

**MEMBERS' OBSERVATIONS, AUGUST 2003-JULY 2004***Compiled by Simon Grove*

**Editor's note:** This section of *The Tasmanian Naturalist* is intended to provide a means of summarising some of the more pertinent observations that have been recorded over the previous year in the members' observations book that circulates at the monthly meetings of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club. It does not attempt to list every observation, but highlights some of those with wider or longer-lasting significance. This year's list is entirely zoological, but this does not mean that future lists must be too. For this section to continue in future years, observers are encouraged to record their name and observations in the book LEGIBLY and IN FULL.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Amanda Thomson (AT); Betty Moore (BM); Don Hird (DH); Genevieve Gates (GG); Geoff Fenton (GF); Kevin Bonham (KB); Janet Fenton (JF); Kylie Qug King (QK); Rosemary Gales (RosG); Robyn Gates (RobG); Simon Grove (SG).

**OBSERVATIONS**

**Polyxenidan millipede.** Found in dry leaf litter near Bend 6 in Lambert Park; first record for group from Hobart area, January 2004 (KB)

**Oceanic 'jellyfish'.** *Physalia*, *Verella* and *Porpita* washed up on Tarooa beach, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2004, following several days of strong easterlies (SG)

**Short-tailed shearwater.** One sitting on the road on Regent Street, Sandy Bay, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2004 (QK)

**Wedge-tailed eagle.** A pair at Gunners Quoin, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2003 (AT); one over Mount Wellington Summit, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2003 (SG); a pair above the Timbs Track, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2004 (GG); one juvenile over Olinda Avenue, Mount Nelson, May 2004 (DH)

**White-bellied sea-eagle.** One soaring above Bedlam Walls, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 (GF)

**Grey goshawk.** One displaying over Tarooa, early July 2003 (SG); one killed a caged duck by pecking head through the mesh, near Geeveston, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 (BM)

**Swift parrot.** Fifty or more in the Tarooa Park and foreshore area most days, October and November 2003 (SG)

**Tawny frogmouth.** One sitting on wires outside house in Tarooa, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2004 (SG)

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MEMBERS' OBSERVATIONS

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- Masked owl.** One in tall eucalypts at Wiggins Road, Longley, June 2004 (JF)
- Eastern quoll.** One (roadkill) 3 km SE of Copping on Tasman Highway, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2004 (DH); another roadkill quoll (presumably Eastern) 1.5 km S of Copping on Arthur Highway, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2004 (DH)
- Fox.** One trotting across farmland at West Gawler Creek, south of Ulverstone (RobG)
- Seal species.** One off Tarooma, evening, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2003 (AT)
- Dolphin species.** Seven off Tarooma, morning, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2003 (SG)
- Whale species.** One off boatshed beach, Tarooma, close to shore, evening, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2003. Described as having a somewhat sickle-shaped dorsal fin. Perhaps a pygmy right whale? (RosG)