

WILDLIFE TRAVEL TASMANIA

9th to 25th January 2016



Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

LIST OF TRAVELLERS

Leaders

Mark Hanger: Nature Quest New Zealand

Philip Precey: Wildlife Travel

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	9 th Jan	Arrival. o/n Hobart
2	10 th Jan	Mount Field National Park. o/n Hobart
3	11 th Jan	Bruny Island: Adventure Bay, Cape Bruny and night drive, including The Neck. o/n Inala
4	12 th Jan	Bruny Island: Inala. Gould's Lagoon. o/n New Norfolk
5	13 th Jan	Lake St Claire. King Edward's Saddle. Donaghy's Hill car park. Strahan airstrip. o/n Strahan
6	14 th Jan	Macquarie Harbour & Gordon River cruise. o/n Cradle Mountain
7	15 th Jan	Cradle Mountain National Park: walk to Marion's Lookout. o/n Cradle Mountain
8	16 th Jan	Cradle Mountain. Hellyer's Gorge. Drive to Stanley. The Nut. o/n Stanley
9	17 th Jan	Stanley, Burnie (Ferne Glade), Mountain Valley. o/n Mountain Valley Retreat
10	18 th Jan	Mountain Valley. Narawntapu National Park. Tamar Island Wetlands. o/n Launceston
11	19 th Jan	Free day. o/n Launceston
12	20 th Jan	Ben Lomond National Park. o/n Launceston
13	21 st Jan	Travel south east to Freycinet. Governors Island. Douglas Aspley National Park. o/n Bicheno
14	22 nd Jan	Freycinet National Park. Wineglass Bay lookout, Cape Tourville, Moulting Bay. o/n Bicheno
15	23 rd Jan	Mount Wellington. o/n Hobart
16	24 th Jan	Extension visit to Port Arthur for some. o/n Hobart

A gallery of Philip's photos from the trip can be viewed at
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/albums/72157663005331279>

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

10th January 2016. Mount Field National Park

Our first day proper, after meeting up for dinner at the hotel last night. From Hobart we struck out north-westwards, driving along the River Derwent. A short roadside stop gave us the opportunity to admire the many Black Swans along the river, along with a bizarre male Musk Duck nearby. Notable this morning, and a feature of the rest of the trip, were the large numbers of dead marsupials along the road: possums, pademelons and wallabies obviously aren't designed to cope well with traffic.

We arrived at the Mount Field National Park visitor centre, where we took the trail out the back to Russell Falls, through the impressive eucalyptus forest. The tall trees here were *Eucalyptus regnans*, known as Mountain Ash and a competitor with the Giant Redwoods of California for the title of tallest tree in the world, reaching close to 100m. Beneath these giants was an impressive understorey of tree ferns, with two species present: *Dicksonia antarctica* with its 'orang utan hair' and *Cyathea australis*.

In the shade of the tree ferns, we found our first marsupials of the trip: at least four Tasmanian Pademelons, a small dark-rufous wallaby, with a dumpy fat body and a relatively small head. Once found throughout south eastern Australia, the Tasmanian Pademelon is now found only in Tasmania, having been driven to extinction after the arrival of Europeans and more particularly the cats and foxes that they brought with them...

At the waterfall, a group of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos were bathing in the water at the very top. Back at the car park, a couple of Green Rosellas flew through, another species restricted to Tasmania and the first of the 12 (or 14, 15 or 16, depending on whose taxonomy you agree with) Tasmanian endemic birds for our trip, as well as our first party of Superb Fairy Wren.

Heading up the dusty track to the top of the mountain: during lunch we enjoyed good views of Crescent Honeyeater as well as the beautiful endemic Yellow-throated Honeyeater, while a handsome Black Currawong (yet another endemic) did his best to get a free meal.

Our afternoon was a warm and dusty walk around the lake, through the bizarre Pandani forest and up to the ski field at the top of Mount Field. The recent dry conditions meant that the vegetation up here was pretty dry, but we still managed to find some nice Tasmanian Eyebright *Euphrasia collina ssp diemenica*, the cream spikes of Mountain Rocket *Bellendenia montana*, Tasmanian Snow Gentian *Chionogentias diemensis* and Alpine Sundews *Drosera arcturi*.

11th January 2016. Hobart to Bruny Island.

Bidding farewell to Hobart, we made our way to the ferry to Bruny Island at the familiar-sounding but very unfamiliar looking Kettering, where we were lucky in getting straight on the ferry and across to the island. At the far side, a Black-faced Cormorant was fishing along the shore as we drove off.

On Bruny itself, we headed slowly south, passing our first Pacific Gull with his massive red-tipped beak, and a roadside Short-beaked Echidna who wandered along a garden fence and under the gate, before making a well-earned pit-stop at a handily-positioned ice cream shop at Adventure Bay...

A family of Scarlet Robins were busy feeding in the trees, while three Tasmanian endemics put in appearances: a little party of Black-headed Honeyeaters flitted through the gum trees, a couple of Green Rosellas flew past and a noisy Yellow Wattlebird flopped through the canopy. In the garden, a Brown Tree Frog posed nicely in a lily flower.

Down onto the beach, where the white sand squeaked under foot. A handful of Australian Pied Oystercatchers feeding amongst the rocks at the end of the beach were joined by an all-black Sooty Oystercatcher, while numerous Crested Terns fished offshore. But our attention was turned to the beach itself. A noisy pair of Masked Lapwings weren't the plovers we were looking for, but we soon found our target: a pair of Hooded Plovers along with their tiny fluffy chick, the whole family surprisingly well camouflaged against the white sand and black seaweed. This bird is in decline due mainly to disturbance of its nesting sites, so it was good to see a successful pair still doing well on this beautiful beach.

After a picnic lunch at Inala, we headed south some more, eventually arriving at Cape Bruny, part of South Bruny National Park. Here, among the understory we found a few red spikes of Tasmanian Christmas Bells *Blandfordia punicea* still in flower, as well as the yellow flowers of *Banksia marginata*; the small Purple Flag *Patersonia occidentalis* and the lovely pink trigger flower *Stylidium graminifolium*. A small group of Brown Thornbills came flitting

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

through the trees, with New Holland Honeyeaters and Superb Fairy Wrens also making plenty of noise. The brown Speckled Wood-like butterflies fluttering around in the sunny woodland were the bizarrely-named Klug's Xenica.

Back in the carpark where, as is so often the case, plenty of birds were flitting about. Chief amongst them, a Dusky Robin was feeding its noisy youngster, and a rather confused Grey Shrikethrush was doing his best to chase off the intruder who kept on hiding in the wing mirror of a car...

Back to our accommodation: for those of us not at Inala, a Short-beaked Echidna trundled through the garden, with Dusky Robin and Black-headed Honeyeater families around.

Dinner was the enormous portions of the Bruny pub, where a Brown Falcon was perched up on a tree outside. As it got dark, we left the pub and drove back up the island, scanning the road verges for signs of life... and just before we reached the 'Neck' we found what we were looking for - our first Eastern Quoll running across the road. Looking part small cat, part large rat, gingery with white spots, a pointy face and a jauntily-waving tail.

He soon disappeared into the roadside vegetation, but we carried on driving the roads of North Bruny, and found plenty more: by the end of the evening, we'd come across around 15 of these characterful little predators, in ones and twos, both the commoner ginger colour morph and the rarer dark brown morph, with one particular dark animal putting on quite a show as it hunted for moths and other insects in the light of the torch.

Elsewhere on the roads we found a handful of Brush-tailed Possums, including a couple of the beautiful 'Golden Possum' pale morph. A sleeping White-bellied Sea-Eagle was a good find perched surprisingly low down in a roadside tree. And a single Tasmanian Pademelon and one Rabbit finished off our drive, and we went to our various beds, tired but happy.

12th January 2016. Bruny Island. After what felt like not nearly enough sleep, we were back at Inala for breakfast. Re-caffinated, Tonia took us on a walk around her property. We started down behind the cottages in a grove of tall Manna Gum trees, where we climbed the viewing tower and were immediately greeted with a busy party of the real specialties of the area, the tiny Forty-spotted Pardalote. At least six individuals were buzzing about, hyperactive little beasts chasing each other through the trees. Also in the same trees were a family party of Black-headed Honeyeaters along with several New Holland Honeyeaters. A Green Rosella showed well as it fed on the grass seeds in the paddock, while a family group of Flame Robins flitted along the fence line. Nearby, a couple of Tasmanian Pademelons were quite nonchalant about our presence, giving plenty of photo opportunities.

Equally photogenic were the Bennett's Wallabies hanging around Tonia's cottage, including a lovely white animal: the local wallaby population includes a surprising number of these pale individuals, probably due to a certain level of inbreeding on the island. Around the nearby pond we found a pair of Golden Whistlers and a family group of Strong-billed Honeyeaters coming down to wash. A small group of Swift Parrots flew through two or three times, but always high and fast and definitely not stopping to allow us views of anything more than their long tails zipping off through the canopy and away...

Near to Tonia's retired Boronia crop, an Echidna was feeding on the path, while Pink Robin, Eastern Spinebill and Satin Flycatcher were all heard but not seen. More showy were the Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos in the area, with several birds watched flapping laconically high above the trees, and a pair who gave good views as they prospected for nesting holes.

Lunchtime, time for another slap up picnic, and then back to the ferry. At the Bruny side of the ferry, a White-bellied Sea Eagle circled over the waiting traffic, while a couple of Australian Fur Seals floated about half way across to Kettering, and a Black-faced Cormorant flew past.

A short stop at Gould's Lagoon, a small suburban nature reserve, was surprisingly successful. The lake was home to a really good mix of birds. Amongst the ducks, a group of 15 Freckled Ducks, a nomadic visitor from the dry centre of mainland Australia, were the highlight, sitting alongside Pacific Black Duck, Australasian Shoveler, Chestnut Teal, Grey Teal, Australian Wood Duck and Hardhead. Coot, Tasmanian Native Hen and a couple of Australian Swamphens were also around the lagoon, while we eventually picked out a single Latham's Snipe on the muddy margins, an uncommon winter visitor from its breeding range in Japan. The flowering gum trees next to the car park were full of Musk Lorikeets, along with Noisy Miner, Little Wattlebird and a single Eastern Rosella.

We ended the day a short way further along the Derwent Valley, at New Norfolk where we enjoyed a veritable banquet amongst some interesting 'fusion' décor.

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

13th January 2016. New Norfolk to Strahan, via Lake St Claire.

After breakfast, we bade farewell to the eclectic clutter of Junction Motel and made our way north west along the Derwent Valley, travelling across parched sheep grazing land dotted with occasional water holes. We stopped at one on the off chance of a Platypus sighting, but no show. Another impromptu stop was for a nice Blotched Blue-tongued Skink crossing the road. It was also a busy drive for roadkill... along with the 'usual' pademelons and possums, we also passed two Common Wombats, a Long-nosed Potoroo and a Tasmanian Devil: a sad sight.

Our mid-day stop was at Lake St Claire, where our walk took us through the Black Peppermint forest to Watersmeet and then back. Botanical highlights included Leatherwood *Eucryphia lucida* with its sweetly scented apple-blossom-like flowers growing by the bridge, the proteaceous Guitar Plant *Lomatia tinctoria*, and Green Bottlebrush *Callistemon viridiflorus*.

Despite being the middle of the day, the forest was surprisingly birdy. We all finally got good views of Yellow Wattlebird in the tree tops; our first Satin Flycatchers put in an appearance, with a smart male on the way out and a pretty female showing to some on the way back; a couple of noisy honeyeater parties included Strong-billed, Yellow-throated and Crescent Honeyeaters and a couple of hyperactive Eastern Spinebills; and the 'little brown jobs' included Brown Thornbill and our first Tasmanian Scrubwren.

We started the walk by admiring some rather friendly Spotted Skinks. A White-lipped Snake put in an appearance for those at the front, and on the way back we found a large Echidna who did his best to become invisible under a fallen log, before trundling off into the undergrowth.

After a fly-plagued lunch we headed onwards, pausing at King Edward's Saddle to explore the Button Grass 'moorland' where, amongst the Button Grass *Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus* we found *Celmisia saxifraga*, the bright pink trigger plant *Stylidium graminifolium* and plenty of the Mountain White Flag *Diplarrena moraea*.

From the Saddle, the road dropped down into rainforest, with a very different feel to the vegetation, much more lush and with more variety of trees, and fewer eucalypts. A short leg-stretch stop at Donaghy's Hill lookout failed to reveal the hoped-for Pink Robin.

After an ice cream and facilities stop in Queenstown, we arrived at Strahan, with dark clouds looming overhead...

After dinner, some of us visited the button grass heathland near to Strahan airstrip where, as well as a good view of the surrounding lightning (and thunder) that seemed to be all around us, we enjoyed the magical sound of around 8 Eastern Ground Parrots singing as darkness fell.

Back at the ranch, one or two of us were lucky enough to hear a Tasmanian Boobook singing from the trees right outside our rooms. And so ended another busy Tassie day.

14th January 2016. Macquarie Harbour and Gordon River.

The bulk of the day was spent on a cruise across Macquarie Harbour and up the Gordon River, travelling to the mouth of the harbour, at Hells Gate, where the Gordon River empties into the Southern Ocean; a stop to walk through the rainforest, admiring the bizarre mud 'chimneys' made by Burrowing Crayfish and the Huon Pine, the second longest-lived tree in the world; and a stop at Sarah's Island, a former penal colony with an interesting history.

After disembarking it was back on the bus, and we spent the rest of the afternoon driving north, via the mining town of Zeehan, to Cradle Mountain National Park, where we bumped into our first two Wombats browsing at the roadside.

15th January 2016. Cradle Mountain National Park.

The morning dawned bright but chilly. Clear skies and warmer temperatures were promised, so we headed up into the National Park for some long walks. For the majority, this took us from Ronny Creek up to Crater Lake and the saddle, from where the hardier souls made their way up the steep climb to Marion's Lookout and the cushion vegetation beyond, before dropping back down to the saddle, around Wombat Pool and Lake Lilla to Dove Lake and the very welcome shuttle bus home.

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

We spotted a Wombat up on the hillside at the start of the walk, and another bumbled across the road in front of the second shuttle bus on the way home. Birds encountered along the way included a Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo flying high overhead, several very bold Black Currawong, lots of very noisy Crescent Honeyeaters calling and singing from the scrub, a family group of Strong-billed Honeyeaters, Tasmanian Thornbill and two pairs of Tasmanian Shrubwren, while Peter caught up with a Scrubtit, the last of the traditional 12 endemic birds.

At the start of the walk, the botanists admired an impressive grove of *Richea pandanifolia* growing along a stream line. Among the subalpine forest trees were some wonderful old pines: King Billy Pine near to the waterfall and Pencil Pine around Wombat Pool as well as two species of southern beech: *Nothofagus cunninghamii* with the small, evergreen leaves and *N. gunnii* with the larger, deciduous leaves. A single photogenic spike of Tasmanian Christmas Bells *Blandfordia punicea* was very popular on the shores of Crater Lake.

During our after-dinner night drive, we found plenty of the now-usual suspects: Tasmanian Pademelon everywhere and plenty of Bennett's Wallabies, six Common wombats and eight Brush-tailed Possums put in appearances, and at the Dove Lake car park we disturbed a Spot-tailed Quoll, which ran off down the track to the lake, looking over its shoulder a couple of times.

16th January 2016. Cradle Mountain to Stanley, and The Nut

Blue skies once more, with barely a cloud to be seen and a warm sun on our backs as we walked the boardwalk trail up to Waldheim and then from Ronny Creek back down to Snake Hill (or all the way to the National Park Interpretation Centre for the more energetic amongst us). A particularly amiable Wombat put on quite a show as he sunbathed and scratched outside his burrow, while equally photogenic was the Echidna virtually next door. The morning wasn't particularly birdy, but we did get good views of Yellow Wattlebird along the track. Metallic Skinks were present in very good numbers, basking in the sun on the boardwalk, while the bushes were busy with the black and cream butterflies, the endemic Tasmanian Leprea Brown. Most appealing amongst the plants on show were the golden everlasting *Xerochrysum subundulatum*.

After lunch back at the Visitor Centre (where another Echidna was busy scoffing ants, totally unconcerned by the surrounding cameras), we visited the Tasmanian Devil breeding centre, Devils@Cradle, where we learned more about the problems facing the Devils across the island and admired several of the animals themselves, including one particularly placid youngster: also on hand for the petting experience was an orphaned Wombat. Both species of quoll are also kept here, and we saw the impressive Spotted-tailed Quoll putting up quite a fight as one of the keepers tried to move him to a bigger enclosure.

After a busy morning, we left Cradle Mountain behind us, and struck out north, towards the coast. We made a short stop at the bottom of Hellyer Gorge to walk along the short stretch of river, where a Macleay's Swallowtail fluttered about, and a very brave Superb Fairywren put on quite a show.

Up to the coast, where the smoke seemed to be at its thickest as we made our way westwards, passing an impressive Tiger Snake crossing the road in front of us as well as our tenth Echidna of the day and finally arriving at the tiny seaside town of Stanley.

With dinner out of the way, the day was not yet over: a dusk walk up a very (very!) steep track took us to the top of 'The Nut', the 13 million year old volcanic plug which dominates the town. We arrived in time for an impressive smoke-filled sunset, and with plenty of time to get ourselves in position. At first nothing much happened... but as the light disappeared and the stars came out, the birds arrived...the air around us filled up with Short-tailed Shearwaters, swooping and shearing around us, calling and chuckling as they went, several thousand birds returning to their nest burrows, crops filled with squid and fish for the hungry chicks underground.

After enjoying the spectacle, we made our way (carefully) back down the hill to the bus and just down the road to the beach. Here, yet more hungry chicks were being fed by noisy parents, this time the colony of Little Blue Penguins. Tasmanian night life at its best.

17th January 2016. Stanley, Burnie and Mountain Valley

We started the day with a couple of hours to explore the pretty little town of Stanley or to venture again up onto the Nut, where Greenfinches were singing, Common Brown butterflies were enjoying the sunshine and a Nankeen Kestrel was spotted, at one of its few nesting sites in Tasmania.

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

Our drive east along the coast took us first to Deception Cove, where the grove of eucalyptus trees was home to Yellow-throated and Strong-billed Honeyeaters, Silveryeye and a singing Grey Shrike Thrush. On the sandy shores of the estuary, a couple of Red-capped Plovers were found, along with a handful of Australian Pied Oystercatchers, plenty of Masked Lapwing and a single White-faced Heron.

The roads of Tasmania are awash with roadkill, but the stretch between Stanley and Burnie seemed particularly bad: along 43km of road, we passed 57 dead marsupials (mostly Pademelons) along with four dead rabbits.

At Burnie, we had our picnic lunch at Fernie Glade, a lovely little riverside reserve, where Beautiful Firetail, Satin Flycatcher and Australian Golden Whistler all passed by, plenty of fantails and thornbills twittered from the bushes and a family of Tasmanian Native Hens fussed and squawked. Pademelons and yet another Echidna all put in appearances, but not the animal we'd come to see...

Time to move on, and we struck inland from Ulverston, following the increasingly twisty roads that eventually brought us to Mountain Valley Retreat. Outside one of the cabins, a pair of Striated Pardalotes were busy feeding young in their nest burrow, while those who ventured down to the river were successful in their quest and had two or three sightings of a Platypus. After dinner, in the charmingly rustic dining room, we all returned to the riverbank, where at least three Platypuses were seen feeding in the failing dusk light.

Back to the cabins, and with dusk firmly fallen and our verandas all suitably baited, we settled in for the wait...

Some of us didn't need to wait very long, and it was just 10.15 when the first Tasmanian Devils arrived for their slap up dinner. Over the next four hours, at least three different Devils put in appearances at four of the five cabins, venturing onto our porches to take advantage of the free meal, and at 2am a handsome Spot-tailed Quoll showed up as well. For those staying at the nearby B&B, the drive back to their beds was an eventful one, with the road alive with marsupials: Tasmanian Pademelons aplenty, both Brush-tailed and Ring-tailed Possums, a speedy Southern Brown Bandicoot, a bouncing White-footed Dunnart and another road-crossing Tasmanian Devil.

18th January 2016. Narawntapu National Park and Tamar Island Wetlands

For some, the day started with a repeat showing from the duck-billed stars of the river, with at least two Platypuses again being seen.

With differing levels of sleep having been achieved during the night, a slightly more relaxed start than normal saw us heading back to the coast, via two road casualty Devils, a very sad sight after last night, and a coffee stop at a chocolate factory, followed by The Cherry Shed and a bakery. Other than food, our destination this morning was Narawntapu National Park (once known by the less appealing name of Asbestos Range National Park). Here we ambled through the sandy coastal bush and marsupial-grazed 'lawns', checking out the bird hide overlooking a large lagoon on the way.

The lagoon was home to the usual array of waterbirds: Coot, Chestnut Teal, Masked Lapwing, Hoary-headed Grebes and a cormorant or two. Much more excitingly, across on the far bank were several Foresters or Eastern Grey Kangaroos lazing about nonchalantly in the sunshine: the biggest of Tasmania's marsupials. Following the path around through the bush, we finally emerged into the open on the 'lawn', and were able to get brilliant close-up views of the kangaroos, mostly females and youngsters with at least one big "boomer" (the name for a male kangaroo) who was very protective of his harem.

Also on the shore were Australian Pipits, a single Black-fronted Dotterel and a handful of White-fronted Chats, strange honeyeaters that are filling the wagtail/wheatear niche. Some of us also saw a brief Lowland Copperhead as it slithered across the path.

With the day by now well heated up, we struck inland, pausing briefly for a look at the Grass Trees *Xanthorrhoea australis*, before arriving mid-afternoon at Tamar Island Wetlands, just north of Launceston. Here we wandered out along the boardwalk through the reedbeds and lagoons along the western side of the Tamar. The tide was well out when we arrived, with not a lot of open water visible on the river, but we did find a group of Black-fronted Dotterel, several very photogenic Australasian Swamphens, fly-overs by a group of Great White Egrets and a pair of White-bellied Eagles. Not quite so visible were the Little Grassbirds which could be heard in the reeds, their song a very mournful tri-syllabic whistle, and only one could be persuaded out, very briefly as it flew from one group of reeds to another.

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

19th January 2016. Free day around Launceston

20th January 2013. Ben Lomond National Park

The day dawned very, very smoky, with at least 80 fires now burning across the island: it's a surprise that the smoke detectors in the hotel weren't triggered!

Not far to go today, we headed to Ben Lomond National Park. The Ben Lomond road was another with a particularly high marsupial death rate: on just 27.5km of road, we passed 61 dead marsupials (along with one Blue-tonged Skink, one honeyeater, one Forest Raven and a chicken...).

Driving up through the foothills of the plateau, through a tall forest of *Eucalyptus delegatensis*, plenty of smaller birds were flitting about: fantails and Silvereyes, a couple of young Flame Robins, Tasmanian Scrubwren and Black Currawong, a single Green Rosella: by now, all the usual fare. Less expected was the female Spotted Quail-thrush that walked across the road, then flitted back into cover on the verge when we stopped. She walked out a couple of times, with a mouth full of food ready to feed to her unseen brood, but decided against it and flew off back into the forest.

Emerging from the forest, where the much smaller *Eucalyptus archeri* took over, we stopped a couple of times, to admire the impressive 'organ pipes' geology and the view down into the lowlands. We also found plenty of flowering gentians, a pair of Scrubtits finally showed well to all, and tiny Fringed Blue butterflies were flitting about.

Around the top, several Bennett's Wallabies bounced, with Australian Pipits wandering about and the occasional Northern Snow Skink on the rocks, an endemic and noticeably larger than the more abundant Metallic Skinks we've been seeing throughout the trip. Several small tarns were full of tadpoles. But the main attraction was the alpine flora: *Senecio pectinatis*, the large, single-headed alpine daisy; a multitude of photogenic *Gentianella diemensis* in good flower, along with plenty of Mountain Rocket *Bellendenia montana*; large areas covered by the Pineapple Grass *Astelia alpine* and two mat-forming plants, *Pentachondra pumila* with white flowers and small red fruits, and the silver-green leaves of the otherwise very similar *Cyathodes dealbata*; three lovely cushion plants, two endemics (the leaf green *Abrotanella forsteroides* and the sage green *Pterygopappus lawrencii*) and the very hard green cushions of *Donatia novae-zelandiae* which is found only in Tasmania and New Zealand; and higher up on the bare rock, some patches of the Diamond Ewartia *Ewartia catipes*.

21st January 2016. Launceston to Bicheno

Another smoky start as we made our leisurely way eastwards, pausing for coffee and cake at Campbelltown, where we admired the bricks commemorating the town's convict history.

Around lunchtime we arrived at the seaside town of Bicheno, and made our way down to a picnic site by the shore for our lunch. Looking out to sea, we were distracted from the food by the comings and goings around some of the offshore islands: plenty of Crested Terns around the island, with hundreds of Short-tailed Shearwaters milling about out beyond them. Amongst them were a small number of white-bellied Fluttering Shearwaters, Australasian Gannets and several majestic Shy Albatrosses that moved past, eventually allowing everyone to get a look. Less showy was a small pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins who moved past at about the same (far) distance.

Moving round the coast a little, we found the source of all those Crested Terns: Governors Island just offshore, where a busy seabird colony included a few hundred Crested Tern nests, all three species of gull, Black-faced Cormorant and a couple of pairs of Sooty Oystercatchers all going about their noisy business.

In the afternoon we moved up the coast a little way to the dry sclerophyll forest at Douglas Aspley National Park, finding plenty to keep us entertained, notably the Pink Hyacinth Orchid *Dipodium roseum* in flower, several nymphs of the metallic shield bug *Scutiphora pedicellata*, and a mixed feeding flock that as well as the now-familiar honeyeaters contained a couple of Olive Whistlers and a family of Spotted Pardalotes.

After a pub grub dinner, as International Penguin Awareness Day (21st January every year!) came to an end, some of us ventured down to the rocky beach after dinner and spent a very special half hour or so amongst the Little Blue Penguins as they made their way up the rocks around us. Rather fitting, really...

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

22nd January 2016. Freycinet National Park

The day started with noisy Musk Lorikeets flying around the flowering trees along the street from the motel and a large pod of Common Dolphins feeding out in the bay, visible from our breakfast table as they attracted a feeding frenzy of terns, gulls and gannets.

A day spent in the Freycinet National Park, with stunning views from the lookouts overlooking Coles Bay and Wineglass Bay and at the lighthouse at Cape Tourville, a paddle on the beach by Freycinet Lodge and a visit to the saltmarsh at Moulting Lagoon.

Skink of the day was White's Skink, at last an easy-to-identify Tasmanian skink that allowed everyone to get their photos. The trail at Wineglass Bay was fairly busy with tourists, so quiet for birdlife, but a Grey Butcherbird put in an appearance at lunch, no doubt eyeing up our picnic.

From Cape Tourville, we got good (if distant) views of the Australian Fur Seals on the Nuggets, offshore rocks that also played host to guano-splattered breeding colonies of Australasian Gannet, Black-faced Cormorant, Pacific Gull and Caspian Terns. Further out, more Shy Albatrosses moved past, as well as one grey-headed bird which was probably a Buller's Albatross.

At Moulting Lagoon, the only migratory waders we could find were a couple of small flocks of Red-necked Stints, alongside plenty of Pied Oystercatchers and White-faced Herons, along with a single Little Egret, our only sighting of the trip.

23rd January 2016. Back to Hobart

Bidding farewell to Bicheno, our drive back down to Hobart took in a caffeine stop at the little town of Swansea (pronounced Swan Sea and a much more scenic spot than its Welsh namesake) and a couple of Cape Barren Geese (at last) in a roadside field.

Our destination for the afternoon was Mount Wellington, where we followed in the footsteps of Charles Darwin who made the trek to the summit in 1836.

After lunch at The Springs, we headed up to the summit, from where we enjoyed the spectacular views down over Hobart: amazingly clear conditions, considering the recent smoky days we've had. While some of us walked back down to The Springs, others explored the summit. Amongst the new plants to be found were the showy white flowers of Christmas Mintbush *Prostranthera laianthos*, the purple fruits of Purple Cheeseberry *Cyathodes glauca*, the Native Solomons Seal *Drymophila cyanocarpa* and the paired leaves of a bird orchid *Chiloglottis sp.* Unfortunately the dry conditions meant that none were flowering this year.

24th January 2016. Departure (and Port Arthur)

Alas, all good things come to an end, and the same is true of good weather: for those of us hoping to take the extension trip down to Melaleuca today, the arrival of a weather front in the south west of the island meant that our flight was cancelled, along with our plans for visiting the Orange-bellied Parrots: a terrible disappointment to finish what was otherwise a near-perfect trip.

Some of us went our separate ways, heading off to Melbourne, Sydney or elsewhere in Tasmania, while others finished the trip off with a day trip out to Port Arthur, where a Southern Brown Bandicoot paid us a visit over lunch, hopping rather incongruously (and a little blindly) around the car park...

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



The stars of the show: Tasmania's mammals.

Top: a Tasmanian Devil at Mountain Valley (photo by Peter Black)

Bottom: Eastern Quoll on Bruny Island and Platypus at Mountain Valley (photos by Peter Edmonds)

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



The stars of the show: just some of Tasmania's mammals.
Clockwise, from top left: Tasmanian Pademelon at Narawntapu; Bennett's Wallaby on Bruny Island;
Forester Kangaroos at Narawntapu; Short-beaked Echidna at Cradle Mountain

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



From top: Forester Kangaroo lounging at Narawntapu, Southern Brown Bandicoot at Port Arthur, Common Wombat at Cradle Mountain

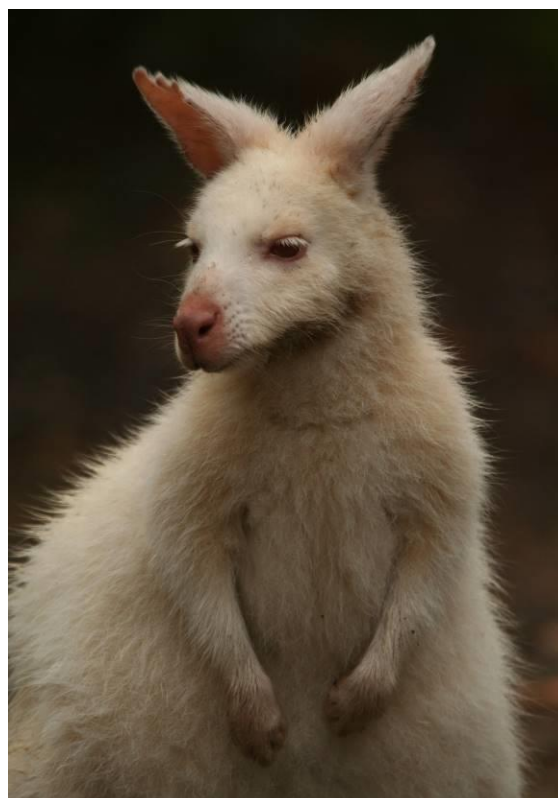
Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

E = Tasmanian endemic species, *E* = now restricted to Tasmania, having become extinct on the mainland, e = Tasmanian endemic subspecies, I = introduced. H = heard, D = dead, S = signs/tracks

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
MAMMALS: MONOTREMES																		
Family Ornithorhynchidae (Platypus)																		
	Platypus	<i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>	At Mountain Valley Retreat, at least three seen in the river in the evening of 18 th and again in the early morning of 19 th .															
Family Tachyglossidae (Echidnas)																		
e	Short-beaked Echidna	<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus setosus</i>		2	3	2	2	1	10	2				1	2	3	1	
MAMMALS: MARSUPIALS																		
Dasyuridae (Marsupial Carnivores)																		
	Spot-tailed (=Tiger) Quoll	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	One seen briefly in the headlights at Dove Lake, Cradle Mountain NP on 5 th , and one came to the meat at Mountain Valley Retreat (seen at 2am, and filmed on the trail cam at 4am)															
E	Eastern Quoll	<i>Dasyurus viverrinus</i>	Around 15 seen on the roads of North Bruny island on 11 th , as well as two roadkill animals. Another dead on the road up to Lake St Claire on 13 th . Footprints near the cabins at Ben Lomond, 20 th .															
E	Tasmanian Devil	<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i>	At Mountain Valley Retreat, at least three came to the baited porches of our cabins between 10.15pm and at least 1.30am, and another was seen crossing the road in front of the bus at about 11pm. Dead animals seen on the road up to Lake St Claire on 13 th and between Ulverstone and Lonngara (1 on 17 th , 2 on 18 th including a freshly dead male).															
	White-footed Dunnart	<i>Sminthopsis leucopus</i>	The small 'hopping mouse' seen cross the road in front of the bus on the drive back to the B&B, 17 th															
Family Peramelidae (Bandicoots)																		
	Southern Brown Bandicoot	<i>Isoodon obesulus</i>	One seen on the road on the drive back to the B&B, 17 th . One in the car park at Port Arthur, 24 th .															
	Eastern Barred Bandicoot	<i>Perameles gunnii</i>	Singles dead on the road near Stanley, 15 th and near Devils Kitchen, 24 th .															
Family Vombatidae (Wombats)																		
e	Common Wombat	<i>Vombatus ursinus tasmaniensis</i>	S			D	3	8	3				S		S		D	
Family Phalangeridae (Brushtail Possums)																		
e	Common Brushtail Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula fuliginosus</i>	D	6	D	D	D	8	D	3	D		D	1		4	D	
Family Pseudocheiridae (Ringtail Possums)																		
e	Common Ringtail Possum	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus convolutor</i>	One seen on the road on the drive back to the B&B, 17 th . One dead on the road to Port Arthur, 24 th															
Family Potoroidae (Potoroos & Bettongs)																		
E	Southern Bettong	<i>Bettongia gaimardi</i>	Two glimpsed by one or two of us at Waterworks Reserve, 23 rd															
e	Long-nosed Potoroo	<i>Potorous tridactylus apicalis</i>	One dead on the road up to Lake St Claire on 13 th .															
Family Macropodidae (Kangaroos & Wallabies)																		
e	Bennett's (Red-necked) Wallaby	<i>Macropus r. rufogriseus</i>	D	X	X	D	X	X	D	D	D		X	X	X	X	D	
e	Forester (Eastern Grey) Kangaroo	<i>Macropus giganteus tasmaniensis</i>	At least 25 relaxing around the lake shore, Narawntapu NP, 18 th . One dead by the road, 21 st															
E	Tasmanian Pademelon	<i>Thylogale billardieri</i>	X	X	X	D	X	X	D	X	X		D	D		X	D	

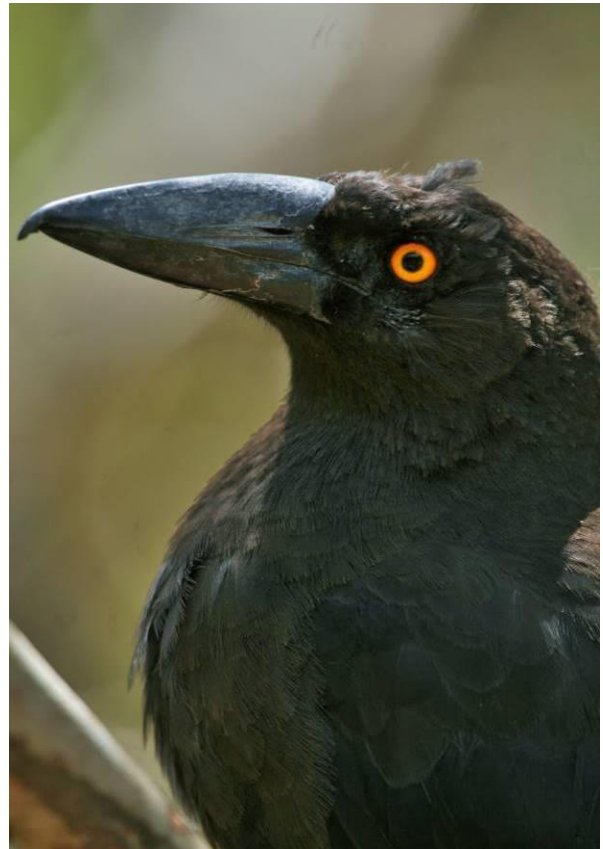
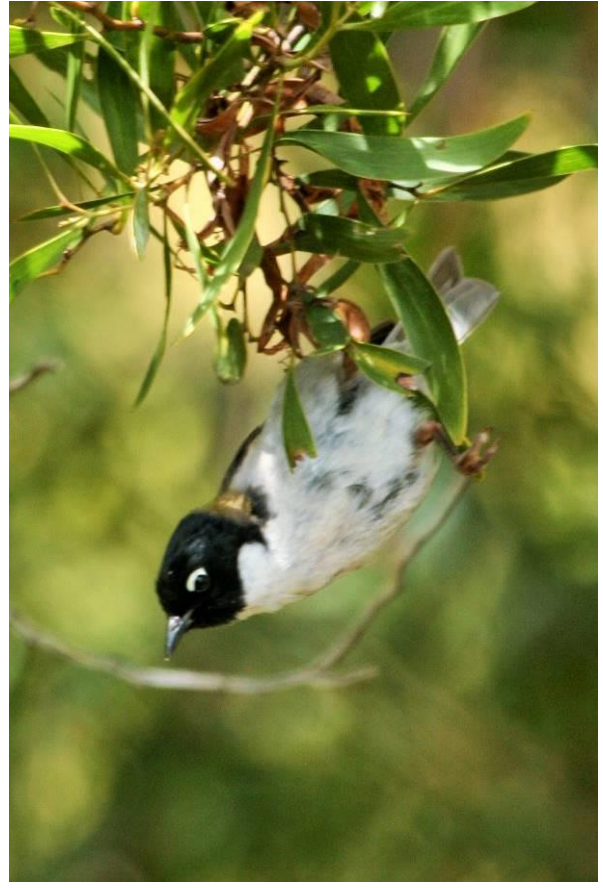
Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
MAMMALS: PLACENTALS																		
Family Leporidae (Rabbits)																		
I	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>							X							D		
I	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	D	X	X	
Family Delphidae (Dolphins)																		
	Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	One small pod off shore from Bicheno, 21 st .															
	Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphis capensis</i>	A large pod feeding off shore from Bicheno early morning on 22 nd , including a handful bow riding into the bay.															
Family Otariidae (Eared Seals & Sealions)																		
	Australian Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus doriferus</i>		X	X										X			



Common Wombat, Tasmanian Pademelon and Bennett's Wallaby (pale form)

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



Tasmania's Endemic Birds. We found all twelve of the 'traditional' endemics, as well as Swift Parrot, Shy Albatross and hearing the newly-split Tasmanian Boobook.

Clockwise, from top left: Forty-spotted Pardalote on Bruny Island; Black-headed Honeyeater on Bruny Island; Black Currawong at Mount Field; Yellow-throated Honeyeater at Mount Field

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

BIRDS

Traditionally, Tasmania is said to be home to 12 bird species found nowhere else, the endemics. A further three species (Orange-bellied Parrot, Swift Parrot and Shy Albatross) nest nowhere else but migrate elsewhere in the winter. The Ninox owls on Tasmania were traditionally thought to be the same species as found on mainland Australia, the Southern Boobook. In recent years it was suggested that they were actually a subspecies of the New Zealand Morepork, and most recently Bird Life International has recognised Tasmanian Boobook as its own species, *Ninox leucopteryx*. Tasmania's other owl, the Masked Owl, is also represented by an endemic subspecies *Tyto novaehollandiae castanops*, and this may yet prove to be another endemic species.

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
	Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese & Swans)																	
	Black Swan	<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	X	X	X	X				X	X			X	X	X	X	
	Cape Barren Goose	<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>														X	X	
	Australian Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>									X			X		X		
	Australian Wood Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X		X	X	
	Australasian Shoveler	<i>Anas rhynchotis</i>			X						X							
	Grey Teal	<i>Anas gracilis</i>			X	X					X							
	Chestnut Teal	<i>Anas castanea</i>			X	X				X	X			X	X	X	X	
I	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			X									X				
	Pacific Black Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	X	X	X	X				X	X			X		X	X	
	Hardhead	<i>Aythya australis</i>			X	X				X	X					X		
	Freckled Duck	<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>			X													
	A flock of 15 seen at Gould's Lagoon on 12 th . Considered a rare visitor to Tasmania, but apparently increasing.																	
	Musk Duck	<i>Biziura lobata</i>	X													X	X	
	Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)																	
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>															X	
	Hoary-headed Grebe	<i>Poliocephalus poliocephalus</i>			X	X					X			X		X		
	Australasian Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>									X							
	Family Diomedidae (Albatrosses)																	
	Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>												X	X		X	
	Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters & Petrels)																	
	Short-tailed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>							X					X	X	X		
	Fluttering Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gavia</i>												X				
	Family Spheniscidae (Penguins)																	
	Little Blue Penguin	<i>Eudyptula minor</i>		X					X					X	X			
	Family Sulidae (Gannets)																	
	Australasian Gannet	<i>Morvus serator</i>		X	X		X			X				X	X		X	
	Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)																	
	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	
	Little Black Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	X	X	X	X	X			X								
	Little Pied Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	X		X						X			X	X	X	X	
	Black-faced Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscescens</i>		X	X		X							X	X	X	X	
	Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)																	
	Australian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	X		X										X			
	Family Ardeidae (Herons & Egrets)																	
	White-faced Heron	<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	X	X	X					X	X				X	X	X	
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>									X							
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>													X			
	Family Accipitridae (Hawks & Eagles)																	
	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>		X	X		X				X			X		X		
	Collared Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>			X													
	Swamp Harrier	<i>Circus approximans</i>	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	
	Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Aquila audax</i>												X				

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
	Family Falconidae (Falcons)																	
	Nankeen Kestrel	<i>Falco cenchroides</i>								X								
	Brown Falcon	<i>Falco berigora</i>		X		X				X	X						X	
	Family Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules & Coots)																	
	Australasian Swamphe	<i>Porphyrio melanotus</i>			X					D	X							
E	Tasmanian Native-hen	<i>Tribonyx mortierii</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X		X	X	
	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulca atra</i>	X		X	X			X	X	X					X	X	
	Family Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)																	
	Pied Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>		X	X					X					X	X	X	
	Sooty Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>		X	X									X		X	X	
	Family Charadriidae (Plovers & Lapwings)																	
	Masked Lapwing	<i>Vanellus miles</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Red-capped Plover	<i>Charadrius ruficapillus</i>								X								
	Hooded Plover	<i>Thinornis rubricollis</i>		X														
	A pair on the beach at Adventurer's Bay, 11 th . Considered Vulnerable by Birdlife International, with a total world population of around 7000 individuals.																	
	Black-fronted Dotterel	<i>Elseya melanops</i>									X							
	Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)																	
	Latham's Snipe	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>			X													
	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>														X		
	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>													X			
	Family Laridae (Gulls & Terns)																	
	Pacific Gull	<i>Larus pacificus</i>		X					X	X				X	X	X	X	
	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X	X	X	X	X								X	X	X	
	Silver Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>													X			
	Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>		X			X			X				X	X		X	
	Family Columbidae (Pigeons & Doves)																	
I	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	X	X	X	X				X		X	X			X	X	
	Brush Bronzewing	<i>Phaps elegans</i>		X	H					H	H							
	Family Podargidae (Frogmouths)																	
	Tawny Frogmouth	<i>Podargus strigoides</i>								X								
	Family Cacatuidae (Cockatoos)																	
	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	X		X	X		X	X	X	X						X	
	Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>								X	X			X			X	
	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	X			X	X		X	X			X	X			X	
	Family Psittacidae (Parrots)																	
	Musk Lorikeet	<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	X		X									X	X	X		
E	Green Rosella	<i>Platycercus caledonicus</i>	X	X	X	X				X		X	X	X			X	
	Eastern Rosella	<i>Platycercus eximius</i>			X											X		
	Swift Parrot	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>			X													
	A small group seen zooming through the tree tops at Inala, 12 th . Now considered Critically Endangered by BirdLife International: the total population fell from 5000 birds in 1987/88 to 2158 in 2010, with recent models predicting a decline of 87% in the next 12-18 years. The population decline seems to be driven by nest predation by the introduced Sugar Glider.																	
	Blue-winged Parrot	<i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>					X		X	X								
	Eastern Ground Parrot	<i>Pezoporus wallicus</i>				X												
	Around 8 birds heard calling and at least one glimpsed in the coastal heath by Strahan airfield, evening of 13 th .																	
	Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)																	
	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>			X				H	H				X				
	Shining Bronze-cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>												H				
	Family Strigidae (Owls)																	
	Tasmanian Boobook	<i>Ninox leucopterus</i>				H					H			D				

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
	Family Halcyonidae (Wood Kingfishers)																	
	Laughing Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>			H					H	H		X	H	X	D		
	Family Maluridae (Fairwrens)																	
	Superb Fairywren	<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Southern Emu-wren	<i>Stipiturus malachurus</i>				H												
	Family Pardalotidae (Pardalotes)																	
	Spotted Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>												X				
E	Forty-spotted Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus quadrigintus</i>			X													
	At least two family groups seen around the Manna Gum trees at Inala, Bruny Island on 12 th . Considered Endangered by Birdlife International, with a total world population of fewer than 1500 individuals, the vast majority on Maria and Bruny Islands: the population has declined by 50% in the last 20 years.																	
	Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>								X	X					X		
	Family Acanthizidae (Thornbills & scrubwrens)																	
E	Tasmanian Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis humilis</i>			H	X	X	X	X	X			X		X			
E	Scrubtit	<i>Acanthornis magnus</i>						X	X		X		X					
	Brown Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>		X		X				X				X			X	
E	Tasmanian Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza ewingii</i>		X	X			X	X	X	X		X			X		
	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>		X							X							
	Family Meliphagidae (Honeyeaters)																	
E	Yellow Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera paradoxa</i>	X	X	H	X		H	X				X	X	X	X	X	
	Little Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i>	X		X					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Noisy Miner	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>			X									X		X	X	
E	Yellow-throated Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus flavicollis</i>	X	X	X	X				X	X			X	X	X	X	
E	Strong-billed Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus validirostris</i>			X	X		X		X								
E	Black-headed Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus affinis</i>		X	X					X	X			X			X	
	Crescent Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera</i>	X		H	X	H	X	X				X			X	X	
	New Holland Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>		X	X	X			X	X					X	X	X	
	Eastern Spinebill	<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>			H	X											X	
	White-fronted Chat	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>									X							
	Family Psophodidae (Quail-thrushes)																	
	Spotted Quail-thrush	<i>Cinclosoma punctatum</i>											X					
	Family Campephagidae (Cuckoo-shrikes)																	
	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	X							X	X		X	X		X		
	Family Pachycephalidae (Whistlers & shrikethrushes)																	
	Olive Whistler	<i>Pachycephala olivacea</i>												X				
	Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>			X					X				X				
	Grey Shrikethrush	<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>		X	X				H	X	X							
	Family Artamidae (Butcherbirds & Currawongs)																	
	Dusky Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>		X	X						X							
	Grey Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>									H				X			
	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
E	Black Currawong	<i>Strepera fuliginosa</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X			X		
	Grey Currawong	<i>Strepera versicolor</i>		X														
	Family Rhipiduridae (Fantails)																	
	Grey Fantail	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Family Corvidae (Crows)																	
	Forest Raven	<i>Corvus tasmanicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Family Monarchidae (Monarchs)																	
	Satin Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>			H	X				X								
	Family Petroicidae (Australian Robins)																	
	Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica boodang</i>		X														
	Flame Robin	<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>			X	X											X	
	Pink Robin	<i>Petroica rodinogaster</i>			H	X	H											
E	Dusky Robin	<i>Melanodryas vittata</i>		X	X					X								

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
	Family Alaudidae (Larks)																	
I	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>							X	X	X				X			
	Family Megaluridae (Grassbirds)																	
	Little Grassbird	<i>Megalurus gramineus</i>									X							
	Family Zosteropidae (White-eyes)																	
	Silvereye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	X	X	X	X				X	X			X	X		X	
	Family Hirundinidae (Swallows)																	
	Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Tree Martin	<i>Hirundo nigricans</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X		X	
	Family Turdidae (Thrushes)																	
I	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Family Sturnidae (Starlings)																	
I	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Family Estrildidae (Estrildid Finches)																	
	Beautiful Firetail	<i>Stagnopleura bella</i>			X					X								
	Family Passeridae (Sparrows)																	
I	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Family Motacillidae (Wagtails & Pipits)																	
	Australasian Pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>			X				X		X		X					
	Family Fringillidae (Finches)																	
I	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>							X	X	X		X	X		X		
I	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	



Superb Fairy Wren, Cape Barren Goose and Musk Lorikeet

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



Some of Tasmania's skinks: (top to bottom, left to right) White's Skink, Spotted Skink, Tasmanian Tree Skink and Northern Snow Skink

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
REPTILES																		
Family Agamidae (Agamid lizards & dragons)																		
	Mountain Dragon	<i>Rankinia diemensis</i>										X						
Family Scincidae (Skinks)																		
	White's Skink	<i>Egernia whitii</i>										X			X			
	Delicate Skink	<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>														X		
E	Northern Snow Skink	<i>Niveoscincus greeni</i>						X					X					
E	Southern Snow Skink	<i>Niveoscincus microlepidotus</i>	X													X		
E	Spotted Skink	<i>Niveoscincus ocellatus</i>				X							X		X			
E	Tasmanian Tree Skink	<i>Niveoscincus pretiosus</i>										X		X				
	Metallic Skink	<i>Niveoscincus metallicus</i>		X	X	X		X					X	X	X	X		
	Blotched Blue-tongued Skink	<i>Tiliqua nigrolutea</i>			D	X				D			D					
Family Elapidae (Elapid Snakes)																		
	Lowland Copperhead	<i>Austrelaps superbus</i>									X					D	D	
	White-lipped Snake	<i>Drysdalia coronoides</i>				X							X					
	Tiger Snake	<i>Notechis scutatus</i>	X						X								D	
FROGS																		
	Banjo Frog	<i>Limnodynastes dumerili</i>	Calling from the lagoon at Nawantapu, 18th															
	Brown Tree Frog	<i>Litoria ewingi</i>	One in a lily flower. Adventure Bay. 11 th															

			10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th
	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME																
BUTTERFLIES																		
Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails)																		
	Macleay's Swallowtail	<i>Graphium macleayanus</i>							X									
Family Pieridae (Whites)																		
	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>								X			X	X	X	X		
Family Lycaenidae (Blues, Coppers & Hairstreaks)																		
	Fringed Blue	<i>Neolucia agricola</i>						X	X				X					
Family Nymphalidae (Nymphs)																		
	Meadow Argus	<i>Junonia villida</i>					X								X	X	X	
	Yellow Admiral	<i>Vanessa itea</i>	X	X									X	X	X	X		
	Australian Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa kershawi</i>							X	X								
Family Satyridae (Browns)																		
	Klug's Xenica	<i>Geitoneura klugii</i>		X										X				
	Common Brown	<i>Heteronympha merope</i>			X			X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
	Leprea Brown	<i>Nesoxenica leprea</i>		X				X	X									
DRAGONFLIES AND DAMSELFLIES																		
	Swamp Darner	<i>Austroaeschna parvistigma</i>	One on the river at Hellyer Gorge, 16 th															
	Blue Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum caledonicum</i>	Powder blue skimmer, Narawntapu, 18 th															
	Tau Emerald	<i>Hemicordulia tau</i>	One posed by the path at Narawntapu, 18 th															
	Australian Emperor	<i>Hemianax papuensis</i>	The large dragonfly hawking the treetops, Narawntapu, 18 th															
	Blue Ringtail	<i>Austrolestes annulosus</i>	The small blue damselfly, Narawntapu, 18 th															
	Red-and-Blue Damselfly	<i>Xanthagrion erythroneurum</i>	The red and blue damselfly, Narawntapu, 18 th															

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

PLANTS: some of the more notable plant species recorded during the trip			
CONIFERS			
Cupressaceae			
E	<i>Athrotaxis cupressoides</i>	Pencil Pine	Cradle Mountain: Wombat Pool, 15 th
E	<i>Athrotaxis selaginoides</i>	King Billy Pine	Cradle Mountain: near the waterfall, 15 th
E	<i>Diselma archeri</i>	Dwarf Pine	Cradle Mountain: Marion's Lookout, 15 th
	<i>Callitris rhomboidea</i>	Oyster Bay Pine	Douglas Aspley NP
Podocarpaceae			
E	<i>Lagarostrobos franklinii</i>	Huon Pine	Gordon River rainforest, 14 th
E	<i>Microcachrys tetragona</i>	Creeping Strawberry Pine	creeping conifer with red fruits at the top of Marion's Lookout, 15 th
E	<i>Phyllocladus aspleniifolius</i>	Celery-top Pine	eg Lake St Clair, Cradle Mountain
	<i>Podocarpus lawrencei</i>	Mountain Plumpine	"curtain-like" conifer, at the top of Marion's Lookout, 15 th
FLOWERING PLANTS: DICOTS			
Apiaceae			
	<i>Eryngium vesiculosum</i>	Prickfoot	On the damp shores of the lagoon, Narawntapu NP, 18 th
	<i>Oreomyrrhis eriopoda</i>	Australian Caraway	The tiny 'carrot', Ben Lomond, 20 th
Asteraceae			
E	<i>Abrotanella forsteroides</i>	Eastern Cushion Plant	Ben Lomond: the softer green cushion plant
	<i>Celmisia asteliifolia</i>		Large alpine 'daisy', eg Cradle Mountain
E	<i>Craspedia alpina</i>	Alpine Billy Buttons	The white billy buttons, Ben Lomond
	<i>Craspedia glauca</i>	Yellow Billy Buttons	Ronny Creek, 15 th
E	<i>Ewartia catipes</i>	Diamond Ewartia	Ben Lomond: the low-growing, silvery plant on the bare rocks at the top
E	<i>Ewartia meredithiae</i>	Rusty Cushion Plant	Marion's Lookout, 15 th
E	<i>Helichrysum milliganii</i>	Milligan's Everlasting	Marion's Lookout, 15 th
	<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusty Daisy-bush	daisy bush: in flower on Mount Field, 10 th , fluffy seedheads at Ben Lomond, 20 th
E	<i>Pterygopappus lawrencii</i>	Sage Cushion Plant	Ben Lomond: the sage green cushion plant
	<i>Senecio gunnii</i>	Mountain Fireweed	The 'groundsel', Ben Lomond
	<i>Senecio linearifolius</i>	Fire Groundsel	Common roadside plant
	<i>Senecio pectinatus</i>	Alpine Groundsel	The large single-flowered yellow daisy, Ben Lomond
	<i>Xerochrysum subundulatum</i>	Orange Everlasting	Ronny Creek, 16 th
Atherospermataceae			
	<i>Atherosperma moschatum</i>	Southern Sassafras	eg Cradle Mountain
Campanulaceae			
	<i>Wahlenbergia ceracea</i>	Waxy Bluebell	Cradle Mountain: the tall harebell
	<i>Wahlenbergia saxicola</i>	Mountain Bluebell	Ben Lomond: the small harebell
Casuarinaceae			
	<i>Alloscasuarina littoralis</i>	Bull Oak	Douglas Aspley NP
	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping She-Oak	Douglas Aspley NP
Chenopodiaceae			
	<i>Sarcocronia quinqueflora</i>	Beaded Glasswort	The samphire at Moulting Lagoon
Donatiaceae			
	<i>Donatia novae-zelandiae</i>	Western Cushionplant	Marion's Lookout & Ben Lomond: the hard, dense green cushion with few white flowers.
Droseraceae			
	<i>Drosera arcturi</i>	Arthur's Sundew	Mount Field, Cradle Mountain
Ericaceae (was Epacridaceae)			
E	<i>Richea pandanifolia</i>		eg Ronny Creek, shores of Lake Dobson
E	<i>Richea scoparia</i>		Common eg Mount Field, Cradle Mountain
E	<i>Richea dracophylla</i>		Mount Wellington, 23 rd
	<i>Pentachondra pumila</i>	Carpet Heath	Marion's Lookout and Ben Lomond: small red berries, mat forming

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists

E	<i>Trochocarpa thymifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Heath	Cradle Mountain: purple berries
E	<i>Cyathodes dealbata</i>	Silver Mat Heath	Ben Lomond: silvery leaves, mat forming
E	<i>Cyathodes glauca</i>	Purple Cheeseberry	Mount Wellington
	<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i>	Red Cheeseberry	Cradle Mountain
Gentianaceae			
	<i>Gentianella diemensis</i> agg	Snow Gentian	eg Mount Field, Marion's Lookout
Lamiaceae			
	<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Christmas Mint Bush	Mount Wellington, 23rd
Lauraceae			
	<i>Cassytha glabella</i>	Slender Devil's Twin	The parasitic 'dodder', throughout
Lentibulariaceae			
	<i>Utricularia dichotoma</i>	Fairy Aprons	Cradle Mountain (eg near Lake Lilla), 15th
Myrtaceae			
	<i>Baeckea gunniana</i>	Alpine Baeckea	Tiny white flowers, Cradle Mountain
	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i>	Black Peppermint	eg Douglas Aspley NP
E	<i>Eucalyptus archeri</i>	Alpine Cider Gum	Olive grey bark: at the tree line, Ben Lomond.
	<i>Eucalyptus delegatensis</i>	Gum-topped Stringybark	The tall forest trees, Ben Lomond
	<i>Eucalyptus regnans</i>	Mountain Ash	The enormous forest trees, Mount Field
	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum or White Gum	eg Inala and Douglas Aspley NP. The tree the 40-spotted Pardalotes feed in
E	<i>Leptospermum rupestre</i>	Alpine Tea Tree	Ben Lomond, 20th
E	<i>Melaleuca virens</i> (= <i>Callistemon viridiflorus</i>)	Lime Bottlebrush	eg Lake St Claire
Nothofagaceae			
	<i>Nothofagus cunninghamii</i>	Myrtle Beech	Rainforest: eg Cradle Mountain
	<i>Nothofagus gunnii</i>	Deciduous Beech	eg Cradle Mountain & Mt Field
Oxalidaceae			
	<i>Oxalis magellanica</i>		eg Mt Field, Cradle Mountain: white oxalis
Proteaceae			
	<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia	eg Cape Bruny, The Nut
E	<i>Bellenden montana</i>	Mountain Rocket	eg Cradle Mountain, Mt Field, Ben Lomond
	<i>Hakea lissosperma</i>	Mountain Needlewood	Ben Lomond, 20th
E	<i>Lomatia tinctoria</i>	Guitar Plant	Lake St Claire, 14 th
E	<i>Telopea truncate</i>	Tasmanian Waratah	Mount Field: red flowers, just gone over
Rutaceae			
E	<i>Boronia citriodora</i>	Lemon Boronia	Strongly lemon scented: Cradle Mountain
Santalaceae			
	<i>Exocarpos cupressiformis</i>	Native Cherry	A hemi-parasitic tree: Douglas Aspley NP
Stylidiaceae			
	<i>Stylidium graminifolium</i>	Grass Triggerplant	Common, eg King Edward's Pass
Winteraceae			
	<i>Tasmannia lanceolata</i>	Tasmanian Pepperberry	Common, eg Cradle Mountain
FLOWERING PLANTS: MONOCOTS			
Asteliaceae (was Liliaceae)			
	<i>Astelia alpina</i>	Pineapple Grass	Eg Marion's Lookout: red fruit
Blandfordiaceae (was Liliaceae)			
E	<i>Blandfordia punicea</i>	Tasmanian Christmas Bells	Cape Bruny (11 th) and Crater Lake (15 th)
Campynemataceae (was Liliaceae)			
E	<i>Campynema lineare</i>	Green Mountain Lily	Marion's Lookout. The only other member of the family is endemic to New Caledonia
Cyperaceae			
	<i>Gymnoschoenus spaerocephalus</i>	Button Grass	eg King Edward's Pass, Strahan
Orchidaceae			
	<i>Dipodium roseum</i>	Pink Hyacinth Orchid	Douglas Aspley NP: a hemi-parasite

Tasmania 2016: trip report and species lists



Top: *Xerochrysum subundulatum*; *Helichrysum millinganii* and Cradle Mountain; *Diplarrena moraea*
Middle: *Campynema lineare*; *Gentianella diemensis* on Ben Lomond
Bottom: *Bellendenia montana* on Ben Lomond; *Blandfordia punicea*