

Wildcare Friends of OBP

Annual General Meeting, Barbara Willson's, 15 Hunter St, Hobart, 17th September 2017

Meeting opened at 6.30 pm

**Present:** Barbara Willson, Mark Holdsworth, Debbie Searle, Will Oliver, Michael and Sally Simco, Deborah Taylor, Shannon Troy, Peter and Robyn Marmion, Vicky Murfin, Aase Brown, Phyll and Terry Smithurst, Marianne Gee, Dee Stojanovic, Suyanti Winoto-Lewin.

**Apologies:** Craig Searle, Rob Banfield, Treen French, Helen Pithie, Kevin Perkins, Sue Robinson, Marg Cranney, Margaret Waller, Helen and Mick Statham, Isabelle Bond.

**President's report:** (Mark) Friends of OBP have continued to assist DPIPWE to help the OBPs with limited funds. The struggle will continue. Mark is standing down as President. Debbie thanked him sincerely for the passion, enthusiasm and knowledge he has brought to the role and presented him with a gift on behalf of friends of OBP.

**Treasurer's report:** (Will) OBP General account balance, \$2,498.81. OBP gift fund balance, \$0. Will would like to acknowledge the great support work done by Carol Pacey.

**Election of Office Bearers:**

Chair: Debbie Searle nominated by Will Oliver, seconded by Peter Marmion. Elected unopposed.

Treasurer: Will Oliver nominated by Mark, seconded by Michael. Elected unopposed.

Meeting closed at 6.43 pm

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**Present:** Barbara Willson, Mark Holdsworth, Debbie Searle, Will Oliver, Michael and Sally Simco, Deborah Taylor, Shannon Troy, Peter and Robyn Marmion, Vicky Murfin, Aase Brown, Phyll and Terry Smithurst, Marianne Gee, Dee Stojanovic, Suyanti Winoto-Lewin.

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**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:** the group resolved that they were an accurate record.

**Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

Mark will progress the purchase of a new bike or bikes with sponsorship from Roaring Forties. Treen French is repairing the old ones if possible.

An AED is being purchased with assistance from Par Avion, Friends of Melaleuca, Parks and Wildlife, Roaring Forties. It will be put in place at the Troedel Shelter. Parks will maintain it.

Mark is progressing an NBN connection at the Willson house.

The ANU team will dig a new pit for the outside toilet at the Willson house.

Gas for the Willson house will come in on a boat in November, financed by ANU.

Sally will progress an article for Wildtimes and updating the Wildcare website.

When PWS caretakers are in place, OBP vollies will be able to pass on an 'All's Well' message via the daily scheduled call-in to Maatsuyker.

Ian Marmion will pass on WIFI access codes from Par Avion to Shannon and Dee to pass on to volunteers and field staff.

PWS caretakers will take on the role of cleaning the Museum.

PWS are planning to purchase hand held radios to allow communication with OBP vollies across the site.

**General Business:**

Volunteers will be at Melaleuca from 26th September 2017 to the 8th of May 2018. Same-day changeovers of volunteers will ease the overnight accommodation pressure at Melaleuca.

Mark will continue to be the Friends of OBP rep who liaises with Barbara re volunteer use of the Willson house.

The OBP Recovery team is being reconfigured. Debbie will progress us having a rep on the team, a role Mark is happy to fill.

Friends of OBP have been invited by the Wildcare Board to apply for funding to the Wildcare Gift Fund Committee. The group resolved to apply for a new scope and volunteer transport costs.

2017/2018 season summary from Shannon and Dee. The prediction is that 5-6 females and 13-15 males will return from their annual migration. DPIPWE are planning the first release, of females only, in mid October and possible second and third releases. Beak and feather disease screening has resulted in no infected birds being found - a great result. A donation from the Wisconsin Zoo has enabled the purchase of a portable incubator to transport fertile eggs from the captive population to wild nests if needed.

The ANU Difficult Birds team will have 2 people on site for part of the season. ANU have purchased an additional \$20,000 worth of cameras for nest monitoring. Dee and Shannon will fly in and out with eggs during December. Nestlings will be banded and measured during January. Captive juveniles will be released in February. Captive released adults will be recaptured in March, the males given assisted migration and the females returned to captivity. The soaked seed will be returned to a Verkon protocol and birds will be provided with pellets and mineral blocks at feed tables. The protocol for weighing used seed has been removed.

The Willson house has a new address, 1 South Coast Track, Melaleuca.

Peter will talk to Par Avion re the safe storage of soaked seed overnight if needed. Mark has a spare fridge which could be provided if needed for that purpose.

Debbie has OBP badges for sale for \$12 for 1, \$20 for 2, \$25 for 3.

We could apply for a \$2,000 internal grant from Wildcare if needed.

The next controlled burn at Melaleuca is planned W of the airstrip for Autumn 2018.

Barbara stressed the importance of new volunteers being trained in changing a gas bottle - Left hand thread means you turn R to loosen and L to tighten.

Andrew Crane from the DPIPWE OBP Management Group is working on a Memorandum of Understanding between DPIPWE and Friends of OBP on the roles and responsibilities of volunteers.

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm.