

# Chapter 8

## TOURISM, SPORT AND RELIGION

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# Chapter 8

## TOURISM, SPORT AND RELIGION

The affluence of modern western society, built upon a traditionally strong emphasis on the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of the population, has channelled much attention towards effectively and efficiently providing for more and more leisure time. The result is a wide range of tourist, sporting and spiritual activities and facilities to meet not only local needs but also the interests of visitors to Tasmania.

### 8.1 TOURISM

Over recent years Tourism has become a significant contributor to the Tasmanian economy. According to the University of Tasmania's Centre for Regional Economic Analysis, tourism generated about \$414 million in 1986 and more than nine per cent of the State's employment.

In that year 629 600 passengers arrived in Tasmania by sea and air from interstate and New Zealand of whom just over 52 per cent were visitors. This was similar to recent years where the number of visitors has fluctuated between 315 500 and 329 100 or between 52 and 58 per cent of the total number of passengers arriving during the year.

#### 8.1 ESTIMATED ARRIVALS IN TASMANIA ('000)

| Period | Passenger arrivals | Visitors |
|--------|--------------------|----------|
| 1978   | 557.2              | 317.3    |
| 1981   | 591.6              | 337.5    |
| 1984   | 580.5              | 315.5    |
| 1986   | 629.6              | 329.1    |

The number of visitors arriving in Tasmania has increased by 3.8 per cent since 1978 while passenger arrivals, which include Tasmanians returning to the State, have increased by 13 per cent over the same period.



Most of the visitors to the State have been Victorians although the proportion has dropped from 51 per cent in 1978 to 44 per cent in 1986.

#### 8.2 ORIGIN OF VISITORS TO TASMANIA (%)

| State/Country of Origin | 1978 | 1981 | 1986 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| Victoria                | 51.3 | 46.6 | 44.4 |
| NSW                     | 20.7 | 23.0 | 22.9 |
| ACT                     | 3.2  | 3.7  | 3.5  |
| SA and NT               | 8.5  | 9.0  | 7.8  |
| Qld                     | 7.4  | 7.6  | 8.4  |
| WA                      | 3.9  | 4.0  | 4.0  |
| Europe                  | 1.1  | 1.5  | 2.6  |
| North America           | 1.1  | 1.6  | 3.3  |
| New Zealand             | 1.4  | 1.5  | 1.9  |
| Other overseas          | 1.3  | 1.5  | 1.3  |

### Passenger Arrivals in Tasmania

In July 1985 the *Abel Tasman* took over the Melbourne-Devonport passenger service from the *Empress of Australia*. From figures of arrivals during its first two full years of operation, it is apparent that the larger capacity ferry has achieved an increase in the total passenger traffic between Victoria and Tasmania.

#### 8.3 PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN TASMANIA

| Period | By air     |             | By sea | Total   |
|--------|------------|-------------|--------|---------|
|        | Interstate | New Zealand |        |         |
| 1980   | 533 534    | 472         | 57 146 | 591 152 |
| 1981   | 520 601    | 9 762       | 61 336 | 591 699 |
| 1982   | 516 140    | 6 863       | 60 767 | 583 770 |
| 1983   | 493 075    | 7 004       | 63 587 | 563 666 |
| 1984   | 512 257    | 7 054       | 61 039 | 580 350 |
| 1985   | 550 045    | 8 419       | 69 113 | 627 577 |
| 1986   | 524 342    | 10 136      | 95 139 | 629 617 |
| 1987   | 526 517    | 9 446       | 88 343 | 624 306 |

Source: Department of Tourism.

This fall is partly compensated by increases in visitors from other states but the most significant compensating trend is the increase in the number of overseas visitors rising from just under 5 per cent in 1978 to just over 9 per cent in 1986. Of these, most are from Europe, North America and New Zealand.

Most visitors, around 70 per cent, come to holiday; about 20 per cent come for business reasons.

#### 8.4 REASON FOR VISITING TASMANIA (%)

| Reason                       | 1978 | 1981 | 1986 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Holiday —                    |      |      |      |
| To meet friends or relatives | 28.9 | 25.8 | 25.0 |
| Fly/drive tour               | n.a. | n.a. | 24.1 |
| Coach tour                   | 5.9  | 6.7  | 4.8  |
| Other holiday                | 36.3 | 37.1 | 18.9 |
| Other —                      |      |      |      |
| Sporting event               | 4.0  | 4.1  | 2.6  |
| Convention                   | 3.6  | 4.3  | 5.3  |
| Business, other purpose      | 21.3 | 21.9 | 19.3 |

Although the proportion is falling, more holiday makers come to see friends and relatives than for any other reason. In 1986 an estimated 72 000 holiday visitors came to Tasmania to see friends and relatives compared with 83 000 in 1978.

About half the visitors include the Port Arthur penal settlement on their itinerary; approximately a third go to Mt Wellington in Hobart, the Gordon river on the West Coast and the Cataract Gorge in Launceston. The Gordon River, (up 7.5 per cent since 1981) and Cradle Mountain (up 5 per cent since 1981) are the attractions that have increased most in popularity in recent years.

#### 8.5 PLACES IN TASMANIA VISITED (%)

|                                   | 1981 | 1986 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| Port Arthur historic site         | 51.2 | 48.9 |
| Lake Pedder                       | 18.4 | 14.5 |
| Mt Field National Park            | 16.8 | 17.5 |
| Mt Wellington                     | 38.9 | 32.9 |
| Mt Nelson look-out                | 19.5 | 16.4 |
| Coles Bay/Freycinet Peninsula     | 13.1 | 15.2 |
| Cataract Gorge                    | 37.6 | 36.3 |
| Central highlands/Great Lake area | 13.0 | 17.7 |
| Mole Creek caves                  | 12.5 | 15.1 |
| Cradle Mountain                   | 11.3 | 16.1 |
| Lake St Clair                     | 19.8 | 20.9 |
| Gordon River                      | 23.5 | 31.0 |
| Hastings Caves                    | n.a. | 12.0 |
| Maria Island National Park        | n.a. | 2.7  |
| Bruny Island                      | n.a. | 4.7  |
| Hartz Mountains National Park     | 3.0  | n.a. |
| Far south-west (Port Davey area)  | n.a. | 2.1  |

Among activities undertaken, sightseeing and touring, and visiting historic sights are still the most popular. The casinos still attract about 50 per cent of visitors while bush walking has increased in popularity significantly.

#### 8.6 HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN TASMANIA (%)

| Activity                | 1978 | 1981 | 1986 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| Visiting casino         | 52.9 | 55.3 | 53.2 |
| Bushwalking or climbing | 27.2 | 22.4 | 31.1 |
| Organised sport         | 6.5  | 5.3  | 4.7  |
| Visiting historic sites | 62.2 | 58.2 | 58.5 |
| Sea fishing             | 7.4  | 6.6  | 4.7  |
| Trout angling           | 5.0  | 3.8  | 3.6  |
| Sightseeing and touring | 68.7 | 66.5 | 60.8 |
| Snow skiing             | 1.3  | 0.8  | 0.6  |
| Canoeing or boating     | 5.5  | 5.1  | 5.0  |
| Scenic flights          | 2.5  | 1.9  | 3.8  |
| Day or half-day cruises | n.a. | n.a. | 33.9 |

Most visitors stay with friends or relatives, although the percentage has declined. The off-setting change has been the increased occupancy of commercial holiday unit accommodation.

### Conservation and Restoration at Port Arthur

Over recent years Tasmania's most popular tourist destination, the historic Port Arthur penal settlement, has been the site of Australia's largest ever conservation and restoration program, including a seven-year \$9 million project funded by the Tasmanian and Commonwealth governments and the establishment of an authority to manage its future. Restoration began in the 1970s. After two years of research conducted by the University of Tasmania and the CSIRO into convict made bricks and the history of the settlement, the task of preservation began.

The conservation of the penitentiary and bakehouse recently won an award from the Royal Institute of Architects. The penitentiary also won the Australian Engineering Award for Excellence, for part of the reinforcing work. The restoration work has enabled visitors to view the ruins at close range without fear of damaging the historical structures.

In the latter half of 1987 control of Port Arthur was placed in the hands of a new government organisation, the Port Arthur Historical Site Management Authority. The aims of the Authority include ensuring preservation and maintenance of the penal settlement and co-ordination of archaeological activities in conjunction with establishing the site as a commercially viable enterprise. In an effort to attain these goals, the Authority accepted the recommendation of a government committee and began charging a general

admission fee from 17 October 1987. Money raised from the toll is put back into the site to help pay the wages of 26 staff, maintenance costs and conservation of the buildings.

In early October 1987 the manager of the new authority, Mr Richard Wesley, unveiled a five-year plan aimed at significantly improving the Port Arthur settlement as a tourist attraction. Some of his recommendations included:

- a working farm in the style of the original one at the settlement;
- displays of brickmaking, blacksmithing, and craftwork, which would create local employment opportunities;
- computerising the site's convict records so that visitors can retrieve information on relatives at the touch of a button;
- banning cars from most areas and replacing all modern signs and fences with period replicas;
- replanting original avenues of trees and roses;
- establishing a resource centre on the site to house 30 000 historical photographs of Port Arthur in addition to models, books, artefacts and information.

In addition the Authority has plans to promote the whole Tasman Peninsula area as a place of interest to the visitor, thereby ensuring the maintenance of Port Arthur as Tasmania's premier tourist destination.

### 8.7 ACCOMMODATION USED BY VISITORS TO TASMANIA (%)

| <i>Accommodation</i>   | <i>1978</i> | <i>1981</i> | <i>1986</i> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Friends' or relatives' house   | 42.1        | 38.0        | 37.7        |
| Hotel, motel or guesthouse with private facilities                       | 27.8        | 31.6        | 28.4        |
| Tent, hut, cabin, on-site caravan in camping area with amenities         | 6.5         | 5.5         | 6.2         |
| Tent or hut in wilderness area or on other public land without amenities | 2.2         | 2.3         | 2.4         |
| Motorised camper   | 4.1         | 3.7         | 4.6         |
| Commercial holiday unit  | 2.1         | 3.2         | 7.8         |
| Towed caravan  | 1.2         | 1.9         | 1.4         |
| School or residential college  | 2.4         | 2.6         | 2.1         |
| Other  | 9.3         | 8.9         | 8.0         |

During 1987, holiday unit establishments have provided a significant expansion in tourist accommodation. Both the number of units

available and the number of accommodation nights provided have increased by over 56 per cent while the rate of occupancy has remained fairly constant.

### 8.8 ACCOMMODATION CAPACITY, TASMANIA

| <i>Accommodation establishment</i>  | <i>At December</i> |             |             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                     | <i>1981</i>        | <i>1986</i> | <i>1987</i> |
| Hotel rooms with private facilities | 2 603              | 2 837       | 3 063       |
| Motel rooms                         | 1 488              | 1 447       | 1 412       |
| Holiday units                       | n.a.               | 509         | 686         |
| Caravan park sites                  | 4 850              | 5 892       | 5 803       |

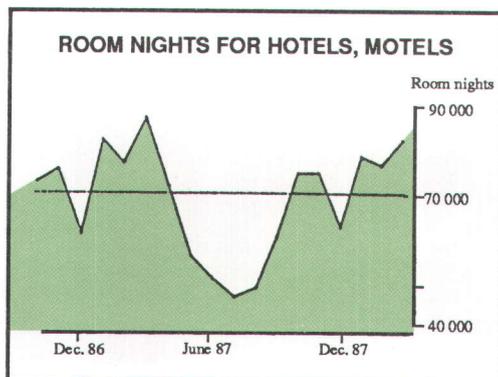
Some expansion has also occurred during the past five years in the number of caravan sites available, increasing by almost 20 per cent.

This increase in sites has resulted in a decrease in overall occupancy rates for caravan sites of almost five percentage points.

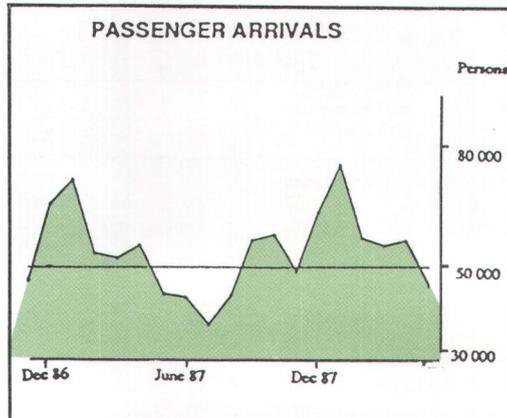
### 8.9 ACCOMMODATION OCCUPANCY RATES, TASMANIA (%)

| Year | Hotel, motel rooms | Holiday units | Caravan park sites |
|------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1981 | 52.4               | 21.5          | n.a.               |
| 1983 | 48.0               | 22.3          | 58.6               |
| 1984 | 50.3               | 22.2          | 58.1               |
| 1985 | 54.5               | 21.7          | 61.6               |
| 1986 | 52.7               | 22.0          | 56.6               |
| 1987 | 50.0               | 22.5          | 54.0               |

Occupancy rates for all types of accommodation establishments exhibit marked seasonality. The winter months of July, August and September have the lowest occupancy rates while January, February, March, have the highest rates.



Seasonality in occupancy reflects the pattern of passenger arrivals into the State; peak months are December and January while June and July are generally the months in which fewest arrivals occur.



### 8.1.1 New Directions in Tourism

*Taken from an article by Mr Gordon Dean, Director of Tourism Tasmania, published in the Advocate, 25 August 1987.*

As Tasmania approaches the 1990s, significant new developments are under way to ensure the tourism industry continues to develop and expand.

Some of the most significant moves are directed towards international markets, Japan and North America in particular, backed by emphasis on major domestic markets and the continuing development of infrastructure in Tasmania.

While growth in the domestic travel sector in southern States has flattened out, international travel to Australia is buoyant.

Tasmania is addressing both areas in an aggressive manner as the State moves to lift its share of international visitor arrivals and consolidate the inflow of visitors from its major interstate markets.

Perhaps the most important internationally-orientated development has been the inauguration of the new Melbourne-Hobart Qantas service, which is expected to open up major potential new tourism markets for Tasmania.

The new weekly service links Tasmania into inbound flights from London, Bahrain, Frankfurt, Bangkok, Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Honolulu, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Fiji through Sydney and Melbourne.

As a result, Tasmania can be promoted and sold as a truly international visitor destination as part of an overall Australian package, for example, through the 'See Australia' fare package from the west coast of the U.S. and Canada.

The thrust into international markets was underlined by a combined Government and private sector task force visit to the U.S., Canada, Japan and Hong Kong in 1987.

This mission, conducted in conjunction with the Australian Tourist Commission, the Japan Association of Travel Agents and Tasmania's overseas representatives, was aimed at maintaining and building Tasmania's profile in these potentially vital markets.

One example of Tasmania's international attractions was the recent wedding of the Japanese film stars Hiroshi Fujioka and Keiko Torii.

That such celebrities chose Tasmania for their wedding — and the attendant publicity — was a major coup for the State.

A 20-minute documentary, commissioned by Tourism Tasmania, was shown on the five national Japanese television channels, reaching an audience of more than 60 million people.

It is conservatively estimated that the resulting publicity was worth at least \$25 million to Tasmania.

Within Australia the major autumn promotional campaign, with the theme, Tasmania — It's a Temptation, was one of the most significant promotions undertaken by Tasmania with a budget of \$1 million.

The autumn campaign and brochure launch were supported and extended by a promotion campaign highlighting the State's special and unique winter attractions — Time to Share in Tasmania.

In terms of people actually travelling to Tasmania, the Abel Tasman carried increased passenger loadings and showed a two per cent growth for the 1986-87 financial year.

In addition to the new Qantas Melbourne-Hobart service, major airport expansion occurred elsewhere in Tasmania; for example, the upgrading of Wynyard airport to jet standard.

There have been a number of other developments in the tourism industry including the opening of the new \$50 million 234-room Hobart Sheraton Hotel in August 1987.

In addition it is becoming increasingly obvious that Tasmania's renowned wilderness areas hold enormous tourism potential. They could become multi-million dollar attractions to interstate and overseas visitors alike, if developed carefully in harmony with the environment.

Already, expressions of interest have been invited to provide environmentally compatible tourist accommodation facilities at Warners Landing on the Gordon River.

Following these expressions of interest, any projects ultimately approved will be referred to the World Heritage Council before going to the private sector for development plans.

One particular area which will sell Tasmania at the 'shop-front' level is a new computer packaging system being introduced by Tourism Tasmania.

Called CARS (Central Automated Reservation System), it will give speedy access to all facets of the Tasmanian tourism product.

It will also facilitate holiday bookings for visitors to the State.

CARS is at the forefront of retail and package selling in the Australian tourism industry.

Some other specific examples of new development in Tasmania's tourism industry include —

- A \$5 million upgrade of the Cradle Mountain Lodge, on the verge of the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. The project involves both a substantial upgrading of the existing lodge facilities, as well as new developments geared towards an international and national growth in adventure travel. The first phase, including 24 cabins and extended dining and other facilities, was completed for the start of the 1987-88 tourist season;
- Development of Tasmania's first major fun park, Serendipity, which opened at Devonport in November 1987. The \$4 million fun park is being built in three stages;
- Significant road network upgrading in the north-west and on the west coast, facilitating additional tourist traffic through the far north-west, and providing new major road links. These will give visitors new alternatives as they move around the State and eliminate to a much greater extent access and return along the same route, thereby opening up new terrain to visitors and Tasmanians.

#### Tourism Industry Wins Awards

In October 1987, the tourism industry in Tasmania again won acclaim when popular tourist destinations were judged winners at the Australian Tourism Awards held in Perth, Western Australia.

The Launceston Federal Country Club Casino gained first prize as Australia's premier resort and Cradle Mountain Lodge was judged the nation's best specialist accommodation.

In the restaurant section Hobart's Japanese restaurant, The Sakura, was highly commended. The Tasmanian Tourism Industry Training Council and the Tasmanian College of Hospitality at Drysdale House were also highly commended in the industry training section.

In addition a documentary from Tas. TV, Taylor's Tasmania, was highly commended in the media section and the Tasmanian Broadcasting Network's Tas. Travel won the radio section.

### 8.1.2 Tasmania's Wilderness: A Tourist Destination

by Edward Gall

The western Tasmanian wilderness is one of only three temperate wilderness areas of any substantial area remaining in the Southern Hemisphere. With improved access and recent publicity, the area has become an increasingly important recreational area with bushwalking and rafting being major activities.

The core of the wilderness area is contained in three contiguous national parks: the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park (131 915 ha) which incorporates parts of the central highlands; the Franklin-Lower Gordon Wild Rivers National Park (181 075 ha) which includes the Franklin and Lower Gordon rivers and peaks such as Frenchmans Cap; and the South West National Park (442 240 ha) consisting of the rugged ranges of the South-West and the South Coast. Much of the area adjacent to these parks is also wilderness. Management of the area has been by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and more recently by the Department of Lands, Parks and Wildlife.

Wilderness use is seasonal for nearly all activities. The main period of use is from December to April with a distinct maximum during the Christmas-New Year summer holiday period.

#### Bushwalkers

Some characteristics of bushwalkers have remained relatively constant in the past 15 years while others have shown change. The sex ratio has remained close to two-thirds male in every survey undertaken.

The education level achieved is high and has remained constant with about 60 per cent of bushwalkers having completed tertiary qualifications.

However, the relative age of bushwalkers has been undergoing a gradual evolution. Recently the age distribution has become more even than in the early 1970s when young adults constituted most of the group. In 1986-87, 40 per cent of walkers were aged 30 or older compared with 22 per cent in 1971-72. There are many reasons why there are more mature walkers: the increase in the age of the young walkers of the early 1970s when bushwalking was a quickly growing activity; increased publicity through media coverage of the wilderness controversy; increasing accessibility; the perceived increase in the value of wilderness and wilderness activities; an increased amount of leisure time; and the development of technological bushwalking equipment which makes the activity more comfortable and safer.

In 1971-72 nearly half of the bushwalkers were Tasmanian but this had dropped to a quarter by 1986-87, with the percentage of Tasmanian walkers being exceeded by Victorians. Rather than indicating a decrease in the number of Tasmanian bushwalkers, it probably indicates a relative increase in the absolute numbers coming from other States, in particular Victoria and New South Wales. More bushwalkers are also coming from overseas. The relative proportion has increased from just two per cent in 1971-72 to nine per cent in 1986-87.

#### 8.10 USUAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF WILDERNESS WALKERS (%)

| Place of residence                    | 1971-72 | 1977-78 | 1986-87 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Tasmania                              | 45      | 31      | 25      |
| Victoria                              | 21      | 27      | 27      |
| New South Wales                       | 21      | 20      | 24      |
| South Australia                       | 4       | 7       | 7       |
| Other Aust. States<br>and Territories | 7       | 10      | 8       |
| Overseas                              | 2       | 5       | 9       |

#### Users of the Franklin River

The Franklin River is one of several rivers suitable for rafting in western Tasmania. It is by far the largest remaining undammed river and has the most use. First successfully canoed in 1958, fewer than 100 people per year were rafting the river until the early 1970s. During the peak of the Gordon below Franklin dam controversy in 1982-83, the number of users peaked between 1 500 and 2 000. Since then the number has fallen and stabilised to an estimated figure of about 500 people annually.

Rafting is a young person's sport with 85 per cent of rafters in 1983-84 aged between 19 and 39.

In 1981-82 only 10 per cent of rafters were female. By 1983-84 this had increased to 20 per cent. As with bushwalkers, rafters are well educated. For example, in 1983-84, of those 25 years of age or older, 73 per cent held degrees or diplomas. On average, 90 per cent of users were rafting the river for the first time.

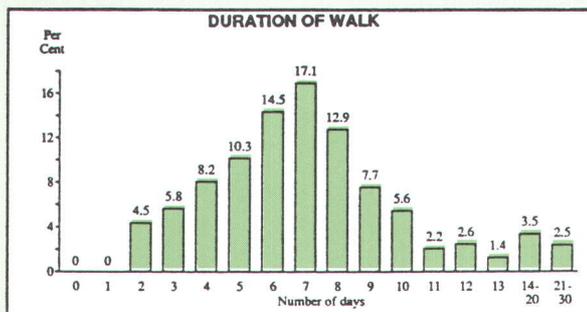
Rubber rafts were the most popular form of transport with consistently over 90 per cent of people using them. Most other people used kayaks. During the course of trips, activities other than rafting are frequently engaged in. The surveys have shown that over half of users do some caving, approximately 40 per cent have bushwalking side trips and in 1984-85, 21 per cent climbed the mountain Frenchmans Cap.

### Results of Recent Surveys of Wilderness Users

The survey which contains the greatest range of detailed information is Tim O’Laughlin’s 1986–87 Wilderness Walker Survey, held in association with the Wilderness Education Project of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The survey was administered by trained travelling rangers and because there was a large sampling fraction, the results have relatively low standard errors. Users of all of the major tracks were included in the survey.

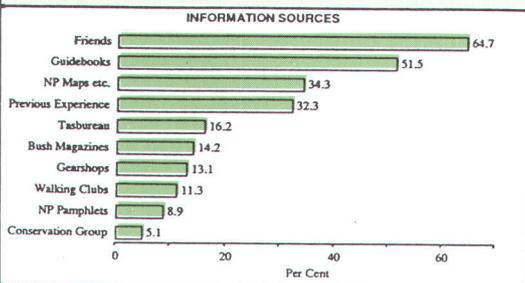
#### Duration of Walks

The average duration of trips into wilderness areas were seven days. 55 per cent of respondents spent between five and eight days on their walk and six per cent of them were doing trips of 14 or more days duration.



#### Information Sources

Information for planning the trip came from a wide array of sources. The most popular source of information was friends (65 per cent) which demonstrates the importance of personal communication between bushwalkers. Guidebooks and maps were also of great importance.



- Bernard Carlington’s 1981–82 to 1984–85 Survey of Wilderness Rafters in the Franklin–Lower Gordon Wild Rivers National Park.
- Tim O’Loughlin’s 1985–86 to 1987–88 Wilderness Walker Surveys.

#### Wilderness Management

Most of the walkers surveyed recognised a need for limited access to wilderness areas in order to avoid damage through overuse. The condition of walking tracks was of major concern with 67 per cent of walkers finding them ‘deteriorating’ or ‘heavily damaged’. In an effort to overcome this problem, 64 per cent of walkers wanted a limit on party sizes and 76 per cent agreed that tracks and campsites should be upgraded so that more people could use them without damaging the environment.

#### Survey Source

The first survey of wilderness users was carried out in 1971–72 and since then several others have been carried out. The major surveys are:

- Sandra Bardwell’s 1971–72 Survey of the users of the main tracks in South-West Tasmania.
- Satwant Calais’ 1977–78 Survey of Cradle Mountain–Lake St Clair National Park Bushwalkers.
- Bernard Carlington’s 1981–82 Survey of Cradle Mountain–Lake St Clair National Park Bushwalkers.

#### SUPPORT OF WALKING TRACK MANAGEMENT

| Management option                           | Yes % | No % | Uncertain and no reponse % |
|---|-------|------|----------------------------|
| A limit on party sizes                      | 64    | 19   | 17                         |
| A limit on the number of walkers            | 40    | 34   | 26                         |
| The closing of damaged campsites and tracks | 53    | 19   | 28                         |
| Upgrading of tracks and campsites           | 76    | 9    | 15                         |

## 8.2 SPORT

Tasmania provides its residents and visitors with abundant opportunities to take part in sporting activity, either directly as participants or indirectly as spectators. Few Tasmanian towns are without football or cricket ovals, lawn bowls greens, swimming pools, cycling tracks or sporting centres providing facilities for basketball, netball, badminton and similar sports. The coastline, whilst rugged and in places, treacherous, provides excellent boating and surfing venues which lure many Tasmanians to the water and provides a focal point for the world famous Sydney to Hobart yacht race.

It is no wonder then, that for its population size Tasmania has provided an impressive register of national and world class sporting heroes, including Darrel Baldock, David Boon, Danny Clark, Doug and Bill Youd, Bill Emmerton, Helen Gourlay, Peter Lawson, Geoff Ayling, Ian Davies, John Goss, David Connor, Stuart Hamilton, James Giannaros, Denise Millikan, Penny Gray, Michael Grenda, David Foster and Don Calvert.

### 8.2.1 Sporting Achievements

During 1986-87 Tasmanians continued to perform successfully at the national and international level with several champions achieving world-wide recognition.

Danny Clark, who has ridden in Europe since the mid-1970s, was named the Tasmanian Sports Champion for 1987 following two outstanding years on the European six-day cycling circuit. In 1987 he won six events and came second in eight, out of a total of 15 events. In the previous season he won eight out of eleven six-day races.

In 1986 this title was won by axeman David Foster for international success in woodchopping. In that year he won 17 world titles and finished with six out of seven championships at Sydney's Royal Easter Show, adding to his tally of 71 world titles, 65 Australian titles and 400 State and interstate titles.

David Boon also had a successful year in 1987, being named International Cricketer of the Year (1987-88) following good performances in the Australian side during test series and World Series Cricket games. He finished the test series with 237 runs at a 47.40 average and the World Series Cricket preliminary games with 303 runs at 37.38. David Boon was the first Australian to win the award since Bruce Yardley of Western Australia in 1981-82. Earlier in the year David had also played a prominent part in Australia's

### Champion Pacer Dies



1987 saw the death of Tasmania's most famous pacer, Halwes, at the age of 28. Halwes dominated harness racing throughout Australia and Tasmania during the 1960s. He won 53 races from 68 starts with lifetime earnings of more than \$90 000. Halwes' biggest wins included the prestigious Miracle Mile in Sydney and 3 heats in the 1968 Inter-Dominion in New Zealand; however he had to be scratched from the final because of a split hoof. Halwes established an Australasian record when he ran 1:57.3 in a time-trial at Harold Park in Sydney, fast even by today's standards. Halwes was also a success at stud where he produced *On The Map*, a Western Australian horse that went to Sydney and America and won in even faster times than Halwes himself.

victory in the World Cup, which was played in India and Pakistan. In the final, where Australia defeated England, David was named Man of the Match. In 1986 he won an Advance Australia award for his contribution to sport.

Paul Burnell (a 17 year-old yachtsman) successfully defended his world junior cadet sailing title in 1987, while Garry Smith and David Connor were selected in the Australian Olympic team to sail in the Flying Dutchman class at the Seoul Olympics.

In weightlifting Gino Fratangelo broke the Australian record in the 100 kg class and came thirteenth in the World Weightlifting Championship held in Czechoslovakia. In junior weightlifting, Jason Roberts won the Australian under 20, 95 kg title and the Australian Youth title.

In Track and Field, Troy Bennett became the new Australian under 20 champion winning the 200 metre athletic title, while Todd Apted won the Australian under 20 decathlon and Joanne Sinclair-Burke won the Australian under 20 heptathlon title.

In canoe slalom, Lindsay Binnings in K1 class and Peter Eckhardt in C1 class gained number one rankings in the World Championships held in France in July.

Brett Johns won the 1987 Australian Amateur Golf Championship which was held at the Royal Hobart Golf Club and also represented Australia in test matches against New Zealand.

Other notable achievers include Dean Lampkin, who successfully defended his Australian under 95 kg judo title, and Dean Rose who broke the Australian 3000 metres walking record in athletics.

### 8.2.2 Government Support

Sport in Tasmania and Australia generally has developed from a purely local recreational activity to participation at state, national and international level. Top level sport in the 80s has become materialistic and commercialised, reliant on government and corporate sponsorship to ensure its continued success or survival.

Government involvement in developing facilities and providing assistance to sports events, sportsmen and sportswomen was abundantly evident in 1987. The Tasmanian Government alone, through the Department of Sport and Recreation, distributed grants totalling nearly \$534 000 to various State sporting associations. Some of the major benefactors included the Tasmanian Australian National Football League, the Tasmanian Basketball Association, the Athletic Association of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Cricket Council. Grants to these four associations for such purposes as sports development and national and international championships amounted to over 25 per cent of total grants paid by the Department in 1986-87.

#### 8.11 MAJOR STATE GOVERNMENT SPORTING GRANTS, TASMANIA, 1986-87

| <i>Association</i>                                    | <i>Amount (\$)</i> |
|---|--------------------|
| Tasmanian Australian National Football League         | 61 575             |
| Tasmanian Basketball Association                      | 35 748             |
| Athletic Association of Tasmania                      | 23 536             |
| Tasmanian Cricket Council                             | 16 780             |
| Tasmanian Amateur Swimming Association                | 16 453             |
| Equestrian Federation of Australia (Tasmanian Branch) | 15 330             |
| Tasmanian Golf Council                                | 14 015             |
| Judo Federation of Australia (Tasmanian Branch)       | 13 726             |
| Tasmanian Squash Racket Association                   | 13 025             |
| Tasmanian Yachting Association                        | 13 000             |

Recognition that the development of appropriate facilities is fundamental to increasing participation and performance in sport has led to government involvement and funding for the development of sporting facilities such as the Tasmanian Hockey Centre at Cornelian Bay. The centre was developed at a cost of almost \$2 million providing players with the most advanced synthetic playing surface available and a range of up-to-date amenities. The centre hosted its initial test match in August 1987 when Australia played Spain, resulting in a 5-1 win to Australia.

Another major development was the Tasmanian Netball Centre. The Centre's estimated cost was \$1.7 million and opened on 12 December 1987. As part of the State/Commonwealth Bicentennial Commemorative Program the Tasmanian and Commonwealth governments jointly contributed toward the \$1.5 million upgrading of facilities at the Dowling Street Sports Complex in Launceston. This development included the construction of a new cricket oval for use by the Northern Tasmania Cricket Association. In addition a \$900 000 athletic centre is being built at Penguin. This centre will provide an eight-lane synthetic track.

Governments have also shown significant commitment to sponsoring sporting events, individual sportsmen, sportswomen and teams. For example, the first Australian Masters Games was held during December 1987. The games attracted 4 200 competitors from all states of Australia and 12 overseas countries. The games were hailed as an administrative, financial and sporting success. Entrants participated in 34 sports resulting in many records being broken. Top class venues were used including the Lake Barrington rowing course and the international Hockey Centre at Cornelian Bay.

#### Tasmanian Institute of Sport

The Institute was established in 1985 to provide scholarships to give elite and potentially elite athletes a better chance to improve their level of performance. The Institute is situated on the campus of the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology in Launceston and commenced operation in February 1986.

#### Scholarships 1986-87

The Government contributed \$100 000 for scholarships in 1986-87. These scholarships are based on a twelve-month schedule of training and competition as outlined by the candidates. Scholarship money may be used for sports science, sports medicine, gymnasium expenses, sports psychology, competition expenses, purchase of equipment approved by the Institute, attendance at national training camps and con-

centrated training sessions at the Australian Institute of Sport.

For the 1986-87 year, 122 scholarships were provided to athletics, boxing, canoe slalom, cycling, equestrian events, hockey (men's and women's teams), judo, netball, orienteering, rowing, sailing, swimming, water-polo, weightlifting and windsurfing.

Individual scholarship funding is divided into three categories — international, national, State/promising performer. The successful applicants were:

- International standard: \$4 000  
Gino Fratangelo, weightlifting  
Stuart Lester, equestrian  
Lindsay Binning, canoe slalom  
Jocelyn Millar-Cubitt, athletics
- National awardees: \$2 500  
Peter Blackwood, windsurfing  
Tim Jamieson, cycling  
Roger Crosswell, boxing  
Judith Greaves, equestrian  
Dean Lampkin, judo  
Helen Lewis, judo  
Garry Smith, sailing  
Paul Burnell, sailing  
Paul Wyatt, sailing
- State/Promising performer category: \$2 000  
Michael Dowling, orienteering  
Peter Taylor, judo  
Mark Vucak, canoe slalom  
Stephen Walker, sailing  
Jason Roberts, weightlifting  
Troy Bennett, athletics  
Joanne Sinclair-Burke, athletics  
Todd Apted, athletics  
Iain McGregor, swimming  
Adrian Triffett, swimming  
Jonathon Males, canoe slalom  
Alison de Groot, swimming  
Jan Ware, athletics  
Paul Dobson, cycling

#### *Performance and Achievements*

Scholarship holders have recorded significant results in their respective sports, indicating that the Institute is having a positive influence on the standard of sport in Tasmania. For example, Paul Burnell retained his world junior cadet sailing title, and Gino Fratangelo broke the Australian record in the 100 kg weightlifting.

In addition, Joscelyn Millar-Cubitt was runner up in the Australian long jump titles while Peter Blackwood was placed third in the Australian Heavyweight Windsurfing Championships.

A number of other athletes have broken State records and several Tasmanian Institute of Sport

team squad members, particularly in men's hockey and women's netball, have gained State selection and made national training squads.

## 8.3 RELIGION

The number of Tasmanians indicating a religious affiliation has decreased in recent years. In the 1986 census 326 759, or just under 75 per cent of the population, stated that they were adherents to various religious groups, compared with just over 76 per cent in 1981 and almost 81 per cent in 1976. This trend is also evident in Australia as a whole with the number of religious adherents falling from almost 80 per cent in 1976 to 75 per cent in 1986.

### 8.12 RELIGIOUS ADHERENTS, TASMANIA (persons)

| Year | Christian religions | Other religions | Total population |
|------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1976 | 324 241             | 779             | 402 865          |
| 1981 | 317 415             | 1 267           | 418 962          |
| 1986 | 324 792             | 1 967           | 436 353          |

### 8.13 RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, TASMANIA, 1986

| Religion              | Persons |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Christian —           |         |
| Anglican              | 154 748 |
| Baptist               | 8 092   |
| Brethren              | 3 856   |
| Catholic              | 80 479  |
| Congregational        | 1 241   |
| Churches of Christ    | 2 046   |
| Jehovahs Witness      | 2 062   |
| Latterday Saints      | 1 414   |
| Lutheran              | 1 753   |
| Oriental Christian    | 81      |
| Orthodox              | 1 960   |
| Pentecostal           | 1 953   |
| Presbyterian          | 12 084  |
| Salvation Army        | 3 437   |
| Seventh Day Adventist | 1 413   |
| Uniting Church        | 36 724  |
| Other Protestant      | 3 034   |
| Other Christian       | 8 415   |
| Total Christian       | 324 792 |
| Other Religions —     |         |
| Buddhist              | 438     |
| Hindu                 | 305     |
| Jewish                | 160     |
| Muslim                | 569     |
| Other non Christian   | 495     |
| Total other religions | 1 967   |

### Ecumenical Activity in Tasmania 1986-87

by Rev. John Minchin

*General Secretary of the Tasmanian Council of Churches*

Tasmanian ecumenical relationships experienced a high and symbolic moment on November 27th 1986 during the Papal visit to Hobart. The then President of the Tasmanian Council of Churches, Anglican Archdeacon, the Venerable D.W. Warburton, officially represented the Council at the Papal Mass. Such acknowledgement of the significant place of the Tasmanian Council of Churches (TCC) within the Tasmanian religious community is substantiated by any review of ecumenical activity in the past two years.

Tasmania for many years has been served by a vigorous and widely representative ecumenical movement. The TCC was the first State Council of Churches to admit to membership a Roman Catholic diocese. This occurred in 1970. Victoria did not follow suit until 1979, and it was only in 1987 that South Australia and Western Australia took similar action. Tasmania is still unique in having within the membership of its Council of Churches both the Baptist Church and the Christian Revival Crusade.

Beyond these three, the other six member churches are the Anglican Church, the Salvation Army, the Churches of Christ, the Greek Orthodox Church, the Society of Friends and the Uniting Church in Australia.

This diverse ecumenical council has pursued some vigorous decision making and activities over the past two years. Its work centres primarily on four Commissions which provide opportunity for specific action designed to be of benefit to the whole church.

Issues of theological and doctrinal division and unity are addressed by the Faith and Order Commission. A lively forum has developed over the years for the sharing of insights on matters of faith and practice which cause division within the Christian community of Tasmania and beyond.

The Christian Bowl Appeal of the Australian Council of Churches has been supported through the work of the World Justice and Development Commission. The 1986 Appeal raised \$73 000 for a wide variety of aid projects amongst disadvantaged or oppressed people. These included projects in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Pacific, as well as assistance to Aboriginal Australians and for work amongst refugees. The Com-



*Pope John Paul II being met by the Most Reverend Sir Guilford Young D.D. (deceased March 1988).*

mission for World Justice and Development has worked on a number of the complex issues affecting our society — nuclear energy, peace and disarmament, overseas aid and relationships with aborigines. For the first time, in 1986-87, the TCC was able to employ a Development Education Worker, through the Community Employment Programme, to assist in raising the awareness of the Tasmanian community on third world development issues.

The Church and Society Commission in 1987 adopted as its major project the holding of a major Conference on AIDS in 1988. The Conference 'AIDS — Church and Community' is an attempt by the churches to address both the complexities and urgent needs associated with this issue.

A major development in 1987 was the formation of a TCC Commission on Education. Under the leadership of a professional educationist, the Commission is addressing three major areas. For many years there has been informal co-operation between denominational bodies providing religious education in schools. Now, the work is co-ordinated under the umbrella of the Council of Churches.

A major gap in the life of the church in Tasmania has been the lack of a facility for theological education at tertiary level. The Theological Education Working Group now provides a number of tertiary courses in Hobart, towards tertiary qualifications awarded by the Melbourne College of Divinity and the Australian College of Theology.

Co-operative action in equipping church members for their tasks in ministry and mission is the goal for the General Ministry Training Group. The aim is for denominational bodies to open up their training opportunities to members of other churches.

Among the Christian denominations present in Tasmania, the largest is the Anglican church, with almost 48 per cent of all Christian believers. The other main groups include the Catholic church with 25 per cent, the Uniting church with 11 per cent and the Presbyterian church with nearly 4 per cent.

Among non-Christian religions the largest groups include Muslims accounting for 29 per cent of non-Christian believers, Buddhists with 22 per cent, and Hindus with 15.5 per cent.

While the overall number of people indicating a religious affiliation has declined in proportion to the total population, there has been a small but steady increase in the growth of non-Christian religious groups in Tasmania. In 1976 0.2 per cent of the population was affiliated with non-Christian religions. In 1981 this had grown to 0.3 per cent and by 1986 had reached 0.5 per cent and is partly attributable to an increase in the number of Asian immigrants in the State's population.

The most notable change in religion in Tasmania has been the large increase in the number of people not affiliated with any religion. In 1976, 6.9 per cent of the State's population professed no religious affiliation. This compares with 8.6 per cent in 1981 and 11 per cent in 1986. While this pattern follows that of Australia as a whole, the proportion of Tasmanians without a religious affiliation has remained slightly lower than the national average throughout the past

decade. For example, in 1976 the proportion of Australians stating no religion was 8.3 per cent, 1.4 per cent more than Tasmania, and in 1986 the national proportion, at 12.7 per cent, was 1.7 per cent more than Tasmania's.

#### 8.14 PERSONS WITH NO RELIGION, TASMANIA

| Year | Tasmania | Australia |
|------|----------|-----------|
| 1976 | 27 624   | 1 130 300 |
| 1981 | 36 222   | 1 576 718 |
| 1986 | 47 852   | 1 977 464 |

## 8.4 REFERENCES

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