

## Tasmanian Community Foundation — a way to support **WILDCARE** forever.

**WILDCARE's** Chairperson and Vice Chairperson have had discussions with Scott Marshall from the Tasmanian Community Foundation about philanthropic assistance to **WILDCARE**. Community foundations are tax-exempt, private, philanthropic organisations that raise and manage a wide range of permanent endowment funds; in turn, these endowments generate a stream of revenues to support charitable activities within the geographic areas served by the Foundation.

Impressive aspects of the Tasmanian Community Foundation are:

- administrative fees payable to the Foundation are just 2% of the income generated by the funds,
- the fund is forever, in that the core funds are never spent, only the income generated by those funds,
- the Foundation is supported by Tasmanian Trustees Ltd

The **WILDCARE** Board of Management is currently in discussion with the Tasmanian Community Foundation with a view to establishing a named fund within the Tasmanian Community Foundation, meaning that **WILDCARE** would be available and promoted to donors and will-makers as a suitable organisation for targeted donations and bequests.

Donations made to the **WILDCARE** Fund through the Foundation would be held in perpetuity, with the income from the fund being managed by **WILDCARE** Inc. This is a very strategic approach to creating an on-going funding base for **WILDCARE**.

**WILDCARE**  
 membership  
 now due — See  
 renewal form  
 enclosed with  
 this issue.

In the meantime, you can direct donations or bequests through the Tasmanian Community Foundation to **WILDCARE** Inc. **In fact we are looking for someone to “start-up” the fund with a donation.**

So, are you thinking of writing or re-writing your Will? Why not talk to your solicitor about including a bequest to the Tasmanian Community Foundation directed to **WILDCARE**? Such a bequest will benefit **WILDCARE** forever.

Or, are you looking for a productive organisation to make a donation to for the protection of Tasmania's natural and cultural heritage, and Reserves? A donation to

**WILDCARE** through the Tasmanian Community Foundation will provide **WILDCARE** Inc with a permanent funding resource and assist us to continue to support voluntary work for Tasmania's natural and cultural environment into the future (and it's tax deductible).

### Your donation will last forever!

If you would like more information about the Tasmanian Community Foundation contact Tasmanian Community Foundation, Tasmanian Trustees Ltd, PO Box 367, Hobart 7001. Phone 6233 2859. Fax 6233 2896. Mobile 0417 335 972.

## New Projects Funded

The Board of Management recently approved three new projects for **WILDCARE** funding. **Keep your eyes open for call-ups later in the year...**

### The Mountain Orchestra

The Mountain Orchestra/**WILDCARE** Performance Project will be run as a partnership between the two organisations, with **WILDCARE** members being invited to join, to not only rehearse and perform as part of the orchestra, but to design and build suitable instruments for a performance at the Mountain Festival in March 2002, as Part of the UN International Year of the Mountains. Members will work under the guidance of professional instrument makers and music conductors. (see article elsewhere).

**WILDCARE** Funding approved — \$2000.

### Foreshore Rehabilitation — Lake St Clair

This work will rehabilitate and protect the foreshore of Lake St Clair, targeting severely eroded areas at Cynthia Bay and Frankland Beaches. Work will include laying jute matting and tree slash, seed collecting and seedling planting.

**WILDCARE** Funding approved — \$2500.

### KarstCAREs Cave Cleanup and Mapping

This project involves route marking, cave mapping and cave cleanup at Tailender Cave with work planned for other caves in the Mole Creek area. Funds will be used for the provision of suitable equipment for the volunteers to carry out the work. Equipment will remain the property of **WILDCARE**, stored at Mole Creek PWS Field Centre.

**WILDCARE** Funding approved — \$1989.

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## The Mountain Orchestra — *WILDCARE* Performance Project

Would you like to build a musical instrument, learn how to play it and then perform with an orchestra at The Mountain Festival? If so, then why not join in the Mountain Orchestra — *WILDCARE* Performance Project?

The Mountain Orchestra and *WILDCARE* have formed a partnership to undertake a performance project as part of the Mountain Festival in late March 2002. Mountain Orchestra is seeking new



The performance at The Springs Concert, April 2000. Photo Noeleen Robinson.

members to make some extra instruments, and will be running instrument-making workshops in late November 2001 and January 2002. When the instruments are made skill development workshops and rehearsals will culminate in a performance concert at the Mountain Festival in late March.

### The Mountain Orchestra

The Mountain Orchestra is a community orchestra that was established over the summer of 1999/00, inspired by the idea of giving Mount Wellington resonance through music. The Orchestra built their own instruments under the direction of composer Raffaele Marcellino and instrument-maker Strato Anagnostis. Many of these instruments are large and sculptural with strong visual appeal. They are unique, original, bizarre and huge — and a great deal of fun to play. The Orchestra performed at the Springs in April 2000 and at the Wooden Boats Festival and Hobart

Fringe Festival in February and March 2001. We have an established ongoing partnership with the Fern Tree Community Association. The Orchestra has a professional conductor, Jade Tinkler, and meets regularly to develop and practise original musical pieces that celebrate how we feel about Mount Wellington.

### The Mountain Festival

The Mountain Festival is an arts/environment festival held in conjunction with the United Nations International Year of Mountains and which draws its inspiration from Mount Wellington. The Festival will take place from 15th to 24th March 2002. Festival events will include performance and visual arts events. All will focus on aspects of the history or environment of Mount Wellington and the relationship of Mount Wellington to the surrounding urban communities. One of the core events will be a concert performed by the Mountain Orchestra.

### The Project

#### • Instrument-making workshops

Mountain Orchestra is extending a special invitation to *WILDCARE* members to participate in a series of instrument-making workshops, which will be led and supervised by professional instrument-makers, Strato Anagnostis and Julian Bush. Come along and make an instrument and then play it as part of Mountain

Finishing off a drum at the instrument-making workshop. Photo Chris Cooper.



Orchestra mentor – Greg Lewis – practices at the Fern Tree Community Centre. Photo Chris Cooper.

Orchestra! The exact dates and times of the workshops have not yet been finalised (at the time of going to press), however it is likely they will be held on 4 Saturdays (or possibly 8 half-days) in November, December and January at Ferntree and Strato's workshop at Bream Creek. Participation in the workshops will be free of charge.

#### • Skill development workshops

Don't worry if you've not had much previous musical experience. After we've made the instruments there will be 3 workshops to develop musical skills. Musicians who are experienced in teaching community groups will lead these workshops. The details of the workshops will be finalised in conjunction with the participants. We anticipate they will be held at Ferntree for up to half a day on 3 weekend days.





Trying out the "bobble-donk" at the instrument-making workshop. Photo Chris Cooper.

#### • Developing the music and rehearsals

Leading up to the performance there will be a series of rehearsals to develop and practise the musical pieces. These rehearsals will also allow us a chance to further develop our musical skills. Tom O'Kelly, internationally renowned percussionist and lecturer at the Tasmanian Conservatorium, will direct the musical development of the orchestra and oversee the integration of the new instruments with the existing orchestra instruments. The Orchestra's conductor, Jade Tinkler, will lead the rehearsals. Tom and Jade will work with Orchestra members to create exciting new original musical pieces. These rehearsals will be held at Ferntree for up to 4 hours every weekend for 8 weeks prior to the performance.

The skill development workshops and the subsequent rehearsals will be open to current Mountain Orchestra

Decorating the big log drum at the instrument-making workshop. Photo Chris Cooper.



members and to *WILDCARE* members who have made an instrument and/or who are committed to participating in the performance in late March 2002.

Mountain Orchestra is applying to Arts Tasmania and the Hobart City

Council to fund the involvement of the professional musicians. The Wellington Park Management Trust and the Fern Tree Community Association are giving in-kind support. As a project partner, *WILDCARE* has agreed to provide \$2000 to cover the materials for the instrument making, to fund the skills development workshops and to contribute to some administration expenses.

#### How to participate

As project partners, Mountain Orchestra is extending a special invitation to *WILDCARE* members to join in this project. It'll be a heap of fun, and is a creative way to promote the history, beauty and environment of Mount Wellington.

For further information and to register for the workshops, please contact Angie McGowan.

Phone 6233 2424 (w); 6224 8082 (h);  
E mail: <angiemcgowan@primus.com.au>.



Ray Marcellino and Strato Anagnostis play the triplehorn at The Springs Concert in April 2000. Photo Noelene Robinson.

## General Manager impressed with *WILDCARE* volunteers

In his recent travels around Parks & Wildlife Field Centers, Peter Williams, General Manager of the Parks and Wildlife Service, has encountered a number of *WILDCARE* volunteer projects that have impressed him.

These have included the launch of the Adopt-a-Track Guidelines, the

Maatsuyker Island volunteer program, the Badger Head walking track and others. Peter said, "It seems that wherever I go I encounter another example of an excellent *WILDCARE* project. *WILDCARE* volunteers are to be congratulated on their commitment and the strong partnerships they have built with [PWS] field staff'.

## Sponsorship working group begins working

At the *WILDCARE* Conference it was recommended by the membership that the Board of Management establish a sub-committee to develop guidelines about how we go about attracting sponsorship. This was extended by the Board of Management to include guidelines about how *WILDCARE* might provide sponsorship to events and organisations other than through the current project funding program.

Richard Hammond, Vice Chairperson, agreed to chair the group and its first meeting was held in August to confirm its operating brief and begin work on the guidelines.

Working group members are:

- Richard Hammond
- Alistair Scott
- Jo Field
- David Wools-Cobb
- Bill Forsyth
- Rodney Milner

The brief for the Working Group is:

- Current funding guidelines — assess suitability for granting sponsorship
- What type of “non-projects” do we want to sponsor?  
How do we determine suitability?  
What criteria should be used?
- From whom do we wish to accept sponsorship?  
Are there industry groupings that

should be excluded? (e.g. tobacco)

- What recognition levels are appropriate for sponsors?  
Review these in light of the current “Invitation to Sponsors”
- What mechanisms do we use in relation to in-kind sponsorship to *WILDCARE* projects?  
How are they valued and recognised?
- What mechanisms are required/appropriate for accepting donations and bequests?  
What recognition should be provided for donors/bequesters?  
What restrictions/exclusions for donors/bequesters?  
Tax breaks?  
What mechanisms are there?

Once draft guidelines have been produced, members will be given an opportunity to comment before the Board ratifies the results.

## Tasmanian National Parks Association — a new voice for the community

The Tasmanian National Parks Association (TNPA) is a non-profit, non-government organisation which gives parks users a voice on issues that affect National Parks. The Association provides a link between the community and the National Park policy makers, to identify public concerns and criticism — and to give congratulations too.

### Today...

Tasmania has 18 national parks of natural and cultural importance for the state, for Australia and the world. These areas represent a diverse range of environments, including some of Australia's most rugged mountain scenery, enormous trees, wild rivers, delicate heath lands, pristine rainforests, breathtaking sand dunes, remote wilderness and fascinating human heritage extending over 35,000

years. While providing a home for innumerable flora and fauna species, national parks are also celebrated for their recreation values and quiet escapes.

### Why an association?

The range of issues affecting National Parks is vast, including conservation management, track systems, interpretation, adequate staffing, walker safety, boundary management, and tourism activities. The future of our parks is vulnerable to inappropriate development approved without adequate consideration of environmental consequences or community values.

### The aims of the TNPA are:

- To increase community awareness of the value and importance of Tasmania's National Parks;
- To preserve the natural and cultural values of National Parks by encouraging conservation as a primary role of the National Parks and Wildlife Service;
- To encourage community involvement on decisions that affect National Park management by facilitating communications with the State Government.

As a new community group we are young and small, but determined to make efforts to maintain the values for

## Eaglehawk Neck Backpackers



Close to:  
Cape Raoul, Cape Hauy and  
Cape Pillar (Highest sea cliffs in the  
Southern Hemisphere), walking tracks.  
Tasman National Park  
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which our wild and scenic National Parks have been set aside. But we need help.

As a special opening offer to **WILDCARE** members, the TNPA membership is available to you for half price rates. Please fill in the form below and send it to the Tasmanian National Parks Association, GPO Box 2188, Hobart 7001.

The TNPA would also like to extend an invitation to our official launch to be held on Tuesday 25th September at COW, Murray Street Hobart 7.00pm. The evening will consist of local photographers giving us a sample of their slides from Tasmanian National Parks, and a few words from special guests (yet to be confirmed). Please phone us, and leave a message at 0438 315 126, or e-mail us at <tnpa@hotmail.com> if you would like to join us.

### Tasmanian National Park Association Membership Form

Name: .....

Address: .....  
.....P/C: .....

Phone: .....

E-mail: .....

Special dicounted membership to **WILDCARE** Members

.....\$10 Unwaged .....20 Waged .....\$30 Family

Additional Tax Deductable Donation .....

*Editors Note: **WILDCARE** has been established as a partner support organisation for the Parks & Wildlife Service and Resource Management & Conservation Divisions, and therefore does not act as a "lobby" group. We welcome the Tasmanian National Parks Association to the cause of improving the management of Tasmania's National Parks by*

*providing a voice for the Parks, and wish them good luck with their endeavors. Thank you TNPA for your generous offer of a discounted membership for **WILDCARE** members. It effectively means that **WILDCARE**ers can take out membership of both **WILDCARE** and the TNPA for the usual cost of TNPA membership!*

## Formation of the new KarstCAREs Group

Limestone caves are very special and fragile places which people can easily damage unless they practice minimal impact caving techniques. Caving clubs in this State have formal minimal impact guidelines that club members follow. Membership of the newly formed KarstCARE group is drawn primarily from caving clubs. The aims of the KarstCARE group is to restore caves that have been damaged by inappropriate past use.

Earlier this year a meeting was called for **WILDCARE** members interested in the Mole Creek area. The result was the formation of what is now known as the KarstCARE (Community Action in Reserves) group, with David Wools-Cobb taking on the position of coordinator.

The groups first project involved Tailender Cave. This cave is in State Forest, adjacent to the Mole Creek Karst National Park. It is located in a catchment subject to agreement between PWS and Forestry covering management of caves and karst values.

An initial trip in April this year was undertaken to sort out just what was possible to achieve in conjunction with DPIWE Karst Project Officer, Rolan Eberhard. Participants were

Rolan, Chris Walsh, Damien Beety, Steve Blanden and David Wools-Cobb. Most of the cave was visited, with various

s e c t i o n s examined, with regards to clean-ups, carrying out a line survey and what areas need to be track marked and sectioned off.

The conclusion was that much of the mud in the cave is natural and that very little could be achieved by cleaning, leaving only 2-3 sections targeted. The group did feel that much could be achieved preserving the cave environment by route/track marking and signage.

Group members were shocked at how much "muddying" has occurred in

David Butler cleaning down flowstone.  
Photo David Wools-Cobb.



Tailender scene. Photo David Wools-Cobb.



Helictite in Tailender Cave. Photo David Wools-Cobb.

recent years possibly caused by some careless "tramping through". The general consensus was that far more visitors are accessing the far reaches of Tailender than previously thought.

The group's second trip into Tailender was in July. The party consisted of David Butler, Henry Shannon and David Wools-Cobb from the Northern Caverneers; Steve Blanden and Jill Cameron from Savage River Caving Club. Karstcare is already bringing clubs together for a common good!

Three members completed the survey — being "line only" — showing major passages and caverns. Two other members cleaned up an area of speleothems (i.e. stalactites, stalagmites) known as the "Shark's Teeth" plus one other area. These sites came up reasonably well, however, orange clay seems to have penetrated well into some micro-gores and some calcification had

occurred over the top.

Three sections were marked off to “perhaps” limit how far a visitor penetrates, whilst still giving a view of the areas to be protected. Two advisory signs were also placed — one on a lead [passage] that was a dead-end but needs boots-off if visiting; and another towards the back of the main lead suggesting that continued visitation was causing massive erosion on the mud banks, with stringline “dissuasion”.

At this stage the project is virtually completed, with only the map to produce from the survey data. Possibly some sections of the cave would benefit from further cleaning,

however, the feeling of the group was that the cave was certainly in better condition than previously, plus with other management systems installed, our efforts will hopefully pay off for years to come. Many thanks to all those who helped in what has turned out to be a most successful project.

David Wools-Cobb  
Coordinator  
KarstCARE Group

**For KarstCAREs inquiries contact David Wools-Cobb — email <wools@southcom.com.au>.**

Notices advising the next KarstCARE project will go out through the *WILDCARE* office shortly, to *WILDCARE* members who have registered Mole Creek Karst National Park as their preferred Reserve. If members are unsure

whether their *WILDCARE* registration details includes this Reserve please contact our volunteer memberships officer — Deb Ramm — on 03 6233 2852, Wednesdays between 9:30am and 12:30pm or email <wildcare@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>. On the new membership form you can also now register for Cavecare — meaning that you will be notified of cave work around the State as it comes up.

The “Sharks Teeth” — a major cleaning job. Photo David Wools-Cobb.



## Train the Trainer Course at Hollybank Forest Reserve

A second Train the Trainer Course was held at the end of June at the Hollybank Forest Reserve & Training Centre in the State's north.

Six participants — from Parks & Wildlife Service, Cultural Heritage and Community Partnerships staff as well as a *WILDCARE* volunteer — attended the course.

One of the activities — directed at how well participants could communicate and impart accurate instructions to their colleague using a “blind fold” method (or more accurately a screen separating the two parties!) — gave onlookers as well as the Course Leader much amusement!



**To communicate or ...**

PWS & RMC staff and *WILDCARE* volunteer at the Train the Trainer Course at Hollybank in the State's north. Photos Jo Field.



**... not to communicate, effectively!**

**Another 3-day TRAIN THE TRAINER COURSE is planned for the north of the State in October 2001.** The course develops the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out basic skills training. It enables participants to plan, prepare and implement basic training in their workplace situation. This is a certified course, so if you fulfil its requirements you will receive an accredited certificate. If your job involves presenting to people, then this is the course for you. For more information, please contact the Community Partnerships Section on 6233 2867 or email <Chris.Leitch@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>.



## Maria memories — restoring houses on maria island: “preros”

The sand dunes west of Darlington have been hugging a small shack for many years. The first photographs of the structure date back to the 1920’s. It was this building that the Ranger pointed out as our next project!

If looked dilapidated — its weather boards worn by the elements and time. Our task would be to remove the old cladding and replace it with new boards that were already stacked in the shed, waiting to be used.

That first weekend was frantic. Two of the walls needed to be stripped in order to put in place the external timber corner. Luckily, there were no unpleasant surprises as the boards came off the walls. Whilst the chaps were removing the boards the “chapesses” gave the new wood an undercoat, removed the discarded planks and rusty nails. It was totally amazing to watch the southern and western walls take on a new appearance. The first coat of paint was slapped on before we called it a day. A happy but knackered crew cruised home that night!

“Preros” became our home away from home during the following 3 years. The restoration went on without a

hitch until we came to the wall of the kitchen and bathroom. There our carpenters had to use all their skills to



“Preros” – Reconstruction destruction?

prop up the internal frame, make and fit new windows and duck and dive around the [existing] plumbing. The girls kept up the painting and doing other odd jobs. Patching up the panels enclosing the area between ground and floor-level gave a clear message to the [resident] wombat that this was not a good spot for a hidey-hole. Better luck to the blue tongue lizard, discovered entering a crack near the

kitchen door...

Each one of these hardworking weekends was sunny and happy experiences for the group. After a short interruption for some track building(!), we are hoping to give the last wall and the front door their final

coat of paint, and install the rainwater tank before this year is out.

Trauti Reynolds

Maria Island CAREs Member

Trauti and other members of the Maria Island CAREs group will be in attendance at the **WILDCARE** Maria Island weekend in October (refer to an invitation to spend 2 days on Maria Island article). Come along and meet these members and have a look at the fantastic work they have undertaken over the years.

### Special event Special event Special event Special event

## An invitation to spend 2 days on Maria Island

In the June 2001 issue of **WILDTIMES**, an invitation was extended to all **WILDCARE** members to spend some time on Maria Island, mix with fellow **WILDCARE**ers, enjoy the hospitality of the Rangers, experience some live evening musical entertainment and put in a few hours of “work” on a variety of projects, to help the Rangers and members of the newly formed Maria Island CAREs group.

The event will take place on the weekend of 13–14 October 2001 and will include:

- Saturday — Tours “behind the

scenes”, slide shows, etc. with Ranger staff

- Evening BBQ Saturday night (compliments of Community Partnerships Section)
- Live band Saturday night (bring your dancing shoes!)
- On Sunday — Volunteer working bees involving revegetation, artifact conservation, weed removal, etc.
- FREE accommodation in the Penitentiary “units” — this will be on a “first in” basis, and in the campground
- Saturday afternoon — General

meeting — update on programs and projects.

NOTE — this is a **whole weekend** event for **WILDCARE** members. Non-members will need to be booked in with a member. Please take your **WILDCARE** membership card and present it at the Commissariat Store on arrival. Both members and non-members must participate in the working bees on Sunday. This is our way of paying for what will be a great weekend.

**RSVP Andrew Smith by 21 September on 03 6233 2836 or email <wildcare@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>.**

## ADOPT-A-TRACK NEWS —

### Lady Barron Falls Track

Phyllis & Bob Wyatt are the Track Caretakers of a section of the Lady Barron Falls track in Mt Field National Park. Bob & Phyllis are also members of the Hobart Walking Club.

We have adopted the track from the campground to Lady Barron Falls in the Mt Field National Park, and as several of our friends in the Hobart Walking Club had offered to help us we thought we would program a Club trip to work on the track.

Park's staff advised that further gravelling of the track could be done and there were always gutters to be cleared ferns and overhead branches to be cut back and other improvements to be done.

The weather forecast was not good and it rained as we left our meeting place at Granton Reserve. We were very pleased that 21 adults and 5 children had turned up to help us. By the time we got to Mt Field the rain had passed and there was a bit of blue sky between the clouds. We all gathered in front of the new visitor's centre for a quick morning tea and we were able to run through all the points in the induction program regarding hazards on the track and workplace safety. Someone asked how you became a member of **WILDCARE** and Phyl was able to explain what to do when renewing your Annual Parks Pass!

In order to keep everyone occupied we arranged for 15 of the party to walk the Falls Circuit — Russell Falls, Horseshoe Falls and Lady Barron Falls, whilst the others walked from the campground towards Lady Barron Falls

#### MANY THANKS

Many thanks to **WILDCARE** members John & Yvonne Redman of Launceston, who responded to the request for help with the labeling and mailing out of the quarterly newsletter Hands-On and **WILDCARE** event call-up notices. They have already been "on the job" with a mail out of over 400 flyers as well as folding over 500 copies of the **WILDCARE** information pamphlet!

cleaning up as they walked along.

Peter Maddox and Kelli Chivers were introduced when we met them on the track. They were already at work extending the gravelling but as the gravel was very wet only about one third of a normal load on the power barrow was possible on each trip back from the supply at the workshop area. Some large metal was used to fill the hollows and then gravel over the top. About 20 meters or so of the track was graveled.

The Falls Circuit walkers came through and most of us returned to the park entrance for a BBQ. After lunch the section of the track from the campground to the first bridge over Lady Barron Creek was given a good clean up. We stopped work early in the afternoon and as we walked back you could certainly see that the track had been improved. In fact, our little

granddaughter asked us to we wiped our feet well, before we walked on the section of the track that she had raked clean!

There was no rubbish on the track to be picked up but the 30 Great Walks Sign at the start of the track had been broken off so it was returned to the office for safe keeping and repair. After returning all the tools and gear (and completing the paper work for Jo! [Adopt-a-Track Facilitator]) We headed for home just as it started to rain again. The day was capped off by a terrific afternoon tea at the home of one of our members at New Norfolk.

Many thanks to all those who worked so well and helped to make the Adopt-a-Track Program so successful. The only thing we forgot to do was take some photos — but we can say that we were too busy anyway!

Bob & Phyl Wyatt  
Track Caretakers

## A Day in the Range: Track Work with the North-west Walking Club

### Background

Originally named the Dundas Range after one of the first directors of the VDL Company, the name Dial Range was eventually used. Joseph Fossey suggested it after the resemblance of the Gnomon as a Roman sundial.

There are six major peaks in the Dial Range — Mt Montgomery is the northernmost and overlooks Penguin and Bass Strait. Ranging south they are in order, Mt Dial, Gnomon, Mt Duncan which is the highest. Slightly southwest is Mt Riana while Mt Lorymer lies to the southeast. There are tracks over all the Range, except on Mt Riana. The Leven River flows through the eastern foothills of these peaks. To the south lies Gunns Plains, famous for the caves and hops. East is farmland of North Motton and west is the district of Riana, also farmland.

The Dial Range began some 500 million years ago with eroded Precambrian basement rocks being deposited as gravel and silt in a deep ocean trench, building layers of sediment interspersed with lava from undersea volcanoes. Further deposition 400 million years ago with a subsequent mountain building episode raised these beds into land. Intruding granite brought folding,



David Giles, **WILDCARE** member, answered the call up for the **WILDCARE/NWWC** working bee in the Dial Range. Photo Jo Field.

heating and crushing, melding the sediments into the rocks we see today. Superheated water infiltrating through the joints and fracture zones left small mineral deposits. Faulting and subsequent erosion began slowly forming the Dial Range into its present distinctive outline. It was now part of a mountain chain stretching into Victoria with land to the east and south gently subsiding into swamps, shallow seas and lagoons from 280 million years ago until the Cretaceous age, when the supercontinent of Gondwana began breaking up. Tremendous forces gripped Tasmania, tearing it from Antarctica, intruding sills and dykes of



dolerite and isolating our endemic species. The previously shallow seas were now uplifted and raised into the mountains of our highlands. Volcanoes erupted, filling the river valleys with basalt. This has weathered into the rich farmland of North Motton and Riana. Ice ages came and went, until ten thousand years ago at the end of the last glaciating the sea level rose, isolating Tasmania and again returning the ocean to the foot of the Dial Range.

Aboriginals no doubt used the area to hunt and mine ochre but documentation of this is hard to find. With the arrival of Europeans, the minerals attracted the attention of miners but were not found in economic quantities. The exception is the Tasmanian Iron mines, mining iron ore 5 km inland behind the present township of Penguin. Some 20,000 tons of very pure ore was exported from here.

Gold financed the 1880's housing boom in Melbourne and settlers turned to harvesting the timber from the mountain slopes for export to this burgeoning market. Timber has been harvested since then right up to the 1960's. The Hobbs family operated a sawmill on the banks of the Leven opposite the wharf. They started about 1900 building a tramway running between Taylors flats and Lobster creek. A steam powered punt loaded logs at Lobster Creek and carried them down the Leven to the sawmill. The vessel operated until 1948 when it foundered near the rail bridge.

## Walking Clubs and Track Work

The scenic and recreational potential of the Dial Range has been recognised since the Northwest Walking Club (NWWC) first visited the Dial Range in 1960 on its inaugural walk. A track was cut to the top of Mt Duncan and in 1972 the Federation of Tasmanian Bushwalking Clubs decided to construct a trans-Tasmania walking track. The NWWC agreed to construct the Northern section from Penguin to Cradle Mountain, now called the Penguin Cradle Trail. In 1974 the Penguin Council used money from the R.E.D. scheme to construct walking tracks in the Dial Range using out of work labourers. Club members surveyed tracks for the workers to cut and form. This included the now overgrown tramway used by the

Hobbs operation while their punt was in service.

The NWWC has maintained the tracks ever since using club funds and voluntary labour by club members. However, the disadvantage of this is the NWWC haven't the resources to build and maintain tracks to a tourist standard and work is often years overdue. Vandalized signs are not replaced quickly enough, if at all. Visitors unfamiliar with the area can lose their way. This is a pity, giving the tourist infrastructure of the area a bad reputation. A wonderful tourist resource is going begging for proper development. But enough polemic.

It is not without trepidation that the Club is trialing the PWS initiative of Adopt-a-track. The hope is that greater publicity will bring wider community awareness and involvement. Any help that the club receives with the project is greatly appreciated.

## Adopt-a-Track and the NWWC

On May 26, 2001 the NWWC successfully held a working bee under *WILDCARE's* Adopt-a-Track Program. The weather was ideal for working, fine but overcast with very low cloud. It was comfortably mild and although rain threatened, it held off until later that night.

In attendance were Jo Field, Adopt-a-Track Facilitator; Eddie Firth, PWS Ranger; two *WILDCARE* members and seventeen club members — totalling 21 volunteers. Ages ranged from 30-odd to 78. The "youthy" ones were a minority, most of us are able to look back over more years than we care to think about! There was more enthusiasm than years though!

So many showed up that PWS had insufficient equipment to cover everyone. My trusty club members brought their own to make up the shortfall, however. Tools used ranged from secateurs through pruning shears, brushcutter and hedge clipper to chainsaws. The volunteers were divided into five crews and assigned each a short section of track to clear. They set to with a will and those crews finishing their allotted section moved to another until the entire job was completed. The last of the crews straggled out of the gathering gloom by 4:30pm. The completed part of the track needs some polish in some places

## Eddystone Point Lighthouse Cottages Clean Up — 22-23 September 2001

**Parks & Wildlife staff at Mt William National Park are interested in volunteers wishing to participate in a weekend working bee to prepare the Lighthouse cottages and grounds for the *WILDCARE* Volunteer Caretakers Program.**

Meet at Eddystone Point Lighthouse Cottages at 9:30 am. Works to be undertaken over the weekend include:

- Weeding and ground maintenance
- General building maintenance including cleaning, preparing for painting, fixing guttering
- Installation of water tank
- Fixing fences

Limited accommodation available in cottage, otherwise camping at Deep Creek. Volunteers will need to bring own camping equipment and food. Rangers will be putting on a BBQ Saturday night for volunteers.

For more information or to register your participation please contact Dominique Couzens, Senior Ranger, PWS Bridport on 0427 560 451 or email <Dominique.Couzens@dpiwe.tas.gov.au> by 19 September 2001.

but is now easily navigated. Work done was mainly clearing away the years of vegetation that encroached over the track. Scrub had grown on the track for so long it consisted of long and thickly interwoven shrubs ranging in size right up to small trees. There were a few logs over the track and these were easily moved. Eddie and Jo did some fine work re-benching a stretch of track across the flank of Mt. Dial. One crew cleared the top end of the Ferndene track.

The attendance of two non-club workers is as much a testament to Jo Field's efforts to run the working bee as a *WILDCARE* project, as to the qualities of the volunteers themselves. They worked well, doing a neat job on the Gnomon summit track. Please accept my thanks, David and Horst, on behalf of the Club. Your efforts were most welcome!

So there it is, an eminently successful working bee with just a few warts. Not bad for a first try with *WILDCARE* and the Adopt-a-Track Program!

Mark Alexander  
Track Convenor for Dial Range  
North-West Walking Club member

## Adopt-A-Track Guidelines — Out now!

After 12 months of internal and external consultations, presentations to community members and groups, tireless energy from both community and *WILDCARE* volunteers participating in trial walking track working bees statewide, as well as the commitment by Parks & Wildlife Service Field Centre staff around the State, the Adopt-a-Track Program Guidelines were launched at the end of June 2001 by the PWS General Manager, Peter Williams.

Invitations to attend the Launch at the Steppes State Reserve in the Central Highlands were forwarded to *WILDCARE* members who had ticked the Adopt-a-Track Program on their *WILDCARE* registration form.

On the day, with forecasted rain and gale winds, over 30 people attended (both *WILDCARE* members and PWS/CPS staff). When the time came for Peter Williams to open the proceedings and officially launch the Guidelines, the “gods must have been watching” because the clouds parted and the sun shone through, long enough to hear Peter’s opening speech as well as a few words from one of the 2 Track Caretakers for the Steppes walking track. We then took a short stroll along the 900m walking track to the Steppes Sculptures, to view the work carried out by volunteers since September last year.

Upon returning to the Steppes

Homestead, waiting for us was a sumptuous BBQ meal cooked by Mike Cousins, PWS Ranger Liawenee Field Centre. As we settled down to enjoy our meal, the clouds closed in and rain started to fall, again! However, with the guests sitting inside the Homestead in front of a “roaring” fire, it didn’t really matter how much it was raining — until we had to head home! I would like to take this opportunity to thank (again!) the volunteers,

Right: Gathering for the feast at the Adopt-a-Track Guidelines Launch.

Below: *WILDCARE* volunteers, PWS & CPS staff, along with their families, attended the Adopt-a-Track Guideline Launch at the Steppes SR at end-June. Photos Jo Field.



community groups and PWS staff who participated in the development of these Guidelines, and for attending the Launch!

Jo Field

Adopt-a-Track Facilitator

Note: If you would like to receive call-up notices on future walking track working bees, anywhere in the State, please contact Deb Ramm (*WILDCARE* volunteer for Members’ Record Entry) on 6233 2852 (Wednesdays only between 9:30am to 12:30pm) or the Adopt-a-Track Facilitator on 6336 5454 (weekdays). Otherwise email your request to <adoptatrack@dpiwe.tas.gov.au> stating your full name and address and if possible, your *WILDCARE* membership numbers.



## Walking tracks available for adoption!

The following walking tracks are available for “adoption” under the Adopt-a-Track Program\*. If anyone is interested in one (or more) of the listed tracks please contact the Community Partnerships Facilitators to discuss what level of involvement is required under the Program. If there is a track not listed which you may have an interest in, please give us a call.

### PWS RESERVE

Track Name

### Ben Lomond NP

Bent Bluff

Storys Creek to Stacks Bluff

### Central Plateau CA^

Mother Cummings (Smoko Rd access)

Mother Cummings (West Thorpe Rd access)

### Central Plateau CA (Western Tiers)

Higgs

Parsons

Syds

Western Bluff

Western Creek

### Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair NP^

Rodway (Cradle Mountain)

Watersmeet (Lake St Clair)

### Devils Gullet SR

Devils Gullet

### Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers NP^

Fincham

Kelly Basin Bird River

Mt Murchison

SW CA

### Freycinet NP

Cooks Beach to Hazards

Hazards to car park

Isthmus

Mt Amos

Mt Graham to Cooks Beach

Winglass Bay to Mt Graham

### Junee Cave SR (Maydena)

Junee Cave

### Mt William NP

Various beach access tracks at Deep Creek + Eddystone Point

### Rocky Cape NP

Postmans



**Snug Tiers NRA**

Pelverata Falls

**South Bruny NP**

East Cloudy Head

**Tasman NP**

Bivouac Bay to Fortescue Bay  
Camp Falls to Bivouac Bay  
Cape Hauy  
Cape Pillar (bottom section)  
Devils Kitchen to Waterfall Bay  
Mt Fortescue  
Waterfall Bay to Waterfall Bluff

**Water Creek SR (Bruny Island)**

Mavista Falls

**Walking tracks that have been adopted by WILDCARE members todate are:**

**PWS RESERVE**

Track Name

**Hartz Mountain NP^**

Kermandie (old access track to Hartz Mountains)

**Holwell Gorge SR**

Holwell Gorge

**Maria Island NP**

Oast House Painted Cliffs Circuit

**Mt Field NP**

Lady Barron Falls from Campground  
Lake Fenton to Webster  
Mt Field East  
Tall Trees Circuit

**Mt Roland**

“Valley Track”

**Narawntapu NP**

Badger Head Coastal

**Notley Gorge SR**

Notley Gorge

**Penguin Cradle Trail**

Section between Taylors Flat & Mt Beecroft

**Snowy Ranges^**

Woolies Tarn

**Southwest NP^**

Needles  
Sentinal Range

**Steppes SR**

Steppes Walk

\* The Adopt-a-Track Program is a volunteer program that provides the community with an opportunity to become actively involved in maintaining walking tracks and other

activities associated with track use, on an on-going basis.

CA=Conservation Area (in the WHA)  
NP=National Park  
NRA=Nature Recreation Area  
PWS=Parks & Wildlife Service  
SR=State Reserve  
WHA=World Heritage Area

Contact details for Community Partnerships Section Facilitators involved with the Adopt-a-Track Program:

**Jo Field**

Adopt-a-Track Facilitator (Statewide)  
Phone: 03 6336 5454  
Email: <Jo.Field@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>

**Chris Leitch**

WHA Community Partnerships Facilitator  
Phone: 03 6233 2867  
Email: <Chris.Leitch@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>

Note: Chris Leitch facilitates all tracks adopted within the World Heritage Area (WHA). The Reserves that fall under the WHA are marked with ^.

**Survey cairns, James Sprent and the trigonometrical survey of Tasmania 1833-1855**

The following article on Survey Cairns was written by Fred Lakin, who is a retired engineer and well known in bushwalking circles in Tasmania. He prepared this article for the Tasmanian Tramp and has kindly agreed to it being published in *WILDTIMES*. Fred is a *WILDCARE* member and recently signed on as Track Caretaker of the Needles Track in the Southwest National Park — and at the age of 79 is a testament to “age not being a handicap for those of us with a youthful outlook!” See you on the track Fred!

**Introduction**

Bushwalkers in Tasmania have become accustomed to seeing a variety of survey markers including stone cairns when arriving at the summit of many of the major peaks or on conspicuously located hills.

Many attribute the building of these stone cairns to James Sprent, but in fact only relatively few of these remaining cairns were built by Sprent during his mammoth task of carrying out the Trigonometrical Survey of

Tasmania which commenced in the early 1830's.

James Meehan was the first Surveyor to arrive in the Colony, he arrived with Lt. Bowen in 1803 and the Meehan Range, east of the Derwent, bears his name. Other early surveyors included Boyd, Darke, Dumaresq, Evans, Frankland, Hellyer, McPartland, Scott & Wedge, most of who have prominent features named after them. In 1821, Thomas Scott produced an early map of the Colony that showed the coastal outline of the island and the land grants but little else.

**Need for an Accurate Map of the Colony**

Disputes between landowners increased in the 1820's largely due to the absence of an accurate trigonometrical survey of the whole island. Such a survey would enable all local surveys to be accurately located in respect to a statewide network of reference points. This would eliminate the overlapping of boundaries etc which can occur when surveys are based on unrelated features.



Big White Hill. The largest of the Hardy cairns. Photo Fred Lakin.

Lt. Governor Arthur accepted Surveyor-General George Frankland's recommendation to carry out such a survey of the whole of the island and in 1832 Surveyor Raphael Clint was appointed to commence the task. After almost a year spent in clearing and preparing a base line at Muddy Plains in the Sandford area, he was transferred to the construction of the Bridgewater Causeway.

**Enter James Sprent**

James Sprent, a graduate of Glasgow University, arrived in the Colony in 1830 and set up a school for boys in Hobart Town. In 1833 he was appointed to carry out the trigonometrical survey and by 1836 he reported on the selection of some 50 carefully selected stations mostly in the south and east of the State.

At each station Sprent set up a survey

marker and cleared the site of any obstructing trees etc. These markers consisted of any one of three types viz. stone cairns up to 10' high, a central pole supported by forked stay poles or lone trees stripped of all but one central stump. Some of the stone cairns built by Sprent were basically square, the upper portion being about half the base dimension. Usually these stations could be up to 30 miles apart, but sometimes far more distant.

In 1837 work on the survey was suspended possibly due to lack of funding, the need to carry out other work, or more likely due to the problems arising from the discovery of many incorrect property boundaries.

### Recommencement of Survey

In 1847 after a break of nearly 10 years, the trigonometrical survey was recommenced, two base lines were established, the southern one at Muddy Plains, now known as Lauderdale, (some 3.8 miles in length) and the northern base at Norfolk Plains near Longford (some 4.9 miles in length).

By 1853 Sprent assisted by James



Mt Rufus. A fine cairn built after the Trigonometrical Survey 1833-55. Photo Fred Lakin.

Calder, who later turned out to be most critical of Sprent and the accuracy of the survey, had established 206 trigonometrical stations. Sprent had a gang of up to 11 men including convicts, the problems of access, maintenance of supplies and the conditions of weather and terrain, particularly on the West and South West Coast were unbelievably difficult. His reports described the party being wet through day after day, tents leaking like muslin and many days passing without a single sighting being possible. On one occasion he lost many of his clothes when a tent caught fire.

The year 1853 was a particularly bad year for Sprent, not only did he have to report his personal failure at being unable to reach the summit of Frenchman's Cap, but two of his three sons aged 7 and 9 respectively, died with scarlet fever, tragically a common event in the Colony at that time. This left him with a wife, two daughters and one 4-year-old son, Charles Percy Sprent.

### Completion of Map

In 1854 Major Cotton, then the Deputy Surveyor General stated in an address to the Royal Society "The observations have been in the hands of one single individual, Mr James Sprent, whose untiring perseverance and patient endurance has enabled him single handed to effect what in other colonies would have been shared by many, equally qualified for the work."

Mid 1855 saw the end of the fieldwork and the following year found Sprent investigating a possible railway location between Hobart and Launceston.

Early in 1857, a Select Committee of Enquiry was set up under the chairmanship of John Helder Wedge to investigate the accuracy and value of the Trigonometrical Survey. After sittings which extended over a year,

during which James Sprent, Deputy Surveyor-General Cotton & James Calder were questioned at length, recommendations were made to undertake field checks, but apparently these were never carried out and the enquiry came to an indefinite end.

By 1858 the drawing of the map was completed by William Hogan, the four sets of printing plates, necessary for multi-colour printing, were prepared in Scotland and in 1859 the maps were available for sale in Hobart, almost twenty six years after the commencement of the Survey.

The map was regarded as being the best in the Colonies and a copy is available for viewing in the Tasmanian Section of the State Library.



Mt La Perouse. The classic Sprent cairn as it was in 1941. Photo D Wilson.

### Sprent's Passing

In early 1858, Sprent was appointed Surveyor-General, but his health had been so badly affected by the years of hardship during his fieldwork, that he was tragically forced to retire due to ill health later the same year. Calder was later appointed to the position and continued his criticism of Sprent's work even after his own retirement in 1869.

James Sprent died at his home in Hobart on 22nd September 1863, aged 55, and so was gone one of the country's great surveyors. Sprent's contribution to early Tasmanian Surveying cannot be overemphasised.

One of the principals Theodolites used by James Sprent an 8" Troughton & Simms, is currently on display in the offices of the Department of Environment and Land Management.

James Sprent's remaining son followed in his father's footsteps and in 1884, at the age of 35, Charles Percy Sprent was appointed Deputy Surveyor-General, (from 1869 to 1894 the title Surveyor-General having been assumed by a Cabinet Minister!). Three years later he tragically died

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Early Surveyors Monument Bronte.

This monument was erected on the side of the Lyell Hwy near the junction of the Marlborough Hwy and bears the following inscription: "This monument was erected in 1983 by members of the Institution of Surveyors Australia, Tasmanian Division, to commemorate the early surveyors who explored and mapped this State. Located near the geographical centre of Tasmania. It is similar to the cairn erected by James Sprent on Mt La Perouse during his Trigonometrical Survey 1833-1855. Photo Fred Lakin.

from typhoid. Mt Sprent was later named after him.

### Survey Cairns

Following the death of James Sprent many surveyors continued with the huge demand for surveys particularly those related to the sales and grants of Crown Land.

To assist with the integration of these surveys into the trigonometrical network, various surveyors established further cairns and markers.

Surveyor Wentworth Hardy was responsible in the early 1890's and 1900's for the very fine construction of at least 14 cairns in the South East and Midlands area of Tasmania.

Twelve of these are still standing, mostly on private property where landowners are very much aware of their historic value.

The exact number of cairns built by Sprent is uncertain, many have been partly demolished, and some have modern survey beacons erected on their remains. Whilst some have been totally demolished. The most blatant act of vandalism was the complete demolition of the Sprent cairn on Mt Field East in the mid 1980's. Less than 12 Sprent cairns remain substantially intact.

The total number of cairns still existing throughout the State in varying conditions, is less than fifty. By comparison there are over 750 survey beacons in existence.

### Conclusion

It should be realised that the early surveyors worked under extreme conditions and experienced great personal hardship without the benefits of modern lightweight refined food and camping equipment. More recently the advent of the Global Position System (GPS) has made a vast impact on surveying.

The efforts and capabilities of these pioneers should be applauded and particular tribute paid to James Sprent.

Measures should be taken to preserve the stone cairns built by Sprent, Hardy and other early Surveyors as fitting memorials to their pioneering work.

### Acknowledgements

The Author wishes to record his

## Snug Falls Walking Track — perfect for a Sunday afternoon stroll!

**If you have not had the pleasure of walking the Snug Falls walking track (at Snug, in the State's south) recently or at all, then treat yourself!**

**WILDCARE** volunteers have undertaken work on the "neglected" track, with 4 working bees held since May this year. As an indication of how popular this track can be — at the first working bee, one volunteer counted over 40 people walking along the track during the course of the day!

**A further working bee is planned for Sunday, 21 October 2001.** For more information or to register your attendance please contact Paul Dimmick, PWS Ranger Dover Field Centre on 6298 1577 or email <Paul.Dimmick@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>.

See you at Snug Falls sometime!

**STOP PRESS: David and Jill Walker are the new co-Track Caretakers for the Snug Falls track!**

appreciation for the assistance he received from many individuals who provided photos of some of the more remote cairns and to those who provided survey and historical information. Special thanks to Mr Peter Monaghan of the Department of Environment & Land Management for his assistance and encouragement extending over several years.

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## How many cyclists does it take to stuff [WILDTIMES] envelopes?

**It was a wet on the day we usually go cycling with our group of friends (from the Hobart Walking Club) — what could we do to keep our cycling friends occupied after lunch?**

We produced all these envelopes to address with sticky labels to be sent out to **WILDCARE** members, ready for when the **WILDTIMES** magazine was printed. In about twenty minutes 10 volunteers had completed the lot — over 2,000 envelopes — which helped us tremendously. We are hoping that it is another wet cycling day when the newsletters arrive to be put in the envelopes!

Bob & Phyl Wyatt

**WILDCARE** members

Bob & Phyl's wish came true — it rained the day the newsletter arrived, and 8 cycling friends just happened to be at a loose end! Thanks to **WILDCARE** members who responded to the call up in June 2001 issue. Your contact details have been passed onto Bob & Phyl.



Phyllis Wyatt (front left) and fellow cyclist putting the June issue of **WILDTIMES** into pre-labelled envelopes. Photo Bob Wyatt.

## Warden welcomes walkers

One of the most enjoyable areas of a Hut Warden's work or duty on the Overland Track is talking to the walkers as they pass through Waterfall Valley Hut. They are either walking south or waterfall is their last night on the track. Around Easter walkers come into the area and use Waterfall as a base for climbing Barn Bluff, a saunter over to Windemere and perhaps Lake Will and the Waterfall Chain here.

I would like you to meet some of the walkers I have talked with while I have been volunteering at Waterfall Valley.

Glenn and Karen Tempest stayed in the Waterfall area for a couple of days, camping down near the old hut. Their time was taken up climbing Barn Bluff and doing a bit of photography. Glenn is a photographer and publisher. He has a business called OPEN SPACES. He sells articles to WILD magazine (you may have read some of his articles) Glenn walked the Overland Track almost 25 years ago. He noticed some big differences. A lot more people certainly, but not enough to interfere with the scenery he said. Some of the huts are much improved as are the trails. He said "We were up to our waists in mud on Pine Forest Moor back in those days. This trip we didn't even get our feet wet". He said "We loved the tent platforms. I was a bit suss at first but we quickly saw their advantages. Very easy to use" "What disturbed me most was the number of walkers that were clearly not equipped to be on the trail (mentally, physically and equipment wise)."

Karen is keen to "collect" all the Glenn and Karen in the Western Arthurs.



Glenn Morns.

world's great walks. Recently they returned from Chile after walking the Torre Del Paine Circuit (10 days). They have walked the Western Arthurs, Federation Peak and Frenchman's Cap. Glenn has climbed in the Himalayas, rock climbed in Australia, Thailand, Sumatra, USA, UK and France. He has also authored publications on rockclimbing, Melbourne daywalks, Grampian Selected Walks (2nd Edition) and Bushwalking Experiences world wide.

Dave and Ros McCormack also walked the Overland track from the South to North. More people each year seem to be doing their walk in this direction. He has toured and walked in most of the major countries around the world and climbed in the

Rocky Mountain National Park. Dave works with the Antarctic Division and has done so for 30 years. He started when the Division was based in Melbourne in 1971. His first winter South was at the Casey Station in 1972. His next trip South was to Mawson, his favourite station. Dave said "it was the real Antarctic for him, with beautiful mountain peaks poking through the blue ice plateau, as a backdrop to the Station" From Mawson they had access to four Emperor Penguin rookeries once the sea had frozen and was safe to travel on. He felt that he was lucky to have spent his years at Mawson while the Huskies (dogs) were still there. "We ran hundreds of miles on dog trips. After they left it wasn't the same"

In 1998/99 French Antarctic Expeditions invited him to go on a couple of their long inland traverses to Dome C, some 1100 km from Dumont D'Urville. This Station is a joint venture between the French and Italians. Hey have an ice drilling program. The cores are examined and assessed in the laboratories on site. They are soon to set up a Space telescope program. The high altitude of the Station (3200m) and clear air makes conditions perfect to look at the stars.

Dave and Ros have walked the Overland track several times and have recently climbed Frenchman's Cap. They scuba dive all year round mainly at Bicheno and Eagle Hawk Neck.

Every year at the end of January I take a group of people, who have not bushwalked before, through the Overland Track. The walk is designed to be leisurely with plenty of time for reading, siesta and conversation. We finish the walk overnight at the Derwent Bridge Pub, with a good meal and a wine or two. I promise the group that the excellent meal at the Hotel will blot out the memory of all those cup o'soups and pasta!

Glenn Morns, the chef at the Pub supplies that meal. Glenn, with friends, walked into Waterfall on his first night on the Overland track. The face was familiar but I asked him his name. He knew me. Of course it was Glenn the Chef! Glenn came to Tasmania from Brisbane in the summer of 1999, after working in Five Star hotels and bistros doing 50-80 hours per week with a lot of stress and no social life. Where he is now has opened his life to an entirely new





scene — “the wilderness”. I wonder would you call this a “sea-change” or would it be a “bush-change”? He spends his spare time walking in the Lake St Clair area and in his words “I have seen many new and wonderful things. From amazing waterfalls, wildlife, colourful sunrises and the most romantic sunsets”. In addition he said “I’ve met people from all parts of the globe and shared many laughs with strangers” He has been in Tasmania for 2 years now, working a

roster of 10 days on and four off. He has seen more of what Tasmania has to offer than some local Tasmanians. “I can’t see myself going anywhere else too soon”.

Our last Overland Track walk with friends, bearing in mind my raving on about having an excellent meal at the Derwent Bridge Pub, I read on the blackboard in the dining room “Quail” — good that’s for me I thought. I failed to read further the fine print underneath. Out came the Quail — on

a bed of cold noodle salad!

I have met and talked with walkers from Iceland to Chile while staying at waterfall. Above are just a few I hope you have enjoyed meeting. I read this recently “Into the silence of high mountains where the eye ranges freely through the still pure air and fondly traces out the restful contours. Apparently built for eternity”

Bill Forsyth  
Hut Warden Volunteer —  
Waterfall Valley

## VOLUNTEER CALL UP NOTICE BOARD

### Wanted: Orphaned & injured animal carers

The Senior Ranger at Bridport Field Centre is compiling a list of interested *WILDCARE* members who wish to be involved with caring for orphaned and injured animals in this district (Bridport across to St Helens, down to Lilydale-Karoola, and everything in between!).

If you are interested in becoming a Carer, please contact Dominique Couzens, Senior Ranger PWS Bridport on 0427 560 451 or email <Dominique.Couzens@dpiwe.tas.gov.au>

### Orange bellied parrots recovery program

Each year Parks & Wildlife Service and Resource Management & Conservation Divisions, run Orange Bellied Parrot surveys at Birches Inlet at the bottom of Macquarie Harbour, Strahan, to monitor OBP release and breeding. Volunteers have “flocked” to participate in past call-ups!

With only 4 positions available, volunteers will be taken on a “first-in” basis. Dates for the surveys are 9 to 23 January 2002 and 20 March to 3 April 2002 (2 x 10-day shifts). Volunteers will need to ensure they are current *WILDCARE* members at the time of participation.

If you are interested in spending 10 days in one of the most beautiful places in Tasmania, assisting the ongoing preservation of this species, contact Krissy Ward, Ranger PWS Strahan Field Centre on 03 6471 7122 or email <Krissy.Ward@dpiwe.tas.gov.au> for further details.

### Tamar Island Wetland Centre

The Tamar Island Wetland Centre, located on the western shores of the Tamar River is looking for *WILDCARERS* interested in providing volunteer support on a regular and on-going basis.

The focus of the volunteer activity is of course on the environment and tourism so anyone interested in any aspect of this would be very welcome.

The Centre caters for all sorts of people, from tourist to local community members to school groups. Volunteers provide Guided Tours, and school talks as well as providing local knowledge and information to tourists. History of the Island and birds are popular talking points. Anyone good at Interpretations or with an education background would be fantastic. If you are passionate about

birds and wetlands and increasing the community’s understanding of these then that would be fantastic too.

Training is provided for all aspects of working at the Centre.

The Centre Manager, Janine Keesing, is looking for people with good interpersonal skills and telephone skills and if possible be able to handle money. Being able to, or willing to learn how to, talk to groups would be an advantage.

The Centre is in desperate need of up to 10 weekend guides and about 6 week day volunteers — to work on a roster negotiated with the volunteers.

If you are interested please phone Janine Keesing on 6336 2678 or 0409 973 780.

### Education kits update and re-publish

A number of years ago (back in the 1980’s) the Parks & Wildlife Service (PWS) produced a series of teachers’ guides and study kits for schools. The kits were very popular and are still being used in classrooms today, with PWS Interpretation Section occasionally receiving requests for copies. Unfortunately, there has not been a program of update and reprint of these publications for many years.

The kits included:

- A Teachers Guide to Maria Island National Park
- A Teachers Guide to Asbestos Range (now know as Narawntapu) National Park
- A Teachers Guide to Archaeology
- A Teachers Guide to Minimal Impact Bushwalking/Phantom Walker
- Wildlife Study Kit — Wetlands
- Wildlife Study Kit — Birds of Prey

Given the popularity and quality of the publications it would be great if the kits could be checked over, contents updated and prepared for reprinting. In most cases there are only single copies of a kit left in existence — therefore contents

would need to be updated, retyped and then checked by relevant Departmental experts.

If this type of volunteer work interests you please call Andrew Smith, Community Partnerships Section Manager, on 03 6233 2836 or email <wildcare@dpiwe.tas.gov.au> to discuss options for participating in the project. The job could be done at a computer workstation in the Community Partnerships Section, located in the Lands Building in Hobart (one day a week, for example) OR from home (subject to computer software programs compatibility) OR a mixture of both!

Each kit has a series of worksheets and information sheets for copying and classroom use. While most of these would not need altering there is scope to redo and expand these resources for each kit. Be as imaginative as you like...!

The Interpretation Section of PWS has an on-going need for assistance with collecting and compiling information for schools and for presentations at schools. If this type of work interests you, call Jenni Burdon on 03 6233 2184.

# Thankyou!

*WILDCARE* wishes to thank the following sponsors for their support of the *WILDCARE* Fund

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Moonpads – 5% discount

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