

## **The Great Australian Bushwalk 2006**

Approximately 120 walkers joined eight guided walks across Tasmania on Sunday 10 September for the Great Australian Bushwalk (GAB). The national event was coordinated locally by the TNPA. Across the country over 2,500 walkers joined more than 110 walks, ranging from short family sojourns to full day hikes.

In Tasmania walks were held in the Tasman, Hartz Mountains, Bruny Island and South West National Parks, and in the Mt Victoria Forest Reserve, Waterworks Reserve and Wellington Park.

This was the third year the event has been held nationwide to celebrate precious places. The event promotes bushwalking and the reserve system across Australia while engaging community in caring for our parks.

Highlights for the Tassie walkers included ancient myrtle forest, alpine herbfields and mountain views, coastal heathlands, a Southern right whale and calf in Fortescue Bay, echidnas, swift parrots, flowering coastal wattle and wild south coast beaches.

Many thanks to the Tasmanian walk leaders and their assistants – in particular to Christine Corbett, Michael Dempsey, Lesley Nicklason, Catharine Errey, Matt Conolan, Rob Hill, Rebecca Johnson, Greg Buckman and Jayne Balmer - and to National Co-ordinator from the NSW NPA Chris Waugh.

Also our thanks to Wildcare for supporting the event locally, and to the national sponsors Paddy Pallin, Anaconda and Sea to Summit.

The GAB will be held across the nation in September 2007. If you'd like to be involved on the organising committee or to lead a walk please contact the TNPA on [admin@tnpa.asn.au](mailto:admin@tnpa.asn.au).