



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## The Launceston Walking Club & Wildcare Inc. - Friends of Tasman Island presents The 46<sup>th</sup> Do You Know Tasmania Show

### THE SHOW

Whether you are an 'armchair' bushwalker or a frequent visitor to our wild places, you'll enjoy the Launceston Walking Club's 46th "Do You Know Tasmania" show which takes its audience into the rugged and remote wilderness areas of our state. "We are presenting people an experience of Tasmania's wilderness" said DYKT committee chairman Rolfe de la Motte. "Many Tasmanians aren't fully aware of the variety of amazing places on their doorstep, and we are hoping to surprise and inspire with the broad range of subjects in our show."

Although mountains and islands feature as always, it's fair to say that this year's show contains quite a lot of water, with segments on kayaking on Macquarie Harbour, rafting the Franklin River, Lake Pedder before and after flooding, and an epic packrafting adventure on the Gordon River. This really does reflect the multi-activity nature of the Launceston Walking Club, which usually has three trips each weekend, mostly bushwalking, but also cycling, mountain biking, kayaking, skiing and caving.

The Club's popular wilderness slide and film shows have delighted many hundreds of Tasmanian and mainland audiences since the first public slide show in Launceston in 1955. Superb photography taken by club members on their forays into the wilder parts of Tasmania has shown our flora, fauna, and dramatic landscape at their best. This is combined with a number of films – recent films shot on lightweight DSLR and GoPro cameras and historic films shot using weighty 16mm cameras. The shows have justly achieved a reputation for photography of the highest standard, produced with professional commentary and Hi-Fi quality stereo sound.

### MOVIE COLLECTION DVD LAUNCH

This show will mark the launch of the next two DVD's Volumes 5 & 6, in a proposed series of eight, of our digitised 16mm film collection. These movies were produced from 1964 to the 1990's as a feature for our "Do You Know Tasmania" shows. They are now fascinating records of early bushwalking in Tasmania and show places that have changed, and walking techniques no longer accepted such as air drops and "burn, bash and bury", cooking over campfires, and camp construction from bush materials. Early interviews with characters such as Deny King and the Willsons at Melaleuca, document practices and events that are now part of history.

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### DETAILED CONTENT: WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

#### Part 1 – 60min

##### Introduction and mountains

Our show introduction will give you a taste of the mountainous DuCane Range as club members explore this region in the southern part of the Cradle Mountain Lake St Clair National Park.

##### Pick of Past Patrons Pics

It has been sixty years in 2014 since club Life Member and past Patron, John Miller, suggested that the Launceston Walking Club hold a Public Photo Night to help raise funds to pay off the new club transport - a lorry with bench seats and canvas cover christened "Matilda." After strong public support for the slide nights, movies were added in the early 1960's and the name "Do You Know Tasmania" became its permanent title. Now in this 46th show, we will be able to view a digitised selection of John Miller's early Kodachrome colour slides.

### **"Wee Georgie Wood"**

This movie of Tullah's two foot gauge steam train records a now past era before the west coast highway was built, and Tullah's only connection to the outside world was by foot or by train "Wee Georgie Wood". It is still operating as a tourist attraction, and the film is now available on our new release Movie collection DVD Volume 6.

### **Macquarie Harbour Kayak**

Club member Tineke Morrison is a keen kayaker, and her explorations of Macquarie Harbour over many years have given her a love for this region, and a passion for knowing and exploring its history. She has drawn upon these trips in a variety of weather conditions to paint a personal picture of the harbour and its past.

### **Rafting the Franklin**

One of Tasmania's iconic wilderness experiences only available to limited numbers is rafting down the Franklin River in Western Tasmania. In this video story, club member Vaughan Cruickshank takes us on a guided rafting trip down the Franklin River and shares the thrills and spills of the ride of his life.

### **George Perrin Comp photos**

There are many keen photographers in the Launceston Walking Club, and this has provided the amazing content of our 46 wilderness shows. We hold two photo competitions each year, and these are a selection from our 2013 "George Perrin Trophy" competition.

### **Lakes Quiz**

This year you will be able to see how many of Tasmania's lakes, lagoons and still water features you recognise.

## Intermission

### Part 2 - 63 min

#### **Lakes Quiz Answers**

Answers to our Lakes Quiz.

#### **Schouten Island**

Not often visited, Schouten Island was the club's destination for a relaxed long weekend where peaks were bagged as well as beaches. There may not have been palm trees, but the holiday mood was obvious!

#### **"Mt Geryon"**

This strikingly profiled peak north of Lake St Clair was first climbed by Launceston Walking Club members. On a return trip in 1971, 16mm movie cameras were taken as well as walking equipment to record this climb for posterity. They travel by boat along Lake St. Clair then walk up to the Labyrinth where camp is made. The next morning the group splits into two parties to climb both peaks of Mt Geryon. Spectacular views were the reward for their efforts in the clear summer weather. This film is now available on our new release Movie collection DVD Volume 5.

#### **Lake Pedder Then and Now**

By the summer of 1973, the flooding of the original Lake Pedder was complete. Forty years later we are able to reflect upon this event and show a new generation what the original lake was like through extracts from two 8mm movies by Arnold Rowlands and Don Norton. A comparison is then made with the new lake Pedder as Tineke Morrison paddles her kayak around the outline of the old lake and we can get a feel for the changes that resulted.

#### **Matt & John's Gordon Gorge Packrafting trip**

A highlight of recent shows has been Matt Brain and John McLaine's extreme packrafting journeys into the south west wilderness, and then telling their video stories in their own words. This time they decided to do a circuit that allowed them to ride the waters of the Gordon River Gorge, walk back over the Denison Range, cross Lake Rhona, then packraft back to their starting point on the Gordon River.

#### **Conclusion and credits - Tasman Island**

Remote Tasman Island is probably best known as one of the states weather stations, and a tracking point in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race each year. However it was a manned lighthouse station from 1906 to 1976 when it was automated, and the keeper's residences and outbuildings were abandoned to the elements. In 2005 a group of Wildcare Inc. members formed the group "Friends of Tasman Island," to preserve the maritime, social, and cultural history of the island, and since then have worked passionately towards the repair and preservation of the keeper's residences, maintaining fire breaks, weed control and wildlife monitoring. These photos will give you some appreciation of Tasman Island's many moods and what this group of volunteers are achieving.

**WHAT:** "Do You Know Tasmania" Wilderness Multi-media Show  
**WHEN & WHERE:** 7:00pm at the UTAS Law Lecture Theatre 1, cnr Grosvenor & Alexander St.,  
Sandy Bay, Fri Oct 10  
3:00pm & 7:00pm Sat Oct 11  
**HOW MUCH:** \$20 Adults, \$15 concession, and Children \$5.  
Tickets available at door.

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#### **PHOTOS**

Several images from the show are attached as jpegs. Please use them as titled and credited.

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#### **CONTACT for further information**

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