Farrell

Friday 15th April 2022

Following a liaison with the group at the Tullah Lakeside Lodge, we started the first official day of the Tullah TFNC easter excursion and went to the Mount Farrell Track in Tullah. The morning's heavy rain finished just in time. The habitat along the walk consisted of the sub-alpine eucalyptus forest. The area

had once been a site of mining and logging activity, which was evident somewhat by the intrusion of invasive plants such as blackberry and European holly.



Pedicamista sp. "Chisholm"
Photo: Bruno Bell

We began the trek up Mount Farrell at around 2.30 and about 20 minutes into the walk a few of us stopped along the track to have lunch. We generally all walked at different paces, and some people were only there for a short time, while others stayed on until it got dark.



Australoplana sp.
Photo: Bruno Bell

Most of the group had departed by about 4.30. Some made it as far as a flat section of heathy button grass. Low cloud meant we couldn't make out the top of Mt Farrell, but it lifted high enough for us to see most of the way up.

Bruno Bell



Gadoropa gadensis (lhs) and *Oreomava johnstoni* (rhs)
Photo: Bruno Bell

TFNC Easter Camp– Day 2 - West Coast Geology - Lake Plimsoll and surrounds

Saturday morning 16th April 2022

The aim of the morning excursion was to stop at a few geologically significant points in the area, at which Keith Corbett would tell us about some of the geology of the West Coast.

We set out from Tullah Lodge at 9:30am, a convoy of nine cars led by Keith and Syb, wending our way down Anthony Road to Lake Plimsoll. Evidence of the dry summer was apparent with frequent sightings of dead myrtle trees on the steep slopes alongside the road. Our first stop at the northern viewpoint to the lake was short as the valley was shrouded in mist and Lake Plimsoll was not to be seen. Luckily, a short drive further south and the mist had lifted sufficiently to reveal a geological history going back over 500 million years.



Conglomerate erratic at Cameron Goss Memorial, Howards Rd., showing the pebbles and small rocks bound in the rock and the pinkish hue:
Photograph Peter Crofts

The sequence of geological events started with the formation of the quartzite mountains, such as the

nearby Sticht Range and further east Frenchman’s Cap and Federation Peak. Quartzite is metamorphized sandstone which was formed in a subduction zone during tectonic plate activity. However, part of the crust was able to “pop back out” due to its “buoyancy” (the magnitude of these buoyant forces is hard to imagine!).

This tectonic activity also caused volcanism to the west, and subsequent deposition of vast layers of lava and associated volcanic material (the Mt Read Volcanics).

As the quartzite mountains eroded, debris of quartzite sand and pebbles and larger rocks were washed down by rivers, unimpeded by any vegetation (the first land plants did not emerge until around 410 million years ago), forming the material for the West Coast conglomerate rock. Iron oxide minerals eroded from the Mt Read Volcanics during the deposition of the sand and pebbles gave the distinctive pinkish hue to the conglomerate. Subsequent folding and tilting (about 390 million years ago) and we see the result as the Owen Conglomerate of the West Coast Range.

Across the lake on the far slopes of the glaciated valley we could see many large conglomerate boulder erratics left scattered after the most recent ice age (about 40,000 to 15,000 years ago).



Erratics near Lake Plimsoll –
Photograph: Peter Crofts

At our stops, the eyes of a number of Field Nats wandered away from our speaker back to the present day and made observations of a number of organisms not existing when the mountains surrounding us were formed – a *Paropsisterna* (leaf beetle), several species of ferns and a very orderly array of possibly *Uraba lugens* (Gum Leaf Skeletonizer moth) eggs. And from one very keen-eyed observer amongst us, “heaps of these little punctids found under numerous wood debris on the side of the road” (*Gratilaoma* - Dot Snails).



Uraba lugens (Gum Leaf Skeletonizer) eggs –
Photograph: Kristi Ellingsen

Thanks to Keith Corbett for the informative journey back in time – and also for writing such a clear book “Child of Gondwana – The geological making of Tasmania” that could be used as a reference for this article.

Peter Crofts



A “Dot” Snail – *Gratilaoma* sp.
Photograph: Bruno Bell

TFNC Easter Camp – Day 2 – The confluence, Newall Creek & Mt Jukes Mine

16th April 2022 (post Queenstown)

After a brief rest stop in Queenstown, we re-joined the convoy and headed south along the Mount Jukes Road. About 5km along the road, there is a white metal sculpture on the right-hand side of the road, indicating the start of the ‘informal’ track (i.e. not maintained by Parks & Wildlife) to The Confluence. The Confluence is

the junction between the clear, dark, tannin-stained water of the King River flowing from the Crotty Dam and the opaque, yellow/orange, sediment-laden waters of the Queen River flowing from the mine workings in Queenstown. Keith Corbett informed us that clean-up of the sediment from the Queen River and all the way down to Macquarie Harbour is an on-going problem which would be very difficult & expensive to deal with.



View of The Confluence through the rainforest, showing the mixing of the waters. Note the drooping fronds of a Huon pine on the right-hand side.
Photo: Keith Martin-Smith.

On our walk through the forest, Keith Corbett showed us the remains of trees from significant bushfires and described the classification of the forest types based on the soil geology, which in turn influences species diversity. The forests tend to have fewer species on better soils compared to poorer soils.

Along The Confluence track, particularly near the rivers, there were a number of Huon pines (*Lagarostrobos franklinii*) of various ages. Location and extraction of this valuable resource was the original reason for exploration of much of the West Coast.



Pixie cap, *Mycena interrupta*.
Photo: Peter Crofts.

Our second stop took us only a few hundred metres down the road to Newall Creek and historic gold mine of Harris' Reward. This area contains alluvial gold deposited in depressions of former water courses and was worked from the 1880s until about 1905 with about 1.5kg of gold removed in total (doesn't sound very much, does it?) A brief walk through the forest took us to the evidence of the operation including shafts and trenches and the remains of a pit for a waterwheel, which provided power for the stamp presses needed to crush the quartzite gold-bearing ore.

The closed canopy of the forest meant that the light levels at ground level were very low and hence there was little understory. However, there were still lots of colourful fungi and some associated invertebrates including gastropods and arachnids.

At time of writing, at the two sites, 145 observations representing more than 85 species have been uploaded to iNaturalist, many of the observations for this walk were of typical West Coast rainforest species including many fungi and ferns.



Slug *Cystopelta bicolor*.
Photo: Keith Martin-Smith.

Our final stop for the day was another 4km or so down the Mount Jukes Road where we stopped to explore the adits of the Jukes Proprietary mine, a small copper and gold mine dug into the side of Mount Jukes. Head torches firmly secured we made our way into the mountainside, marvelling at the toughness of those who hewed the rock to extract the minerals inside. Water running through the rock has leached various copper minerals which have been redeposited as streaks of green malachite or blue azurite copper carbonate on the walls of the tunnels. The floor of the tunnel still has the rails upon which the ore carts would be loaded and moved out of the mine. Deep into the mine, Keith had us turn off our torches so that we could experience total pitch darkness without any form of illumination! Despite the inhospitable terrain, there were quite a number of large cave crickets.



Cave crickets, family Rhabdophoridae.
Photo: Keith Martin-Smith.

All-in-all, a fascinating series of locations, expertly brought to life by the erudition of Keith Corbett.

Keith Martin-Smith.

Easter Camp – Day 3 - Vale of Belvior

17th April 2022

Keith and Sib knew what they were in for, but I don't think a Sunday afternoon trying to herd a bunch of Field Naturalists along a previously marked route went entirely to plan. However, even though we all scattered in different directions and ended up everywhere except where we were 'meant' to be going, it turned out to be the perfect end to a magical weekend. When there were enough of us around, Keith gave us some wonderful knowledge of the area, including the history of how it was formed and the marvelous floral delights which can be found throughout. Unfortunately, it wasn't the right time of year to witness the flowering of the *Xerochrysum*, which is rumoured to be the most spectacular sight! A trip back later in the year may be on the cards...

Although we weren't there at peak flowering time, the alpine grasslands and bordering rainforests are a sight to behold even on a cold autumn day. The undulating landscape is full of sinkholes, small creek lines and wombat burrows aplenty. Quite a few of us got rather side-tracked poking about within the scattered depressions in the beautiful open rainforest, with lots of ferns to be found. There were also remnants of a time where prospectors used to roam the area fossicking for gold, with a large trench remaining which had filled up with ferns and other soggy loving plants. It must have been hard, cold and leechy work searching for gold around this area!

The Vale is managed by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy, who do all they can to ensure that the rainforest and alpine grasslands are protected and cared for in such a way to preserve the diversity it holds. Even after just spending a few hours there, on an autumn day, you can understand and appreciate the passion both Keith and Sib have for the area.

Fiona Walsh

Excursion to Native Grassland on Queens Domain

Saturday May 8th 2022

The May excursion to the Queens Domain was guided by Professor Jamie Kirkpatrick who has undertaken extensive studies of Tasmania's native grasslands and showed some key features of the Queens Domain grasslands to 21 Field Naturalists.



Field Nats on Queens domain.
Photo: Eddie Gall

Jamie gave an introductory talk at the summit of the Domain. He emphasised the importance of history to these grasslands. Early paintings show this area and much of the nearby Derwent Valley as extensive open grasslands with occasional trees of *Eucalyptus viminalis* (white gum) and *Allocasuarina verticillata* (drooping sheoak). Macropod grazing and traditional fire management were essential in maintaining the grassland. With colonisation, many native animals were eliminated, and the area was grazed with sheep and cattle. This, together with the introduced rabbit, drastically changed the vegetation structure. In recent decades, the area has been managed to recreate the native grassland. Macropods and other native animals have now returned to the area.

Initially, Jamie showed us a thicket of *A. verticillata*. Without native grazing or fire, the area would be covered with these and the species diversity underneath the dense canopy and its mat of fallen branchlets would be greatly reduced. The Hobart City Council and a Landcare group manage the area with patchwork burning and thinning to maintain the grassland.

Important grass species include *Poa spp.*, *Austrostipa spp.*, and *Themeda triandra*. A particularly interesting species was *Austrostipa stuposa*, the corkscrew spear grass. As it dries off towards the end of the season, the stem sometimes breaks down into long, twisted fibres forming a bundle called a stupe, hence the specific name - *A. stuposa*. Apparently, other species of *Austrostipa* can also form stupes but to a lesser extent than *A. stuposa*.



Stupe of *Austrostipa stuposa*
Photo: Lynne Maher

The pastures of the northern slopes were ploughed up and *T. triandra* (kangaroo grass) seed from Western Australia was planted. This is slowly spreading at the rate of about 40 meters per decade. Patches of bare ground covered by cryptic species such as moss, thin, rocky soil, and, ironically, some human disturbances create opportunities for uncommon herbs and orchids and for establishing seedlings of woody species.

Another fascinating location Jamie showed us was a fenced off quarry above Cleary's Gates. The area has not been burnt or otherwise managed in at least 40 years. The area has now become dominated by a closed canopy of *Dodonea viscosa* and *A. verticillata*. This effectively forms a "dry rainforest" that perpetuates itself without the need for external factors such as fire.

A species list from the excursion is available from iNaturalist <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tas-field-nats-2022-may-queens-domain>.

Ruth Bucher and Eddie Gall

Excursion to Betsy Island

Sunday 5th June 2022

The last time the TFNC set foot on the shores of Betsy Island was in 1951. Hence, another visit was well overdue. Annabel has kindly found the report from so long ago. We wondered, how much has changed and how much is the same?

Betsy Island is the largest of a group of three islands and lies 1.3 km south of Hope Beach, on the South Arm, in Storm Bay. The Moumairremener people called it teemiteletta and often visited it in the past to collect shellfish, muttonbirds and penguin eggs.

In the late 1820s a Mr King was interested in the fur trade with China and introduced silver-haired rabbits to the island in. It is believed that by 1928 there were 30,000 rabbits on the island destined to be skinned and sent to China. It was a profitable business.

Lady Jane Franklin bought the island in the 1840s and had plans for a botanical garden; however, this did not come about. Eventually she donated it to the people of Tasmania. It is now a nature reserve and permission must be sought from the Parks & Wildlife Service before venturing there, outside the penguin and shearwater breeding season.

The island is seldom visited by any members of the public and if it hadn't been for our friendly Parks ranger, Ian Marmion, who accompanied our party, we couldn't have got there either. As the island is home to major rookeries of short-tailed shearwaters and little penguins, he was there to help us avoid disappearing down a mutton bird hole like Alice did in Alice in Wonderland!



Field Naturalists on way to Betsy Is
Photo: John Rosendale

This early Sunday we were welcomed on board the Odalisque II at the Prince of Wales Bay marina by the skipper, Matt, and his first mate, Tony. The 28 passengers were excited and the light showers didn't dampen anyone's spirit as we departed and sailed down the River Derwent towards Betsy Island. We were given free rein of the coffee machine on the Odalisque, which was well appreciated by all, and we became skilled users of it very quickly. The showers rapidly cleared leaving us with an overcast but dry day and a smooth sailing.

The Odalisque dropped anchor off the northern shore of Betsy Island. The first eight passengers donned life vests and piled into the small runabout. As they approached the shore they were being watched anxiously by those still on the ship as they tried to find a suitable landing site on the cobble beach. Eventually a suitable place was found just west of a large mass of rock bisecting the beach. Much to everybody's relief, most of the group managed to step off the dinghy without getting their feet wet. The rest of the party followed in two further loads and landed without further ado.



Field Naturalists in action - Betsy Is
Photo: John Rosendale

Meanwhile, we observed three wedge-tailed eagles circling over the island. White-bellied sea-eagles were also seen, as was a peregrine falcon. By the time the third party had landed it was 12.30 pm and time for a quick lunch as we were eager to explore the island. We walked east along the beach and scrambled around the rock. We found the desiccated remains of two little

penguins on the beach and while rock-hopping along collected some rubbish to be taken off the island.

We made our way up the track on the steep slope behind the beach, careful to avoid stepping into the nesting burrows, albeit empty ones, honeycombing the soft humic soil. Google Maps had indicated a bare, harsh and rocky landscape with a dusting of trees but the slope here was quite green, covered mainly with ice-plant (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) and the introduced Cape Leeuwin wattle (*Paraserianthes lophantha*). We headed further up into a dry sclerophyll forest dominated by *Eucalyptus globulus* and *E. viminalis* with very small patches of she-oak.

There was evidence of rabbits, with at least one sighting of a live black rabbit and plenty of rabbit scats. Photos were taken of two carcasses which seemed to have black hair.

Flocks of silvereyes were seen zipping about the place during the day.



Tetragonia implexicoma
.Photo: Fiona Walsh

Unfortunately, we had only 2 hours on the island, but a lot of investigation was done in that time. Many species, especially invertebrates, had not been previously recorded on the island and are included in the appended list on page 14.

We reluctantly made our way back to the beach landing point and started embarking to be shuttled back to the Odalisque at 2.30 pm. On our return sailing, our skipper decided to give us that little bit extra by circumnavigating the southern and western shores of the island, which allowed us to see the two much smaller islands in the Betsey Island group. This was

much appreciated. By the time we passed the Iron Pot, the late afternoon light made it a very picturesque subject. A large flock of what looked like black-faced cormorants had settled in to roost on the shore below the lighthouse. We returned to the marina just after nightfall.



Cranberry Heath *Styphelia humifusa*
Photo Fiona Walsh

Everybody was very pleased to be part of this historic expedition and it is hoped there will be more visits to Betsey Island in the future as there is much to be discovered there.

In total, there were 209 observations of 108 species recorded on iNaturalist. Mark Wapstra and Andrew North collected specimens of the plant species they found and will lodge them at the Tasmanian Herbarium. From there, there will be an electronic record placed on the Natural Values Atlas.

John Rosendale and Sabine Borgis

Meeting presentations –

Sue Robinson: Cat Eradication Update – 5th May 2022

Sue Robinson gave an update about feral cat (*Felis catus*) eradication on Tasmania's offshore islands. Sue works for the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Cats were introduced to many of Tasmania's islands, sometimes as pets of lighthouse keepers or whalers and sometimes to keep populations of feral rats and mice under control. They are a major predator of

seabird colonies and are known to have significant impact.

Elimination is usually achieved using a variety of methods such as shooting, bating, and trapping. A recent innovation which tests have shown to have potential use is the Australian produced Felixer <https://thylation.com/felixer-faqs/>. Once set up, it uses laser beams to correctly identify cats from other native animals and squirts them with a poison. When the cats preen, they ingest the poison.



Felixer cat trap.
Photo: Thylation.com

Most elimination measures are undertaken in winter and early spring. This is because most of the sea birds have migrated, so it causes minimal disruption to the bird colonies, and, because the cats are hungry, they are more likely to take baits. As well, cat litters are unlikely at that time of year.

Cats have been eliminated on several of Tasmania's offshore islands, including Tasman, Wedge, and Betsey. Sue described the measures recently undertaken on Robbins Island.

Assessing the success of eradication is by follow-up surveys using sightings and cameras as well as looking for footprints and scats.

Sue outlined the necessary factors for successful cat eradication and also talked about success in Lord Howe Island, Christmas Island and Guadeloupe.

Eddie Gall

Ian Jenkinson - Maintaining Grassy Woodland threatened with She Oak Invasion – 2nd June 2022

Ian Jenkinson is an Honours student with Jamie Kirkpatrick (Distinguished Professor, Geography, Planning, and Spatial Sciences, UTAS). Professor Kirkpatrick has conducted 50 years of research on Hobart's 'The Domain' grasslands - Ian Jenkinson spoke about the Indigenous and early European history of The Domain and the effects on its natural vegetation. In recent years, a number of methods have been tested with Hobart City Council for maintaining the grassy Woodland complete with its native grasslands (including *Themeda*, *Austrostipa* and *Rytidosperma* species) in order to prevent the take-over by the more dominant She Oak (*Allocasuarina*) vegetation. It has been determined that is best to burn every 4-6 years to maximise grass cover, in combination with spraying and thinning of the She Oaks. The current paucity of the other native flora in the Domain grasslands. was noted in discussion after the talk.



The Domain *Themeda triandra* grasslands
Photo: Annabel Carle

Don Knowler - Michael Sharland (1899-1987) - 6th July 2022

Don Knowler - well known ornithologist and author of the weekly column in the 'Sunday Tasmanian' - spoke to the Club about our past President Michael Sharland (1899-1987). Michael Sharland was a journalist by profession, writing under the pseudonym of 'Peregrine', firstly in 'The Illustrated Tasmanian Mail' and continuing in Saturday's Mercury for 60 years. This is still considered to be a record for a journalist writing a wild-life column. In those 60 years, there were only

three weeks when the column was not published - when the articles written in Papua New Guinea, where he was serving in the Australian Paratroop Battalion during WWII, and posted home to his wife for her to transcribe - were lost enroute due to enemy action!

Michael Sharland was on and off the TFNC committee for over 50 years between 1921 and 1972 serving in that time as President, Vice President, Secretary and editor of the Tasmanian Naturalist.



Michael Sharland and Marjorie Wall (nee Scott).
Photo: Alan Hewer

He was an author of eleven books, three of which are in our own TFNC library. These are 'Tasmanian Wildlife' (1962) 'A Territory of Birds' (1964) and 'A Pocketful of Nature' (1971.) In addition, the Club holds three scrapbooks of 'Peregrine' articles which were collected over the years by Marjorie Wall *nee* Scott, one of our Life Members. These articles were only recently collated and pasted into the scrapbooks by Fiona Gumboots Walsh and her daughter Erika. These books may be borrowed upon request from the Librarian, Kevin Bonham.

Michael's excellent obituary written by Marjorie's husband, Len Wall (another past President and Life

Member) may be found in our own Tasmanian Naturalist archives:

<https://www.tasfielddnats.org.au/naturalist/> Search for 1987 October pp7-8

It should also be noted that Len Wall succeeded Michael writing the Bird column in 'The Mercury.'

Annabel Carle

Vale Priscilla Park OAM 1929-2022

Originally from South Africa, Priscilla Park trained as a physiotherapist who developed a passion for birds, particularly shore birds. Over 40 years she came to be considered an authority on many aspects of Tasmanian birds and their environment. She published in scientific journals and supervised higher degrees.



In 1971, Priscilla helped found the Bird Observers' Association of Tasmania, which is now called Birds Tasmania, and served in the Executive and Conservation Committees for many years.

She worked to preserve coastal habitats, one of which, Mortimer Bay Reserve, has an entrance named in her honour.

For her efforts, in 2007 Priscilla received a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the environment.

For decades, Priscilla was an active member of TFNC and in 2016 was awarded life membership.

She will be remembered as a lovely person who contributed much to the birding community and our knowledge of Tasmanian birds.

More background and a short video of her being presented her OAM is available from https://www.communities.tas.gov.au/csr/programs-and-services/tasmanian_honour_roll_of_women/inductees/2009/park_priscilla_oam?fbclid=IwAR1rLkcT6SCrrTla0NvS8TbIfhb0OCiW1DxsWqkGGIOHA5bRwzspuuZWqr0.

Correction

The previous Bulletin reported that in future we would record all our speakers talks and make the link available on our website. Speakers talks will ONLY be recorded if a member specifically request it. To do this please email the TFNC President at president@tasfieldnats.org.au

A Field Guide to Tasmanian Fungi 2nd edition by Genevieve Gates and David Ratkowsky

In the April Bulletin we announced there would NOT be a further reprint of this fungi book! Perhaps we should have never said never! As you will have read in one of the Presidents emails it was decided in conjunction with the authors that the market would after all be able to sell a further reprint of 1000 copies of this book. The Club thanks both the Authors for agreeing to this reprint and to Anna McEldowney our book sales person who not only liaises with the authors to get the book reprinted, she is also responsible for the distribution of these books as well as our other publications to bookshops and across the state and interstate. As she says 'its good upper body exercise'!

iNaturalist and TFNC

TFNC's iNaturalist records continue to expand and may be accessed at this link <https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/projects/tasmanian-field-naturalists-club-tfnc-2022>

It's worth having a look at what has been observed. If you think you are able to reliably identify any of the observations, please do so!

We remind you of our member Clare Hawkins' guide how to use iNaturalist which she called 'iNaturalist for the Dubious. A step-by-step guide.' This may be found on the Citizen Science section of our website at <https://tasfieldnats.org.au/data/documents/iNat-for-Field-Nats-Sept20.pdf>

Just a personal tip from a regular user who rarely takes iPhone photos, but uses her camera and posts them later on iNaturalist, that she finds the laptop version of iNaturalist is more user friendly/accessible and much more informative than just using the mobile phone iNaturalist applications.

2022 edition of the Tasmanian Naturalist. This is the almost final call for papers for this year's edition. The deadline for the submission of papers is **31st. August 2022.**

Information for authors may be found on our website at: <https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/naturalist/>

Community Rainbow Lorikeet trapping program

In Tasmania Rainbow Lorikeets are classed as an invasive species, they are not protected, and landowners are able to safely and humanely destroy them.



Rainbow lorikeet
Photo: Mick Brown

The Environmental and Invasive Biosecurity Branch of NRE have a community Rainbow Lorikeet trapping program running in the Kingston and Hobart areas and are in the process of forming a Community Action Network to assist them in this work. A bird trap is placed near a feeder and any Rainbow Lorikeets when they are caught are euthanised. It is hoped that the same program can be set up on the north of the state, when they can get more traps made. Trapping occurs in autumn/winter months when the birds are most likely to come to bird feeding table.



Rainbow lorikeet flock at Kingston
Photo Mick Brown

Since 2011, 1184 birds have been removed and since 2017 500 birds have been removed just from the Kingston area.

How can you help?

Biosecurity is asking if any of our members know of any locations where Rainbow Lorikeets *frequently feed* AND that the landowners are happy to work in a trapping program, if so please contact:

Toni Furlonge, Environmental and Invasive Biosecurity Program Co-ordinator (NRE) either by **mobile**: 0439 446 738 or email: toni.furlonge@nre.tas.gov.au

Or Mark Holdsworth at Tasmanian Bird Life at tasmania@birdlife.org.au

Helpful information for them includes numbers, location, activity (what are they feeding on, were they seen at a bird feeder, flying or nesting? Etc)

The NRE Fact sheet can be found at:

https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/ISB_Rainbow-Lorikeets_Factsheet_Version1.0_130225.pdf



Hybrids between rainbow and musk lorikeets (Taroona). Photo: Mick Brown

Betsey Island terrestrial species not recorded on Natural Values Assets

This list only includes species identified to genus level and recorded by TFNC on iNaturalist. There were many other species identified only down to family level. All the species recorded can be found on iNaturalist <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tas-field-nats-2022-june-betsey-is> .

Land gastropods

Magilaoma sp. "Tasmania"

Insects

Docalis funerosus (beetle)

[*Camponotus consobrinus*](#) (banded sugar ant)

Microdes villosata (moth)

[*Choerocoris paqanus*](#) (red jewel bug)

[*Phaulacridium vittatum*](#) (wingless grasshopper)

[*Doratifera oxleyi*](#) (painted cup moth)

Calliphora sp. (fly)

[*Misophrice*](#) sp. (weevil)

Xynotropis sp. (beetle)

[*Colobopsis gasseri*](#) (ant)

[*Rhytidoponera tasmaniensis*](#) (ant)

Ampagia sp. (weevil)

[*Cryptochetum*](#) sp. (fly)

Ligia australiensis (Australian marine slater)

[*Tetraconomenes*](#) sp. (beetle)

[*Teropalpus*](#) sp. (beetle)

Cafius catenatus (beetle)

[*Anthela ocellata*](#) Eyespot (antherid moth)

Spiders

[*Delena cancerides*](#) (huntsman spider)

[*Opisthoncus nigrofemoratus*](#) (jumping spider)

[*Eriophora pustulosa*](#) (knobbed orbweaver)

[*Cymbacha*](#) sp. (spider)

Prostheclina amplior (large prostheclina spider)

Other arthropods

Tasmaniosoma sp. (millipede)

Henicops maculatus (centipede)

Rastriopes sp. (Collembola)

[*Machiloides hickmani*](#) (bristletail)

Vertebrates

[*Carinascincus ocellatus*](#) (ocellated skink)

Fungi

Grifola [*colensoi*](#)

[*Clitocybe semiocculta*](#)

[*Fomitiporia robusta*](#) (robust bracket)

Oudemansiella gigaspora

Lichens

[*Xanthoria calcicola*](#)

[*Teloschistes chrysophthalmus*](#) (goldeneye lichen)

Moss

Barbula sp.

Tortula sp.

Riccia sp.

Ferns

Microsorium pustulatum (kangaroo fern)

Monocotyledons

Pterostylis alata (striped greenhood)

Pterostylis williamsonii (brown lip greenhood)

Distichlis distichophylla (australian salt-grass)

Lepidosperma concavum (sand swordedge)

Lepidosperma laterale (variable swordedge)

Poa labillardierei var. *labillardierei* (silver tussockgrass)

Anthosachne scabra (rough wheatgrass)

Distichlis distichophylla (australian saltgrass)

Lachnagrostis aemula (tumbling blowgrass)

[*Dianella brevicaulis*](#) (shortstem flaxlily)

Dianella tasmanica (forest flaxlily)

Dicotyledons

[*Styphelia humifusa*](#) (cranberry heath)

[*Dichondra repens*](#) (kidney weed)

Urtica urens (stinging nettle)

[*Rumex brownii*](#) (slender dock)

[*Acacia longifolia* subsp. *sophorae*](#) (coast wattle)
[*Lysimachia arvensis*](#) (scarlet pimpernel)
Einadia nutans (climbing saltbush)
Wahlenbergia gracilis (sprawling bluebell)
Apium prostratum subsp. *prostratum* var. *filiforme* (slender sea-celery)
Lycium ferocissimum (african boxthorn)
Lysimachia arvensis (scarlet pimpernel)
Oxalis sp. (oxalis – native)
Sonchus asper (prickly sowthistle)
Carduus pycnocephalus (slender thistle)
Crassula sieberiana (rock stonecrop)
Stellaria pallida (lesser chickweed)
Cirsium vulgare (spear thistle)
Bedfordia salicina (tasmanian blanketleaf)

Bedfordia linearis subsp. *oblongifolia* (blunt blanketleaf)
Galium australe (tangled bedstraw)
Geranium potentilloides (mountain cranesbill)
Brachyscome aculeata (hill daisy)
Exocarpos cupressiformis (native cherry)
Cerastium sp. (chickweed)
Hypochaeris sp. (catsear)
Cardamine sp. (bittercress – native)
Leontodon sp. (hawkbit)
Verbascum thapsus subsp. *thapsus* (great mullein)
Lepidium sp. (peppercress – native)
Pelargonium australe (southern storksbill)