



Presidents Annual Report 9th August 2026 AGM Meeting 19

Thanks to all for another successful year.

Special thanks to Dani and Neridah;

Dani for his tireless work updating the website, submitting the Annual Information Statement for ACNC - Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission, updating the Landcare Annual Membership Form, applying for the Landcare Insurance for 2026, and for the many extra hours he puts into the Restoration area, weeding and replacing tree guards.

Neridah for sending out working bee reminders and recording attendance on NRE Portal, meeting agendas and minutes, applying for tree grant, participating in an interview with JD Insights for stakeholder engagement for the TCF - Tasmanian Community Fund, submitting a 'Share your FRRR story' to the Foundation for rural and regional renewal newsletter about SCAGI and the grant impacts administered by them which was included in [the FRRR's newsletter](#). Neridah received \$100 for conducting a survey about SCAGI and decided to donate it to Bicheno Forward in appreciation of their assistance to SCAGI.

With the low rainfall there has been minimal growth of gorse in the Wetlands.

Sadly, we have sustained more deer damage to our trees and still no one is permitted to shoot in the conservation area.

Working Bees:

Again, I have appreciated the assistance given by Dani and Melissa, Neridah and Ben in running many of the working bees this year.

Thanks to all our supporters and members who have come along and helped in the working bees.

Thanks to Paul and Allison Peacock who facilitated the post planting watering of the seedlings with the pump and tank and for their kind offer to use it again this year.

Tasmanian Student Landcare Association planned visit 6-7th September 2025 was cancelled by them. They have been dormant for some time and are interested to return when they become active again.

Gorse Control:

The last walk I had around the Restoration area, there was virtually no flowering gorse, and many naturally propagated and planted native trees. The best it has looked in over 30 years.

We have controlled the gorse with help from Amanda Brooks spraying, Adam Cruse slashing and the ongoing commitment of all those members and supporters who turn up to the monthly working bees to tend the trees and cut and paste the gorse.

Amanda boom sprayed the NW corner of the Conservation area with great success.

We still have 2.5 days spraying in credit with Amanda.

We have an agreement with Grindstone Bay Pastoral for future spraying and Adam Cruse for future slashing.

The Bretag boys, led by Lawrence, had the gorse on their adjoining property mulched recently in preparation for sale.

This was financed by the sale of another block they inherited from their mum Michelle, to Josh at Keep Tassie Wild. We hope to see Josh and Lindsay at our working bees in the future.



Planting:

Neridah was successful with our application for Tasmanian Landcare Fund Plant Grant 2025-26. Mark Lawrence has propagated 200 trees for us and Landcare organised cardboard biodegradable tree covers and stakes from Waratah.

Shore Birds:

Shore Birds continue to thrive on Templestowe Beach with negligible disturbance from dogs and 4WD vehicles.

PWS have now ratified the BODC Dog Policy banning dogs on Templestowe Beach.

They have provided temporary signs and are working with BODC to put permanent signs in place.

We are now represented on the PWS Shore Bird Working Group, just by Todd Dudley as Graeme Beech has left the area.

New PWS Ranger David Adams dropped into our June and July working bee's and told us PWS and BODC are working on new signage for the Seymour area.

We continue to replace the temporary laminated signs as needed.

Water Quality Monitoring:

BODC Environmental Health Officer Ron Anderson agreed to include Templestowe Lagoon in the annual water quality monitoring of recreational water.

Tests were carried out in the 24/25 season but not in the 25/26 season.

At the time of writing this report he has still not replied to an enquiry made nearly a month ago about ongoing testing.

<https://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/environment/water-management/>

Bio Solids:

Tas Water replied to the community's concerns about the spreading of treated sewerage sludge from the Bicheno Sewerage Treatment Plant around coastal wetland areas.

We received a quick [response](#) from Tas Water's Jeremy Verdouw - Senior Environmental Scientist - Biosolids.

PWS:

Kat Jordan has joined PWS and is working part time as Ranger responsible for volunteers in the area. Kat has also been working on the VPP. She has been proactive and helpful and we look forward to working with her into the future.

Katrina.Jordan@parks.tas.gov.au

Nick Graham the other part time Ranger responsible for volunteers in the area has gone on long service leave till September 2026.

Nicholas.Graham@parks.tas.gov.au

The VPP has been extended till 29th September 2026.

It is now with PWS for their input and we have requested further updates as suggested by Alena Hrasky Head Ranger at Freycinet National Park.



Grants:

Tas Landcare Fund 25-26 Grant for \$3000 is to be acquitted October 2026

Landcare Tasmania Fund Project Thanks to Neridah for her successful submission to the Bank to plant 200 trees in the 2025/26 season. Proposed planting time is Aug 2026.

Grant from Wild Island Tasmania Threatened Species Project:

We have received \$5829 from the Threatened Species Project.

30 % of profits from their current exhibition supporting endangered species has been donated to SCAGI.

If you are looking for a lovely gift you can buy online:

<https://wildislandtas.com.au/collections/threatened-species-project-2025?page=1>

Wild Island have asked that we keep them informed of how we spend the money from the Grant.

Proposed uses of the funding.

1. Templestowe Bird Sanctuary:

Maybe we could consider following the previous recipient The Friends of Orford Bird Sanctuary and form a Templestowe Bird Sanctuary?

<https://friends-of-orford-bird-sanctuary.org>

Susie Nugent from 'Bird in Hand' is interested to work with us on this project which could include Templestowe Beach and Lagoon, Doctors Creek, the Seymour Swamp and the BIH Dam.

Dr Eric Woehler has offered to assist us to produce a small book and signage similar to that of the Orford Bird Sanctuary.

We have reached out to PWS and offered to collaborate with signage.

2. Cat Control:

We could also devote some of the money to cat traps.

We have been recommended to source traps from Hollander Imports for \$172 per trap.

The West Tamar Landcare Group have had wonderful success with their efforts trapping cats and both them and Amanda Brooks have offered to help us in this endeavour.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-06-28/cat-trapping-northern-tasmania-devil-population-increase/106813282?utm_source=abc_news_app&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_campaign=abc_news_app&utm_content=messages

3. Deer Control:

We continue to sustain damage to the tress and tree guards by deer.

Ant Singline is still not permitted to shoot in the Conservation Area.

Matt Jones, the new PWS Manager of Pest Control, is working to get Ant Singline Permitted to shoot deer in the Seymour Conservation Area.

PWS are developing a VPP and RAA checklist.

We need to get a letter from all Landowners within 250 Meters of the Conservation Area stating they are OK with deer shooting in the area.

This has been forwarded to adjoining landowners and some have replied.

Dani has produced a map which has been sent to Matt Jones at PWS

The Invasive Species Council have produced a Report on the cost of feral deer in Tasmania.

<https://invasives.org.au/publications/a-buck-too-far-an-analysis-of-the-economic-social-and-environmental-cost-of-deer-in-tasmania/>



Triangle Pines:

Andrew Nugent agreed to assist with dead pine removals in the vicinity of the HWY intersection. We got some quotes and settled on Arbor Care from Cranbrook

<https://www.tasmanianarborcare.com.au>

Alex Travers felled all the dead trees in the triangle and then spoke with the Fergusons from Chain of Lagoons and initiated a plan to remove the fallen trees and those dead trees further to the south on the road reserves. This was paid for by Andrew Nugent of Bird In Hand Vineyard.

The plan was for the Fergusons to deal with this when they have machinery in the area to remove the gorse in the Triangle paddock.

Davies Wax Flower:

Andrew Nugent from Bird in Hand invited us to a meeting with Royal Botanic Gardens to be informed about the endangered Davies' Wax Flower seed propagation project. Davies Wax Flower is one of Tasmania's rarest and most endangered plants and Andrew is assisting the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in their efforts.

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/threatened-species-and-communities/lists-of-threatened-species/threatened-species-vascular-plants/threatened-species-list-vascular-plants-p/davies-waxflower-project>

Andrew and his wife Susie Nugent have also opened a Restaurant in the Botanical Gardens and is highly recommended.

Landmark Year.

This year is the 10-year anniversary of the Groups Incorporation.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Wetland Restoration Project.

Specially thanks to Dani who has done so much over the last decade and to Kez who served as Secretary for many years and has patiently supported me throughout the time before and after incorporation. Also thanks to Neridah who has done a lot of work on the Succession of the group, setting up the Google drive and developing Office Bearer Role descriptions.

When we incorporated, we were told it would take 10 years to control the gorse.

We have accomplished much over the decade and while the gorse is certainly under control it is far from eradicated. It will take many years of vigilance to ensure the gorse does not come back.

I committed 10 years to this effort in 2016 when we started.

Now having turned 70 and being blessed with 7 grandchildren we have achieved what I set out to do and my focus is increasingly with the grand children.

Having lived in the Seymour area for over 40 years, and worked to steward the area for over half my life it is now time for other things.

I will not be standing for election as an Office Bearer this year.

I am happy to be on the Committee, acquit the Tas Landcare Fund 25-26 Grant, work on the proposed Seymour Bird Sanctuary and assist where and when I can.

It is my hope someone else will continue to run SCAGI?