



# The **Running**Postman

Newsletter of the Private Land Conservation Program

April 2011  
Issue 10  
ISSN 1835-6141

*Building partnerships with landowners for the sustainable management  
and conservation of natural values across the landscape.*



## Manager's Message



The passing of summer has been very speedy this year; the first flame robin flitted past my window at home on the weekend – a reliable harbinger of the onset of chillier weather where I live. The buzz of chainsaws followed soon after, reinforcing the robin's silent message.

Between the birds and the beasts, our mutual reliance on forests is very clear, and in this International Year of the Forests, it's worth reflecting on the values of the varied forms of the natural world that botanists call 'forest'. So this issue of *The Running Postman* does just that, with a variety of articles

that will hopefully get you out there with your binoculars (and not your chainsaws).

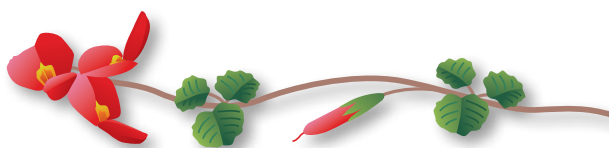
In other news, the last of the FCF covenants was registered on land titles just before Christmas last year. The program has resulted in the establishment of 141 protected areas covering over 28,000 hectares of private land. This figure will increase over the next couple of years as the FCF Revolving Fund continues to operate (run by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy – check their website for details).

There are some terrific new reserves and really enthusiastic conservation managers in this

collection, which our Monitoring and Stewardship team will continue to work with. They don't always carry a hammer, but it is a possibility...

Finally, a fond farewell to a couple of behind-the-scenes PLCP staff. Georgie Brown and Dave Rayner both moved on at the end of 2010, and although they seldom got outside while working with us, they were responsible for helping to put together your documents and maps respectively. We thank them for their dedicated efforts.

*John Harkin*



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*The Running Postman* is printed on Monza Satin recycled paper, derived from sustainable forests, elemental chlorine free pulp and certified environmental systems.

On the cover: PLCP Stewardship Officer, Lyn Pullen. Photo by Dean Vincent.  
Design and layout: ILS Design Unit, DPIPW.

# Celebrating the International Year of Forests 2011



The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise awareness on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations. The International Year of Forests 2011 logo (see below) is designed to convey the theme of "Forests for People" celebrating the central role of people in the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of the world's forests. Forests provide shelter to people and habitat to biodiversity, are a source of food, medicine and clean water, and play a vital role in maintaining a stable global climate and environment.

Forests are amongst the most productive terrestrial ecosystems, covering about 30% of the globe, and home to 80% of terrestrial biodiversity.

Deforestation and forest degradation, through agricultural expansion, conversion to pasture, infrastructure development, destructive logging, fires etc., account for nearly 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions, more than the entire global transportation sector and second only to the energy sector. The Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 showed that while deforestation has slowed somewhat in recent years as compared to the 1990s, it is still alarmingly high. Four million hectares (40,000 sq km) of highly diverse primary forests (an area the

size of the Netherlands) are lost every year.

Forests store more than 1 trillion tons of carbon and are central to achieving the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Two key global programs are central to this - REDD and REDD+. Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is an effort to create a financial value for the carbon stored in forests, offering incentives for developing countries (including Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands) to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. REDD+ includes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

## Forests in Tasmania

Tasmania has a large forested area (52% of the state, and half of this is protected in reserves), with a diversity of forest types including rainforests, eucalypt forests and woodlands, subalpine communities, coniferous forests, heathlands and a range of scrubs and woodlands dominated by species other than eucalypts such as wattles, tea-trees, and banksias.



## What can you do as a forest owner?

If you haven't already done so, you can consider placing a permanent conservation management agreement over your forest area to ensure the protection of its values in perpetuity. But this is the first step - ensuring that forest management is appropriate to ensure the persistence of your forest over time is essential.

Fire plays an important role in maintaining the bush (see *The Running Postman* Issue 9). Grassy dry forests and woodlands need burning every 4 - 10 years or so whereas shrubby and heathy forests need a fire interval of 10 - 40 years. Fire is best excluded from rainforests and fire-sensitive types such as Oyster Bay and South Esk pines. Grazing management and weed management are also key issues for maintaining the health of your forest and its biodiversity over time.

If you would like more information on the different forest communities in Tasmania please visit the Department's website at [www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/inter:nsf/ThemeNodes/BHAN-54746E?open](http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/inter:nsf/ThemeNodes/BHAN-54746E?open)

For more information on the International Year of Forests 2011 go to [www.un.org/en/events/iyof2011/](http://www.un.org/en/events/iyof2011/)

Louise Gilfedder





## Land for Wildlife

### – 30 years of living with wildlife ...

This year marks the celebration of 30 years of the highly successful Land for Wildlife scheme (LFW). LFW was first established in Victoria in 1981 following recommendations made by the Bird Observers Club of Australia to support people willing and keen to maintain native vegetation and wildlife habitat on their property. It has since grown into a national program following the development of national protocols to operate the scheme in 1996 by the Australian and New Zealand Conservation Council.

LFW now operates in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, New South Wales, Northern Territory and Tasmania. Approximately 11,530<sup>1</sup> properties are registered nationally, covering 1,856,523 ha of private land. So if you are ever travelling around Tasmania or on the mainland and you see the green diamond sign with the lettering 'Land for Wildlife', you can be sure that the landowner is doing their bit to protect wildlife species and their habitat.

LFW was established in Tasmania in 1998 and has developed largely through word of mouth and the influence of seeing signs on front gates.

*There are now some  
780 properties  
registered in this state,  
covering approximately  
54,200 ha,*

and the scheme continues to grow with new requests to register coming in almost weekly. For that level of interest to be maintained is quite an achievement and demonstrates the success of the format of the scheme.

The 30th anniversary will be celebrated nationally by all operators of LFW.

*Here in Tasmania, we  
would like to celebrate  
this milestone and to  
thank all LFWers who  
in registering their  
properties have made  
a valuable commitment  
and contribution to  
protecting wildlife  
species and habitat on  
their land.*

There will be two separate celebrations, one in the north and another in the south of the state. This will give members a chance to meet other like-minded landowners, catch up with the volunteer assessors and show their support for the continued success of the scheme.

The celebrations will be held in Longford (15th May) and Margate (22nd May). All LFW members will receive an invitation via post or email this month.

*Iona Mitchell*



(<sup>1</sup> these numbers are conservative and are based on the available data)

Photos (L to R):  
Young LFWers creating a wetland – Devonport Christian School.  
Photo by Iona Mitchell. The Westbrook family – proud to be LFWers.  
Photo by Peter Tonelli.

# White gum forest – the only home for the forty-spots



The forty-spotted pardalote (*Pardalotus quadragintus*) is one of the smallest Australian birds measuring about 9-10 cm in length and weighing around 10 g. It is a Tasmanian endemic and is listed nationally as an endangered species. 'Forty-spots' are related to two other species of pardalotes which are more common and widespread in Tasmania: the striated pardalote and the spotted pardalote. However, forty-spots are duller in body colour, shy and a lot quieter than the other two species which have quite audible and distinct calls.

Forty-spots are found only in Tasmania where it is restricted to locations which contain white gums (*Eucalyptus viminalis*). In fact, this bird species is linked exclusively to white gums which are critical to its survival. They feed on insects, manna from eucalypts (a crystalline substance produced on branches) and lerps (the sugary secretions of a sap sucking psyllid insect). During the breeding season, which is from August to January, manna and lerps compose the main source of food for adult birds which they feed to their young.

Forty-spot habitat is fragmented and restricted to five main locations along the east coast of the state: Flinders Island, Maria Island, Bruny Island, Howden and Tinderbox

Peninsula. They occur in small colonies within these locations, with some colonies consisting of as few as one pair of birds. It also appears that some colonies have become locally extinct despite the presence of suitable habitat.

The main threats to the continued survival of this species are: loss of habitat containing white gums and trees with hollows through land clearing; fragmentation and isolation of colonies; predation by cats; competition; and bullying by other bird species.

Adult forty-spots are generally sedentary and it is mostly juveniles which disperse from the colony site during the non-breeding season of winter. However, increasing distances between suitable habitat can seriously impede the successful habitation of new colony sites. This is where corridors containing white gums can provide safe movement and dispersal of juvenile birds. This is being done in the Bruny Island and Tinderbox Peninsula region where Land for Wildlife are protecting around 1,472 ha and 276 ha is under conservation covenant (and a further 113 ha is in the process of being covenanted).

White gums are susceptible to drought which can cause deterioration in the health or decline

in the number of mature trees, which has already occurred in some areas. Compounding this is often the poor recruitment of white gum seedlings due to clearing of the understorey, grazing, too frequent burning or the felling of white gums. Landowners in key forty-spot habitat locations are being encouraged to retain white gums and to plant more of them. It is also essential to protect trees with hollows in the preferred habitat to enable successful breeding allowing continued recruitment of the species.

Tasmanian bird expert Dr Sally Bryant has cautioned that the long-term survival of the forty-spot is under threat, with the species facing a very real risk of extinction within the next 10-15 years. Recent surveys during the 2009 – 2010 breeding season of known and potential forty-spot habitat have shown a significant decline in bird numbers from the 1994 to 1997 estimate of  $3,840 \pm 800$  birds to less than  $1,500 \pm 300$  birds – this is a 60% decline in the species population and is grim news for this magical little bird (Bryant 2010).

Iona Mitchell

Bryant, S. L. (2010) Conservation assessment of the endangered forty-spotted pardalote 2009-2010. Report to Threatened Species Section. DPIPWE and NRM South, Hobart Tasmania.



## Forest conservation – the story in numbers . . .

In this International Year of Forests, it's worth pausing to reflect on some of the great progress made in the conservation of Tasmania's beautiful forested hills and valleys.

The reserved area of Tasmania covers 3,051,600 ha, or 44.8% of the 6.81M hectare area of the state, and the vast majority of this reserved area is forested public land. A relatively small component of this is the 64,500 ha of forest on private land protected by perpetual conservation covenants through programs such as the Private Forest Reserves Program (PFRP) and the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF). Although this is a small contribution to the overall total, these numbers do not tell the full story of the significance of these private protected areas.

It really comes down to the fact that forests are all different. Again, this is hardly news – beekeepers look for certain trees, timber millers look for others, and different animals all have their individual habitat requirements. Equally obviously, humans have had different needs that have led to clearing forests on certain types of land that can best provide for us.

There are roughly 80 different forest types in Tasmania, as described by TASVEG. Under the

Regional Forest Agreement 1997 (RFA), reservation targets were given for each, based on the existing knowledge of the extent and distribution at the time. The original total target for reservation on private land was 100,000 ha, with that area broken down into target areas for each of the communities and by bioregion.

The forests most poorly represented in the reserve system, least common in nature, or most heavily cleared were given a target that represented a high proportion of their known (mapped) extent. The idea of this was to ensure that reservation programs achieved the so-called CAR (or Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative) reserve system and did not end up with some forest types massively over-represented at the expense of the others.

Our success in achieving this has been varied, depending on the community and the region. The whole story of reservation is told in numbers at [www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter:nsf/Attachments/DRAR-8CS5XQ?open](http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter:nsf/Attachments/DRAR-8CS5XQ?open)

This is where you can see that almost 10,000 ha of the 13,000 ha of currently reserved dry grassy *Eucalyptus viminalis* forest is on private land, which represents 13%

of the entire (Tasmanian) extent of the community. Or in the case of *E. pulchella* – a Tasmanian endemic – 33% (or 48,500 ha) of the worldwide extent (146,000 ha) is reserved, with 10,600 ha of that on private land.

These numbers tell a story of over a decade of work with landowners to identify and conserve some of the best patches of forest, most recently through the FCF. We are now exploring ways of incorporating new approaches into conservation planning, so that contemporary issues like climate change are considered as we build on this CAR foundation.

Fortunately, there is also an untold story, as in addition to these reserved areas there are a great many areas that continue to be managed in a way that ensures their survival – without any conservation agreement. In this International Year of Forests, feel free to tell us your story of your favourite patch of forest in words or images. Throughout the year we'll profile some of these in *The Running Postman*.

John Harkin



# For the love of forests – Land for Wildlife



In the International Year of Forests 2011, Land for Wildlifers can be extremely proud of the valuable contribution they are making to protect our forests and the wildlife species which inhabit them. The theme for the Year of Forests is 'forests for people'. Louise Gilfedder's article (page 3) describes the reasoning behind this theme and the value of forests for people, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services and the importance of sustainable management and development of forests globally and their conservation.

There needs to be greater awareness of the value of our forests, and protection or restoration of as much as possible – we will live in a poorer planet otherwise.

Currently, the area registered as LFW in Tasmania is approximately 54,200 ha, a significant area of private land. A range of forest communities occurs within these properties. Many contain threatened vegetation communities or threatened species: indeed 114 of the 780 registered properties have conservation covenants on title ensuring the protection of such natural values in perpetuity.

The LFW scheme considers the property as a whole, even though only part of the property may be under protection for nature conservation. The scheme supports and encourages the integration of nature conservation with other land-use activities. The main land-use categories recorded when undertaking property assessments for LFW include nature conservation, agriculture/primary production, recreation, ecotourism and tourism.

So how do LFWers feel about their bush and what does it mean to most of them? Well looking at the figures, the greatest land use of registered properties for which this information is available is for nature conservation (83%). This is a clear demonstration of the desire and commitment of landowners to protecting wildlife species and habitat – in fact, the overwhelming message as to why they wished to be LFW is to maintain, protect and enhance wildlife species and habitat. There are also a number of properties integrating nature conservation with other land uses, such as primary production (10%) or ecotourism ventures (2.5%). Many of the primary production activities are undertaken in a sustainable way, often involving

permaculture techniques or biodynamic farming.

The forest or bush on these LFW properties is a great source of pleasure and enjoyment to the landowners who welcome the wildlife that live there or visit. Many are keen to learn more about the flora and fauna and in time have become quite experienced at identifying plants and animals. It is a pleasure when doing property assessments to walk and talk with the landowners whose enthusiasm and love of nature and their bush is quite apparent. They have their favoured tracks which they love to walk regularly and often comment on how they see and learn new things each time – the more you look, the more you see.

Often the priority for biodiversity conservation is protection of threatened species or vegetation communities, but that does not diminish the importance of protecting all types of native wildlife species and habitat. We should all bear in mind that what may be regarded as common today, may, without adequate protection become threatened in the future.

*Iona Mitchell*



## Act locally: **link globally**

As reserve managers we all realise that the conservation of biodiversity is not as straightforward as just securing landscapes within protected areas, but equally important is how those protected areas are managed once secured.

*You, as land managers of protected areas, are on the forefront of global biodiversity conservation*

and the importance of maintaining the condition of your reserve is gaining in recognition.

In 2010, the UN released its updated Strategic Plan for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity. It covers the period from 2011 through to 2020. The plan is informed by reports of member nations, of which Australia is one. Australia's most recent (and 4th) 'National Report to the Convention on Biodiversity' was submitted in March 2009.

All this information is collated into 'Global Biodiversity Outlooks' and subsequently into the Convention's

Strategic Plan. All this then provides for a framework of actions that inform the development of the signatory nations own national biodiversity strategies, which are then also submitted to the convention.

*This constant cycle of information gathering, review and comparison maintains consistency, identifies global trends and collaborates on successful approaches to conservation.*

Unfortunately, when all this information was reviewed in 2010 it was clear that the Conventions 2010 target (set in 2002) had not been met:

*'The Parties to the Convention committed themselves to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth'*

This result has heightened the level of importance placed on addressing the pressures under which forest ecosystems are placed.

*The game is no longer just about getting hectares into reservation. To achieve a significant reduction in biodiversity loss at the global scale, we need to invest more into maintaining ecosystem function within the more 'secure' tenures.*

Perhaps the key influence here has been the great unknown. It is generally not one but multiple pressures that can push a system into a degraded state, and we still don't yet appreciate the impact that more extreme variations in climatic conditions may have.





*What is known is that forest degradation is one of the world's most serious contributors to biodiversity loss.*

### **Management of protected areas**

Over the past few years working in the PLCP I have seen plenty of places where degradation has been an issue. Combinations of often interrelated issues such as dry conditions, poor regeneration, weed invasion, intensified browsing, defoliating insects and more.

Legally, these lands are 'Protected Areas', and are managed as such, but in reality they are still very much under threat. Not surprising then that the most recent state of environment report (SOE 2006) found Australian biodiversity in 'serious decline'. And this should be seen in the context of a wide range of national actions, programs and activities.

According to Australia's latest report to the Convention one major obstacle is a "lack of data on biodiversity status, threats and trends" that are available to inform actions. A major advantage of our private reserve system is that the 'on site manager' (you, the landowner) is familiar enough with their reserve to identify a threat or record a benefit.

The PLCP keeps detailed records of the condition of reserves through the Monitoring and Stewardship programs. To a large extent these rely on those managers informing us of changes they are seeing.

*Together we are then able to assess if there is a threat and how best to respond to it.*

Equally, we welcome and record species observations.

Most importantly the staff here feed this information back through the cycle. Biodiversity is in decline, and we shouldn't assume protected areas to be safe from this threat. What support is developed at a

state, national, and global scale is dependent upon data. Data you look at every day.

So, over the next 12 months, the Stewardship team will be working with a range of partner organisations such as NRM, local Government and Landcare to better deliver and better define the technical and institutional support that managers of privately owned reserves need to support them in this important work.

The first of these will be a field day hosted by Cradle Coast NRM on the 16th of April.

If you would like to input into, or be kept informed of, these developments please contact Stu King on 6336-5427.

*Stu King*

Additional information is available on the PLCP website:  
[www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/DRAR-7TZ9MW?open#Biodiversity](http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/DRAR-7TZ9MW?open#Biodiversity)

*Photos (opposite page): Silver peppermint (Eucalyptus tenuiramis). Photos by Oberon Carter.  
Photos (this page): Biological Monitoring Officer, Janet Smith, in the field. Photo by Louise Mendel.  
White peppermint (Eucalyptus pulchella) forest and woodland. Photo by Dean Vincent.*



## Orange hawkweed – a **very nasty weed** to watch out for

## Meehan Range – in focus

Most people are well aware of our common weeds: those like; gorse, broom and Spanish heath are fairly well recognised. Other weeds, such as orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) are less known, both in terms of their appearance and the severe impact they can have on primary production and on biodiversity.

Orange hawkweed is one of 28 weeds on the *National Alert List for Environmental Weeds* and is listed on the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) prohibited list. Fortunately, it is not currently widely dispersed but has the potential to seriously impact primary production and devastate biodiversity if left unmanaged.

In Tasmania there are populations in the Fern Tree, Shannon and Miena areas; isolated plants have also been recorded in other areas including Smithton. There is an active management program in place for these known populations.

Orange hawkweed originates in Europe and was introduced to Tasmania as a garden plant early last century. The plant is perennial and grows to 40 cm in height, has bright orange flowers and hairy stems and leaves. It resembles common lawn weeds like dandelion and hawkbit.

One of the features of the plant is that it has square edged petals, making the flowers easy to identify during its summer flowering season. The plant spreads by both seeds and stolons. Its light seeds can be blown several kilometres, so even a single plant poses a significant risk.

Hawkweeds favour temperate alpine areas and have established themselves in New Zealand and Kosciuszko National Park. In Tasmania we are particularly concerned about the impact they could have in native grasslands both on grazing productivity and on biodiversity. In grasslands, hawkweeds establish themselves between tussocks, reducing the diversity of herbs, and eventually can displace tussocks, especially in grasslands with low fertility where they are most competitive.

If you think you have seen orange hawkweed, please contact Karen Stewart (Regional Weed Management Officer) on 6233 3650. Orange hawkweed can spread so easily and is such a serious threat that all populations need careful and coordinated management.

Staff from the Protected Areas on Private Land (PAPL) program are currently talking to people in the Meehan Range area about management of the fantastic natural values present in that area. The Meehan Range runs along Hobart's eastern shore, roughly from Lauderdale to Tea Tree.

This area of the state has been recognised through the Focal Landscapes Project as one of 14 particularly important areas for conservation as it contains natural values including forest and grassland communities protected under state and federal legislation. Although it's right on Hobart's doorstep, the Meehan Range Focal Landscape has over 70 % intact native vegetation and is important for the protection of the nationally endangered swift parrot.

Almost half of Tasmania's vascular flora is represented in the area, which also has a high degree of endemism. Two of Tasmania's endemic eucalypt communities, *Eucalyptus morrisbyi* and *Eucalyptus risdonii* largely occur within the borders of this focal landscape.

Dean Vincent

Dean Vincent

For more information on the Focal Landscapes Project see:  
[www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/Attachments/DRAR-8A84Z3?open](http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/Attachments/DRAR-8A84Z3?open)



## Partnerships for wildlife



*To borrow a line from a Paul Kelly song, “from little things, big things grow”, well this is certainly true of the Gardens for Wildlife (GFW) scheme.*

The scheme itself does not specifically organise any events or activities for members, but operates in partnership with a number of aligned non-government and government organisations. Indeed, it is these partnerships which provide the opportunity for GFWers to attend or participate in a range of great activities and have contributed to the growing success of the scheme.

On Sunday 6th March, GFW collaborated with two partner organisations, NRM South and the Understorey Network, to hold a coastal garden workshop at Sorell. This workshop focused on designing a sustainable, drought-proof, bird attracting coastal native garden. It also covered biodiversity conservation and how gardens can make a valuable contribution to providing wildlife-friendly spaces and environment-friendly and sustainable practices. It was not all talking, with hands on practical

demonstrations on how to collect native plant seeds and how to propagate native plants from cuttings, focusing on suitable local native species.

The workshop was well attended and the participants thoroughly enjoyed themselves and learnt something new. Everyone went home with pots of seeds and cuttings.

A similar collaborative workshop was held on Sunday 27th March, but this time we visited a GFWer's garden to see and hear about how she has designed her garden, who lives there or visits, and why it is special to her. The same topics were covered as the Sorell workshop, but there was also the opportunity to participate in activities at the recently established Okines Community Centre and Garden located at Dodges Ferry.

*It is a pleasure being part of these workshops knowing that people can gain from them and have the chance to ask questions and meet other like-minded people in their community.*

The GFW website posts details of events or activities our partner organisations are holding which would be of interest to GFWers. There are some great things happening, many of which include practical hands-on activities.

Working in partnership is a great way to share our knowledge and skills with each other, and together, we make big things grow.

*Iona Mitchell*



*Photos (L to R):*

*Potting seeds at the Sorell Coastal Garden Workshop.  
Propagating native plants at the Sorell Coastal Garden  
Workshop. Photos by Iona Mitchell.*



# The **Running** Postman

*The Running Postman* is the newsletter of the Tasmanian Government's *Private Land Conservation Program* (PLCP).

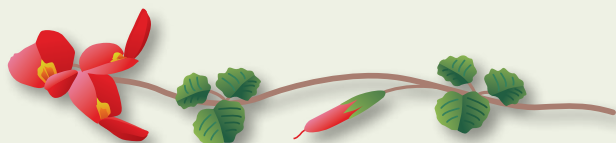
Published thrice yearly, *The Running Postman* is circulated to all those landowners with conservation covenants, Land for Wildlife properties and other formal conservation agreements, as well as a growing number of interested groups and individuals around Australia.

With over 1,200 active participants in our programs who are managing some of Tasmania's most valuable conservation assets,

we are committed to building a world-class reserve system on private land, providing excellent support and assistance, and to working in partnership with other organisations that support the great work of these landowners.

More information regarding the PLCP (and an electronic version of *The Running Postman*) is on the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment website:

[www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/plcp](http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/plcp)



## **Private Land Conservation Program participants as at March 1, 2011**

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Number of covenants          | 633    |
| - hectares                   | 78,732 |
| Land for Wildlife members    | 780    |
| - hectares                   | 54,184 |
| Gardens for Wildlife members | 380    |
| - hectares                   | 1,332  |

*Please note that some landowners are registered with more than one program and there is some overlap in the figures presented.*

## **Post or email**

Just a reminder that if you would prefer to receive your copy of *The Running Postman* by email please **contact the PLCP on 6233 3654** or [annika.everaardt@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au](mailto:annika.everaardt@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au)

# **Selling** Property?

If you have a conservation covenant over your property and are thinking of selling, you should keep in mind that anyone involved in the sale process (e.g. agents, lawyers) need to be informed of the covenant and its implications.

Prospective buyers and new owners must also be informed of the covenant on the property title so that they can factor this into their decisions.

A covenant may appeal to particular purchasers and should be promoted as a valuable aspect of the property. The PLCP Stewardship Officers are happy to talk to prospective buyers regarding the natural values and how to manage them in accordance with your agreement.

We often find that buyers of Land for Wildlife (LFW) properties are keen to enter the program so that they can get involved in more active conservation management.

We therefore also ask LFW owners who are selling to notify us so that we can make contact with the new owners and see if they would like to keep the property in the program.

## **PLCP Contacts**

### **Stewardship**

North: Stu King 6336 5427

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### **Land For Wildlife**

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