

President's AGM Report 2026

By Priscilla Richards, July 2026

I am pleased to share with you another successful year at TPT. Firstly, a huge thanks goes to the volunteers on the **TPT committee**, both new and departing, who pitch in to keep this organisation going strong and welcoming. It's a true collective effort. Following some mid-year committee shifts, the 2026 AGM brings more committee changes as usual. After 2 years as President, I am stepping down, but have nominated to stay on as Vice President. Sharing leadership opportunities is important to a strong succession plan and brings fresh ideas to TPT. The organisation is doing really well and I'm confident in its future.

This year we came together to draft the [2026-2031 Strategic Plan](#). See attached Table 1 for an excerpt of our strategies, actions, and last financial year's achievements.

If you were one of our **175 members** with the opportunity to participate in our field trips this year, remember that beyond an enjoyable day out in our beautiful Tasmanian landscapes, your recovery actions and data collection actively helps our partners manage the state's most threatened flora. Over **24 days in the field** you contributed over **700 hours** of data collection, weeding, and caging threatened plants, and planting seedlings at translocation sites. Your extra eyes and effort and enthusiasm go a long way!

A key to our success is our highly collaborative working model. We would like to recognise the following organisations and individuals for their technical and logistical leadership on our trips (detailed in Table 1):

- **NRE | Milford Forest Landcare | NRM South | Derwent Catchment Project | Tasmanian Land Conservancy | Forico**
- **Private Landholders** - thank you for access and support!
- **Phil Collier & Mark Wapstra** - for workshops and technical expertise in the field

There were many highlights this year, but a couple deserve a special mention. Surveying for *Paraprastophyllum abblittorum* alongside Don Abblitt and Janine Cranney - the local experts involved in discovering and describing the species with Phil Collier back in 2017 ([see archive](#)) - was a wonderful moment, passing that knowledge on to new volunteers. In another momentous occasion, we joined the pakana Rangers in returning over 1000 Davies waxflower plants home, so to speak, and it was personally very rewarding feeling that connection to place and to get to know some of the pakana Rangers, new TPT volunteers, and NRE volunteers. Kudos to the NRE project team for pulling off such a successful and collaborative project! Our 2026-27 Newsletter will be published soon, with more field trip stories.

Beyond the field trip program, the TPT committee submitted a review of NRE's **Draft Threatened Species Strategy**, advocating strongly for a clearly defined strategy and investment. Speaking of investment, we took up NRE's **Threatened Species Partnership Grant** opportunity, partnering on 3 successful grant applications. Only 6 projects were funded in total, so we are particularly proud to be involved in all 3 flora-focused projects, which will boost our 2026-27 field trip program.

Supported by the Tasmanian Government:

- “Securing the Grassland Paperdaisy at the Vale of Belvoir through fire and seed supplementation” - delivered by Tasmanian Land Conservancy
- “Safeguarding Shy Susan (*Tetratheca gunnii*) - one of Tasmania's rarest plants” - delivered by NRM North
- “Protecting two sub-populations of *Barbarea australis* on the Guide River” - delivered by Burnie City Council

In other news, TPT has donated to the development of a brand-new orchid app created by Malcolm Wells and Mark Wapstra. Aligning with TPT's purpose of “learning through sharing our collective knowledge,” this donation acknowledges the many TPT members who have contributed to its development.

Finally, we look forward to another rewarding field trip program. We are early in the planning stages, but the Preliminary Field Trip Program in Table 2 (attached) provides tentative timings to give you a taste of what's ahead. Please look out for official trip notifications 2 to 6 weeks in advance.

Table 1: Strategies & Achievements

2026 - 2031 Strategies	2025-26 Achievements
Undertaking on ground recovery actions for priority species In conjunction with our partners, coordinate volunteer field trips for weeding, caging, seed collection, translocations, and other recovery actions for priority species.	NRE: Davies waxflower project - <i>Phebalium davesii</i> Southport - <i>Euphrasia gibbsiae</i> subsp. <i>psilantherea</i> NRM South + NRE: Southport <i>Epacris stuartii</i> Derwent Catchment Project + PWS: Jordan Nature Reserve - <i>Disa bracteta</i> weeding
Conducting surveys and monitoring to improve our knowledge; In conjunction with our partners, coordinate volunteer field trips for population/ extension/ monitoring surveys to gather data for priority threatened species.	NRE + Clarence City Council: Waverley Flora Park - <i>Caladenia caudata</i> NRE: Heathy Hills - <i>Oxylobium oxylobioides</i> Arthur River - <i>Parapasophyllum abblittiorum</i> Jordan Nature Reserve various grassland spp. Milford Forest Landcare <i>Caladenia saggicola</i>, <i>Parapasophyllum milfordense</i> TLC: Rubicon sanctuary monitoring Forico + EcoTas Mark Wapstra, Kerri Spicer: Surrey Hills - <i>Parapasophyllum crebriflorum</i> TPT-led Greens Beach - West Head - <i>Millotia muelleri</i> Granite Point Conservation Area, Bridport - <i>Pultenaea sericea</i> Diddledum Plains & Saltwood Rd private property - exploratory surveys various spp
Sharing our love and passion for plants; Create opportunities during field trips and workshops to share our love and passion for plants.	A welcoming atmosphere during 24 days in the field, Sedges workshop and follow-up exploratory day on private property

Collaborating with others to achieve our conservation objectives; Maintain regular communication with our partner organisations. Provide letters of support for collaborative funding applications with partners. Apply for grants within our means to administrate. Contribute to relevant strategy development as opportunities arise. Participate in Plant Conservation Group meetings and other relevant Steering Committees as opportunities arise.	Annual callout to partner on field trips, planning, and grant partnerships 3x letters of support with partners on NRE Threatened Species Partnerships grant applications (all successful) Landcare Tasmania Quick Response Grant for workshop costs Submission to NRE reviewing the state's Draft Threatened Species Strategy Participated in Plant Conservation Group and Davies waxflower project Steering Committee
Learning through sharing our collective knowledge; Organise training events and workshops or other learning opportunities for members and the broader community on botanical topics informed by member feedback. Provide communications for members and the broader community, for example through a yearly newsletter.	Sedges of Tasmania workshop, presented by Phil Collier and Mark Wapstra Donated in support of the new orchid app, produced by Malcolm Wells and Mark Wapstra Regular field trip notifications with detailed Field Trip Flyers 2024-25 Newsletter published Dec 2025

Table 2: Preliminary Field Trip Program 2026-27

Timing	Species	Location	Purpose	Partner
September	<i>Caladenia caudata</i>	Waverley Flora Park	5-year monitoring plan	NRE
September	<i>Caladenia caudata</i>	Sloping Main	Extension survey	TLC
September	<i>Caladenia saggicola</i>	Near Cambridge	Population census	Milford Forest Landcare
September / October	<i>Tetratheca gunnii</i>	Beaconsfield	Population census, extension survey	NRM North
October	<i>Caladenia caudata</i>	Saltwater River	Population census, extension survey	TLC
October	<i>Various spp - orchid monitoring</i>	Rubicon Sanctuary	Structured monitoring	TLC
November	<i>Paraprasophyllum milfordense</i>	Near Cambridge	Population census	Milford Forest Landcare
November	<i>Various spp - native grassland</i>	Jordan Nature Reserve	Weeding <i>Disa bracteta</i> , rescoring survey quadrats	Derwent Catchment Project, PWS
November	<i>Stackhousia pulvinaris</i>	Vale of Belvoir	Population census	TLC
16-17 January	<i>Paraprasophyllum crebriflorum</i>	Surrey Hills	Population census	Forico
January	<i>Barbarea australis</i>	Near Burnie	Population census, Extension survey	Burnie City Council
February + March	<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i>	Vale of Belvoir	Population census, Seed collection + dispersal (limited volunteers)	TLC