



FRIENDS OF BRUNY ISLAND
QUARANTINE STATION

315 Missionary Road, Barnes Bay, Bruny
Is. 7150



News sheet February 2014

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of FOBIQS will be held on Saturday 22nd of March 2014.

The meeting will commence at 10.00 am for tea/coffee and this timing should suit those arriving on the 9.30 ferry. Contact the Secretary Peter Williams by email or mobile if you would like to car pool from Kettering. The meeting will only be short with the Annual Report from President Kathy Duncombe, Financial Report by Richard Moyer and elections for Committee members. Note a proposal is to be put to the AGM that the Committee, currently just 4, President, Secretary, Treasurer and Public Affairs be expanded to include two General Committee members. It is likely that these extra positions can be allocated specific projects to manage on behalf of FOBIQS. At the AGM Kathy will also be able to outline the priorities identified for the year ahead and seek endorsement of these plans from the meeting.

After the short meeting there are plans for a guided walk out to the end of the peninsula with lunch (please bring your own sandwiches or ?) taken at the decommissioned light seen in background below. See the photograph below taken with a shipwreck in view. Note it was not the lack of a lit light that caused this shipwreck as the ship was unmanned having broken away from its moorings during the severe windstorm a couple of Sundays back.



Contact: President: Kathy Duncombe [03] 62606287 kdunc@netspace.net.au

Or Secretary Peter Williams peterfwill@gmail.com



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In addition we will also be looking out for patches of *Eucalyptus viminalis* that are favoured habitat for the Forty Spotted Pardalote. If suitable areas can be found there is interest in locating nesting boxes at the Quarantine Station.

In summary, we know that no one likes AGMs but this one will be short on meeting and long on an easy pleasant walk and lots of chatting about the future directions for the Quarantine Station.

Working Bee

Emails have been sent and a notice placed on the Wildcare website about the Working bee scheduled for Tuesday 4th March starting at about 10 am. Jobs include the removal of cumbungi and a general tidy up of vegetation and limbs from around the Doctor's Residence. Also a chance to inspect progress with the repairs to mortuary currently underway.

Please contact either Kathy or Peter if you are able to help out. Newcomers most welcome.

Volunteer Caretaker Program

We have had two groups of volunteer caretakers at the Station. Firstly Kel / Lyn and more recently Jo / Gavin and their two children. Both groups did a fantastic job in meeting and greeting visitors and during the week made good progress with other tasks. Over the next 4 weeks Ron and Glenda will be looking after the substantial numbers of visitors to the Station as well as supporting the Station by attending to other tasks. The Station is now open both Saturday and Sundays as well as public holidays. Discussions will shortly take place between FOBIQS and PWS over the option of extending the caretaker program over the winter months.

Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station gratefully acknowledge the great work by our Volunteer Caretakers as without their efforts the Station could not be open.

Pontoon

FOBIQS were successful in obtaining a grant from Marine and Safety Tasmania to install a floating pontoon in Quarantine Bay. The pontoon is now installed and with a few extra pieces be ready for use in a couple of weeks. Meanwhile anyone landing at the pontoon needs to exercise extra care to avoid any incidents. Signage advising of the conditions for use will also be installed. The ability for people to land by water is a good step forward as it is also a step back to the past when the only access to the Station was by water.

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Mortuary

Parks and Wildlife Tasmania are funding the essential repairs to the mortuary. It is a major task requiring specialist skills and good progress is being made by the contractor. In the meantime the area around the mortuary is a 'no go' zone due to construction activity.

Wreck

Already mentioned and steps have been taken to advise the owner of the situation and encourage the removal of the boat before any pollution occurs.

School Group

A group from the Cygnet Primary School recently visited the Station as part of a 3 day visit to the Island. Kathy kindly showed the group around and FOBIQS were pleased at being able to do this as a trial for a possible program encouraging school groups. More work to do before this is possible and visits promoted.

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