

# OVER THE YEARS

## TASMANIAN CONSERVATION TRUST<sup>INC</sup>

### 1967

*Extracts from a letter from Agnete Damgaard and Don Field to interested people about calling an exploratory meeting in August 1967:*

" During the past three years, while working as member of the South - West Committee, we have often received suggestions relating to the creation of a comprehensive conservation body with open membership. While we do not feel competent found an organization with the scientific bias that modern conservation requires, we nevertheless feel most strongly that such an organization is now urgently needed.

In the past, public concern in conservation has been largely the province of the dedicated amateur whose efforts have been stimulated by a particular line of interest such as bushwalking or some field of Natural History. The need has now become apparent for an independent organisation to co-ordinate and guide the many interests in various aspects of conservation of Tasmania's flora, fauna and natural environments. To be effective this organization would need to consider the integrated development and wise use of all our natural resources.

Whilst we do not wish to overlook the fact that the Australian Conservation foundation has recently entered the arena and will not doubt operate with great effect at the national level, clearly it could never hope to handle the many local issues and detailed problems which will inevitably arise. These can only be dealt with effectively by a State organization, particularly in view of Tasmania's geographical position as an island."

### 1968

At the formation meeting on 17 April 1968, it was moved that the purpose of the Tasmanian Conservation Trust was "to promote and encourage the wisest use of, and conservation of, natural resources and wildlife".

### 1975

*In the June 1975 issue of the TCT Circular, on the back of the Membership Form, the following was printed:*

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust was inaugurated in April 1968 with the main object of promoting and encouraging the proper use of natural resources, particularly in Tasmania. It is affiliated to and supported by the Australian Conservation Foundation and works in close co-operation with that body.

The Trust hopes to assist in creating a climate of opinion in Tasmania favourable to the aims of proper conservation practices and, through its wide membership, to promote the pooling of knowledge in such a way that decisions at governmental level are taken in the light of all the pertinent available information.

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust is interested in the conservation of the whole range of natural resources, including soils, water, mineral, plants and animals. It believes that, while such resources are of great economic value and their conservation is therefore good business, it is necessary also to consider their scientific, recreational and aesthetic value.

The Trust does not wish to inhibit development but hopes to encourage the full and proper use of Tasmanian resources with the result that a balance is achieved between all the needs of the people and so that the State may continue to provide a satisfying environment in which to live.

Conservation is the Wise Use of Resources

### 1983

*From the membership renewal form:*

The principal role of the Trust is one of guardianship of the Tasmanian Environment

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc. is the "umbrella" conservation organization in Tasmania. The Trust was founded at a public meeting in Hobart in 1968 for the purpose of "promoting and encouraging the wisest use and conservation of our natural resources and wildlife". The Trust deals with all issues that affect the quality of life in Tasmania. This includes the promotion and protection of Tasmania's natural beauty and conservation of our resources. The Trust through it's branches is alert for regional environmental problems and quick to recommend sound alternatives to unacceptable development proposals. The Trust also does considerable research into the natural resources of the State. Trust publications to date include :- "An Energy Efficient Future for Tasmania", a two volume coastal study "Coastal Tasmania" and most recently "Threatened Plants of the Tasmanian Central East Coast"

### 2007 Mission Statement

*from the Strategic Plan*

The mission of the TCT is:

- to be Tasmania's premier conservation group;
- to be representative of a broad range of individuals, groups, and businesses;
- to provide independent and informed comment on conservation issues; and

to achieve genuine, on-ground conservation outcomes