

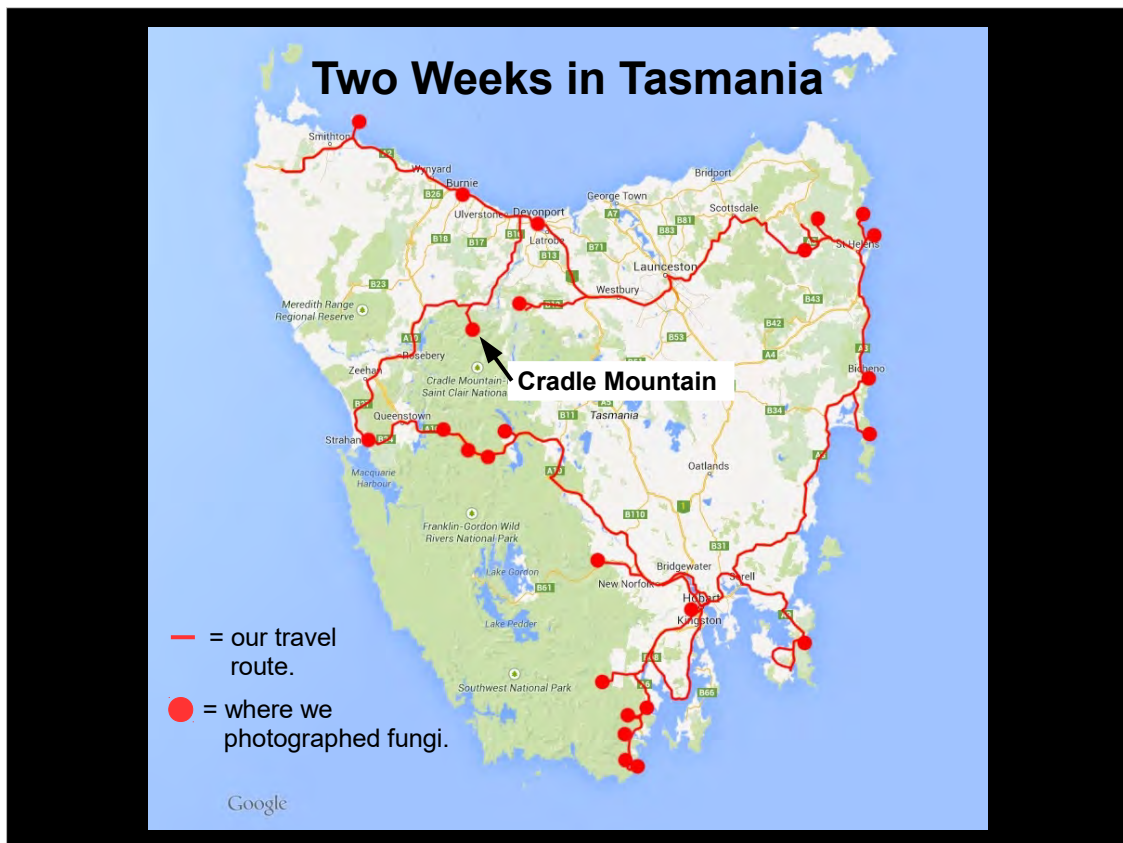
As some of you know, my husband Chris and I went to Tasmania for two weeks in June/July of this year.

I've already given a short talk about where we went and some of the challenges we faced, but for those of you who missed it, here's a quick recap.

First of all, we hadn't planned on our holiday being so fungi focused. I had actually thought that, with it being winter, we wouldn't see many and I could have a bit of a break from them.

I couldn't have been more wrong. There were fungi everywhere we went.

We were faced with an opportunity that was just too good to miss, so I guess I went a little fungi mad and Chris did too.



Here's a map showing where we went.

As you can see, we covered a lot of the state in a very short time and we explored a number of different environments from the coast to the mountains.

The red dots show where we photographed fungi.

There are 25 dots, but some of those dots represent multiple walks in an area.

For example, at Cradle Mountain here, we did four different walks.

And each on walk we did, we photographed anywhere between 1 and 130 instances of fungi or lichen.

# What is an Instance?

It's my term of reference for:

- a single fungus or lichen;
- or a group of fungi or lichen in the one location.



 = SleepyBay 02



 = BlueTierGoblinForest 24

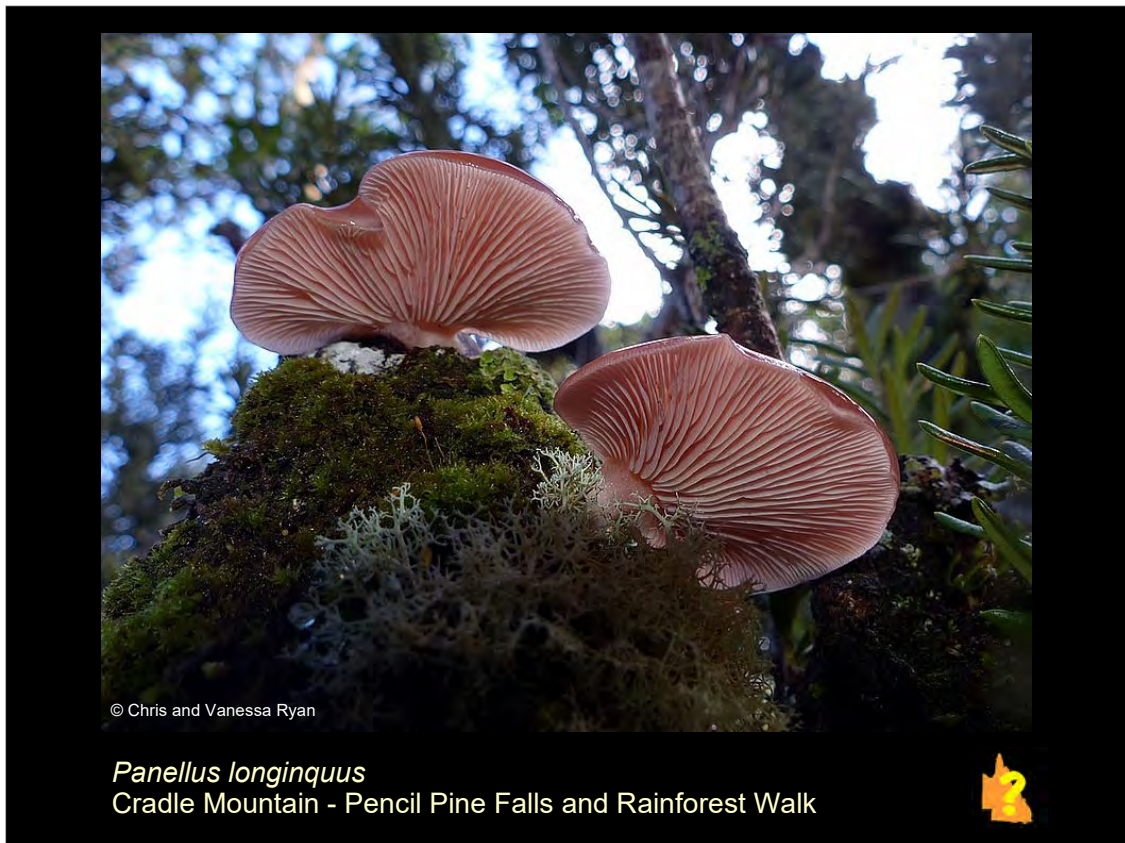
So, what is an instance?

It's just a name I gave to a single fungus or lichen, or a group of them in the one location.

It helps with sorting and keeping track of things.

I gave each instance a reference number and put the all the photos of that particular instance into a folder named with that number.

I've ended up with a kind of collection, only it's of photos and not real specimens.



Most of the fungi we found I'd never seen before and some of them were quite beautiful, like this one.

I thought at the time that I could share some of our photos with you guys.

I also thought that it would also be interesting to find out if the same species has been found in Queensland or not.

This particular species hasn't been found in Queensland, so, for tonight, I've put this little question marked symbol here to indicate that.



This fungus HAS been found in Queensland, so I've shown that, here, with a ticked symbol.

As you know, identifying fungi just from photos can be very difficult and, with some fungi, it's simply impossible.

So, whenever we found an interesting fungus that I thought COULD be identified from photos, I tried to take closeups of both the top and underside to give myself the best chance of identifying it.

Chris often took photos of the same fungus, in case mine didn't turn out. He also took some from different angles.

I'd like to take the opportunity now to thank Chris again for all of his help. He spotted a lot of very interesting fungi that I would have otherwise missed. Some of his photos turned out to be pretty good, too.



Chris - Canon 6D with a 28-135 IS lens and a mobile phone.  
Me - Panasonic Lumix DMC FZ200 and a Canon SX100 IS.

For those who are interested in photography, these are the four cameras we used.

Chris had his Canon 6D with a 28-135 IS lens and

he used his mobile phone camera – a Samsung Galaxy S2 – as a backup.

I used my Panasonic Lumix DMC FZ 200.

My backup was my old Canon SX100 IS.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

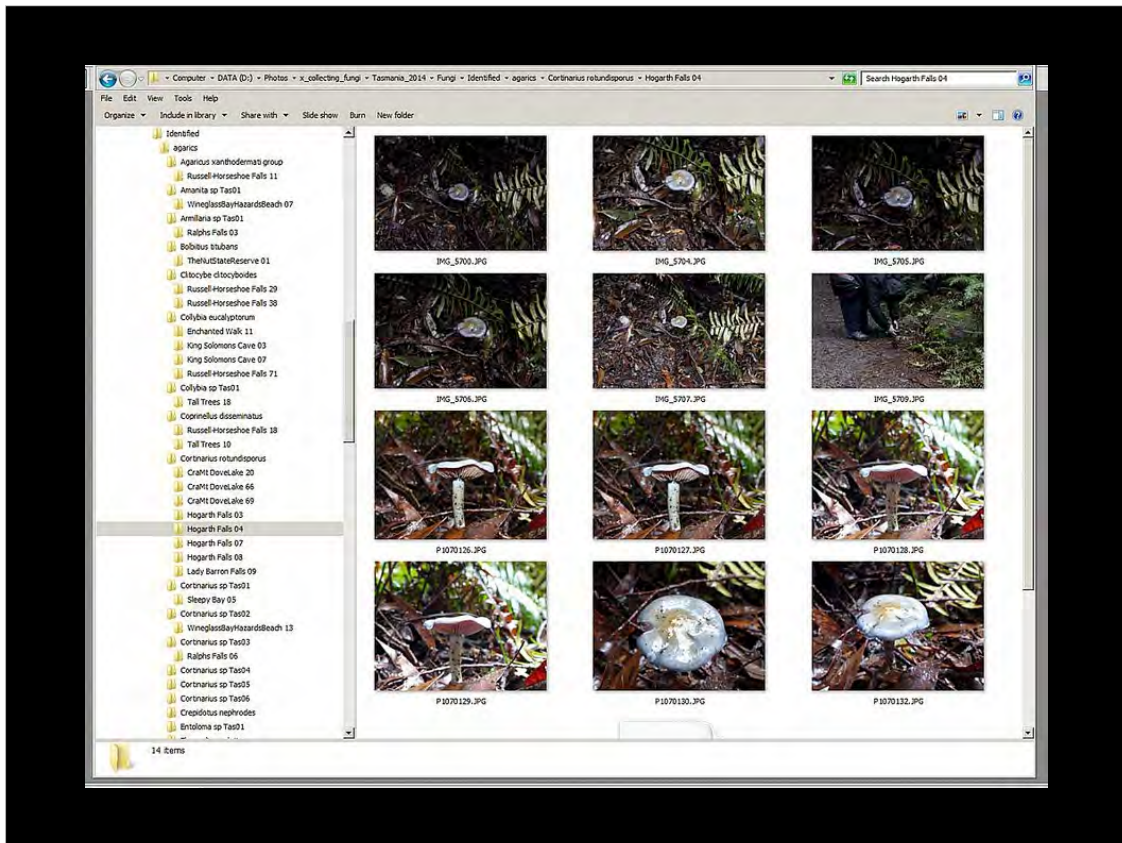
Rain at Nelson Falls  
Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park

As I mentioned in my previous talk, we had some challenges with our photography.

Because of some of the distances we had to travel in a day, we usually only had limited time in an area. As a result, most of our photography was just point and click and move on.

The weather was often against us. There was a lot of rain in the north and west and at Cradle Mountain we had sleet and snow.

Also, being in protected areas meant that we usually had limited access to the fungus. We couldn't leave the track to get closer views or better angles, and we couldn't turn logs over or dig the specimens up to see the underside.



Despite all of this, we still managed to take photos of over 800 different instances of fungi and lichen.

Each instance might have anything from one to a dozen photos or more taken of it.

That adds up to a LOT of photos.

And a LOT of fungi.

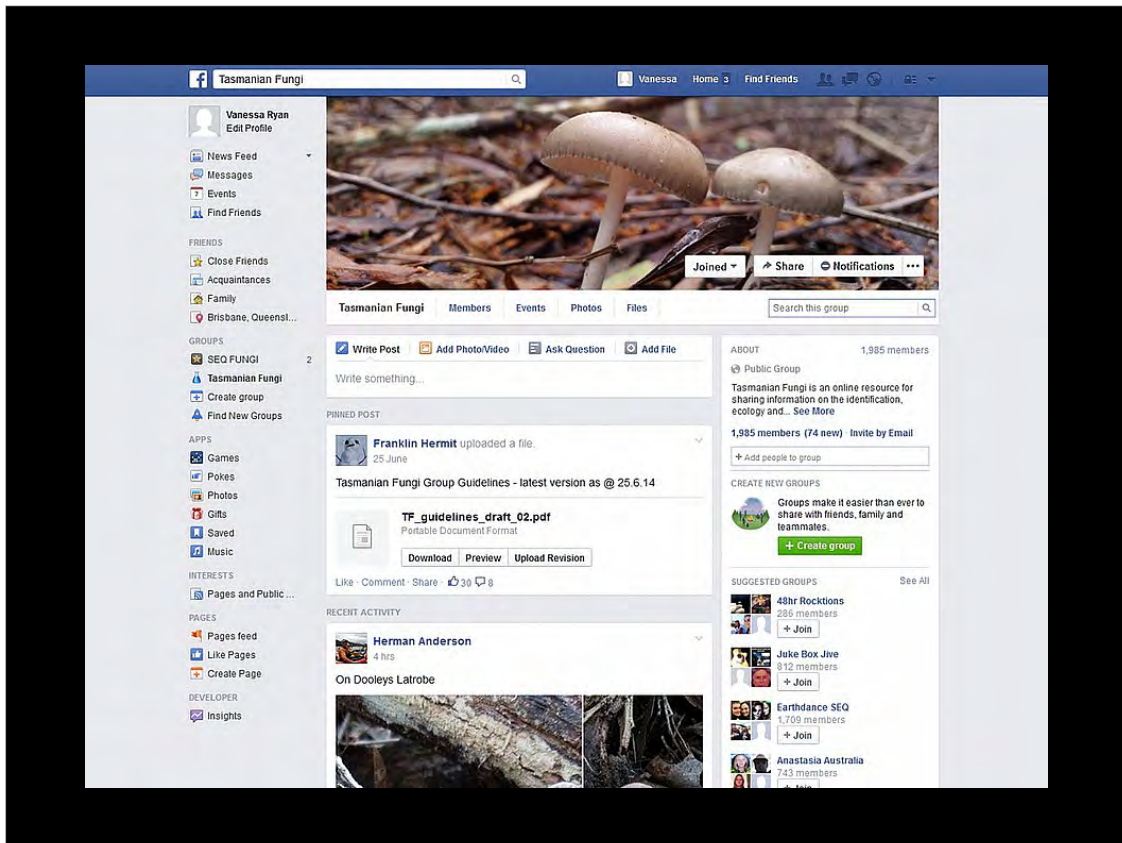




The job of identifying them all is a huge task and it is taking me many months to do.

I'm about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through them.

I've found this book "A Field Guide to Tasmanian Fungi" to be very useful.



One of its authors, Genevieve Gates has set up a Tasmanian Fungi group on Facebook as an adjunct to the book.

Now, I'm not very keen on Facebook, but I joined the group and I've found it to be very friendly, helpful and enthusiastic – a lot like the SEQ Fungi group.

297	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Laccaria sp Tas10			Hogarth Falls 01		Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
298	Basidiomycetes	Leather	Stromium ostrea			Hogarth Falls 02		Vanessa Ryan	Wood	Strahan - Botani
299	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Corinarius rotundisporus			Hogarth Falls 03	White variety	Vanessa Ryan/Genevieve	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
400	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Corinarius rotundisporus			Hogarth Falls 04	Classic blue with pink gills.	Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
401	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Corinarius sp Tas05			Hogarth Falls 05	Brown cap with white margin	Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
402	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	?			Hogarth Falls 06	Yellow cap with darker Old Codonarius		Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
403	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Corinarius rotundisporus			Hogarth Falls 07	White variety	Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
404	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Corinarius rotundisporus			Hogarth Falls 08	White variety	Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter at base	Strahan - Botani
405	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	?			Hogarth Falls 09	Very old, mouldy		Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
406	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Psathyrella sp Tas01			Hogarth Falls 10	Greasy brown cap that's striate at margins, pu	Vanessa Ryan	Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
407	?					Hogarth Falls 11	Very dark, shiny, bulbous blob on side of tree trunk. Could be dried sap?		Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
408	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Psathyrella sp Tas01			Hogarth Falls 13	Greasy brown cap that's striate at margins, pu	Genevieve Gates (Tasman)	Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
409	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Mycena subbaeticoculata			Hogarth Falls 14		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
410	Basidiomycetes	?				Hogarth Falls 15	White blob - can't see underside		Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
411	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	?			Hogarth Falls 16	Orange and yellow crust, pores forming.	Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
412	Basidiomycetes	Leather	Stromium ostrea			Hogarth Falls 17		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
413	Basidiomycetes	?				Hogarth Falls 18	White bracket - underside not visible. Growing with Stromium ostrea.		Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
414	Basidiomycetes	?				Hogarth Falls 19	Very decayed bracket, possibly a leather.		Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
415	Ascomycetes		Isaia sp Tas01	Paecilomyces		Hogarth Falls 20	White thin bracket	P. farososa, Isaia faros? Vanessa Ryan/Dic Cummi	Fern tree trunk - in	Strahan - Botani
416	Basidiomycetes	Leather	?			Hogarth Falls 21	Tiny whitish blobs up side of tree, looks like popcorn stuck on bark.		Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
417	?					Hogarth Falls 22				
418	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	Fomes hemisphaeus		Stump Puffball	Hogarth Falls 23		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
419	Basidiomycetes	Puffball	Lycoperdon pyriforme			Hogarth Falls 24		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - moss	Strahan - Botani
420	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	?			Hogarth Falls 25	Flat bracket	Fomes or Ganoderma	Wood - moss	Strahan - Botani
421	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Mycena subbaeticoculata			Hogarth Falls 26		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - living tree	Strahan - Botani
422	Basidiomycetes	Coral/Clubfriele	Physalacia infatata			Hogarth Falls 27	Tiny white balls, hollow	Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead branch	Strahan - Botani
423	Ascomycetes		Isaia tenuipes	Paecilomyces tenuipes		Hogarth Falls 20		Vanessa Ryan/Dic Cummi	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
424	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	Ganoderma australe		Southern Bracket	Hogarth Falls 29		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
425	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Mycena austroretida			Hogarth Falls 30		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
426	?					Hogarth Falls 31	Very old, orange bracket	Stromium	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
427	?					Hogarth Falls 32	Very old, orange-brown		Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
428	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	Hypoholmia brunneum			Hogarth Falls 33		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
429	Basidiomycetes	Coral/Clubfriele	Ramania sp Tas01			Hogarth Falls 34	Very old, beige colour	Ramania leinhamms	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
430	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	Fomes hemisphaeus			Hogarth Falls 35		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead trees	Strahan - Botani
431	Basidiomycetes	Asciac	?			Hogarth Falls 36	Velvety orange cap, can't see gills		Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
432	Basidiomycetes	Coral/Clubfriele	Ramania sp Tas02			Hogarth Falls 37	Very old, beige colour	Ramania ficicola	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani
433	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	Ryvardenia cistelacea			Hogarth Falls 38		Vanessa Ryan	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
434	Ascomycetes		Vibrissia dura			Hogarth Falls 39	Strahan - Botanical Garden Reserve -	Hogarth	Wood - moss	Strahan - Botani
435	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	?			Hogarth Falls 40	Flat bracket, can't see	Ganoderma	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
436	Basidiomycetes	Leather	?			Hogarth Falls 41	Zoned bracket	Trametes versicolor?	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
437	Basidiomycetes	Polypore	?			Hogarth Falls 42	Young bracket	Fomes or Ganoderma	Wood - dead log	Strahan - Botani
438	Basidiomycetes	Coral/Clubfriele	Ramania sp Tas03			Hogarth Falls 43		Vanessa Ryan	Soil - Litter	Strahan - Botani

I've gone through the books, asked lots of questions on Facebook and consulted with experts such as Genevieve and Tony Young.

Without a specimen, it is impossible to be absolutely certain of a fungus' identity, but I can honestly say I've done my absolute best to get the identification right.

When I find out what a fungus is, or have gone as far as I can with it, I record it on a spreadsheet.

The spreadsheet has details like those we write up for a foray - the reference number, date, location, substrate, etc..

As you can see here, I'm building up quite a record of the fungi and lichen we saw during our trip.



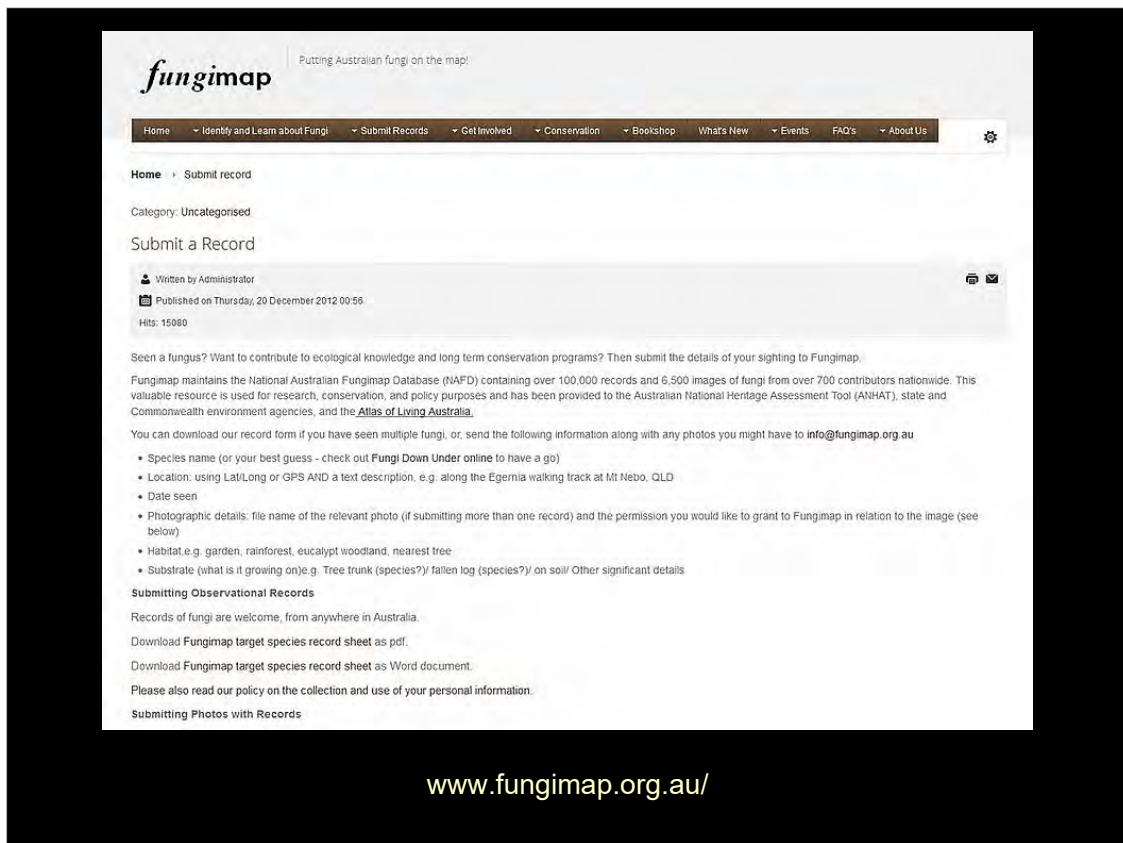
It is a lot of work. So, why am I doing it?

Most of all, I guess it's because I just enjoy learning new things. Since I started on this, I've learned a LOT more about fungi.

Also, I mentioned earlier that I thought I'd share some of our photos with you guys. So, it made sense to try to find out just WHAT it was we'd seen.

Finally, when I started identifying the fungi and putting together my spreadsheet, I realised that Chris and I had inadvertently collected quite a – and pardon the pun – snapshot record of Tasmania's fungi during those two weeks.

So, it also made sense to try to make an accurate record of it as possible.



[www.fungimap.org.au/](http://www.fungimap.org.au/)

As my spreadsheet grew, I felt that I should really try to share all this information with as many interested people as possible.

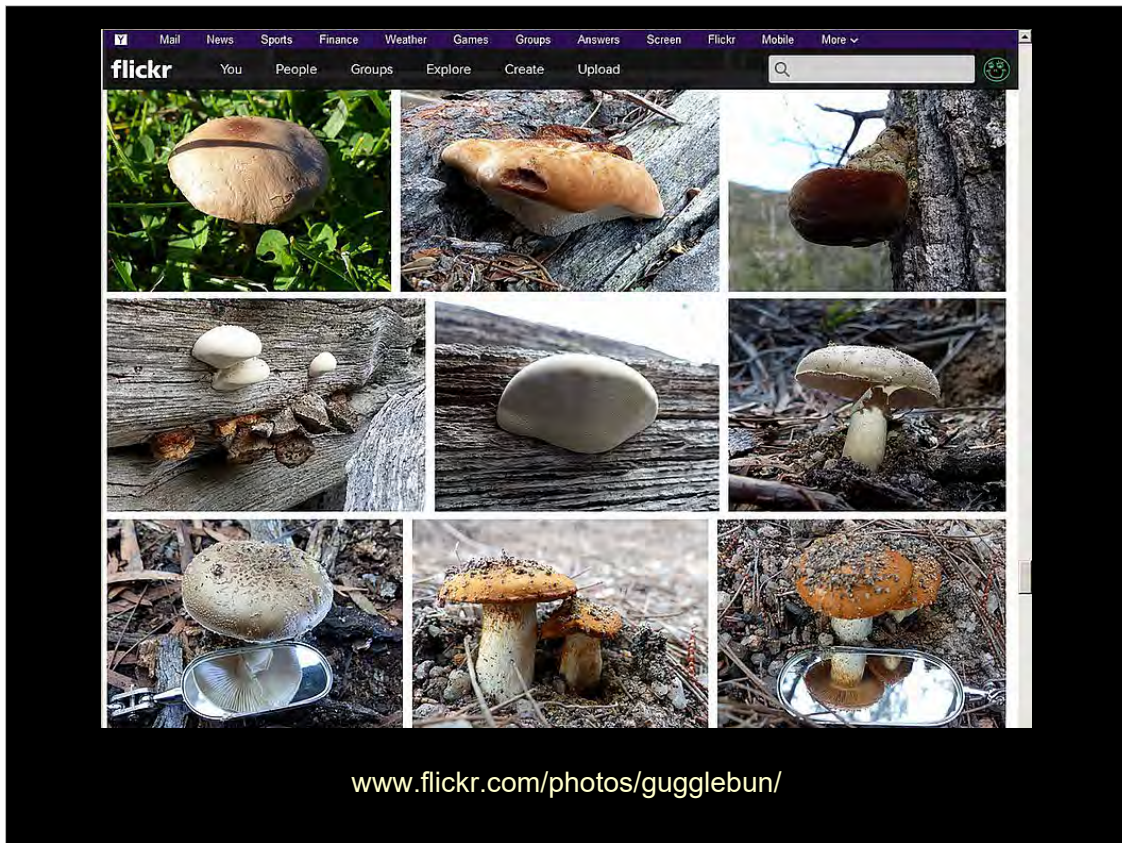
I was already sharing a few of my photos with the Tasmanian Fungi Facebook group.

I wondered if Genevieve would like a copy of my written records, so I contacted her about it and, yes, she would.

I also contacted Fungimap. They are also very interested in what I'm doing.

This is the “Submit a Record” page on the Fungimap website. The instructions on what to do are easy to understand and you can download a copy of their record form to fill in and return to them.

Anyone can do it.

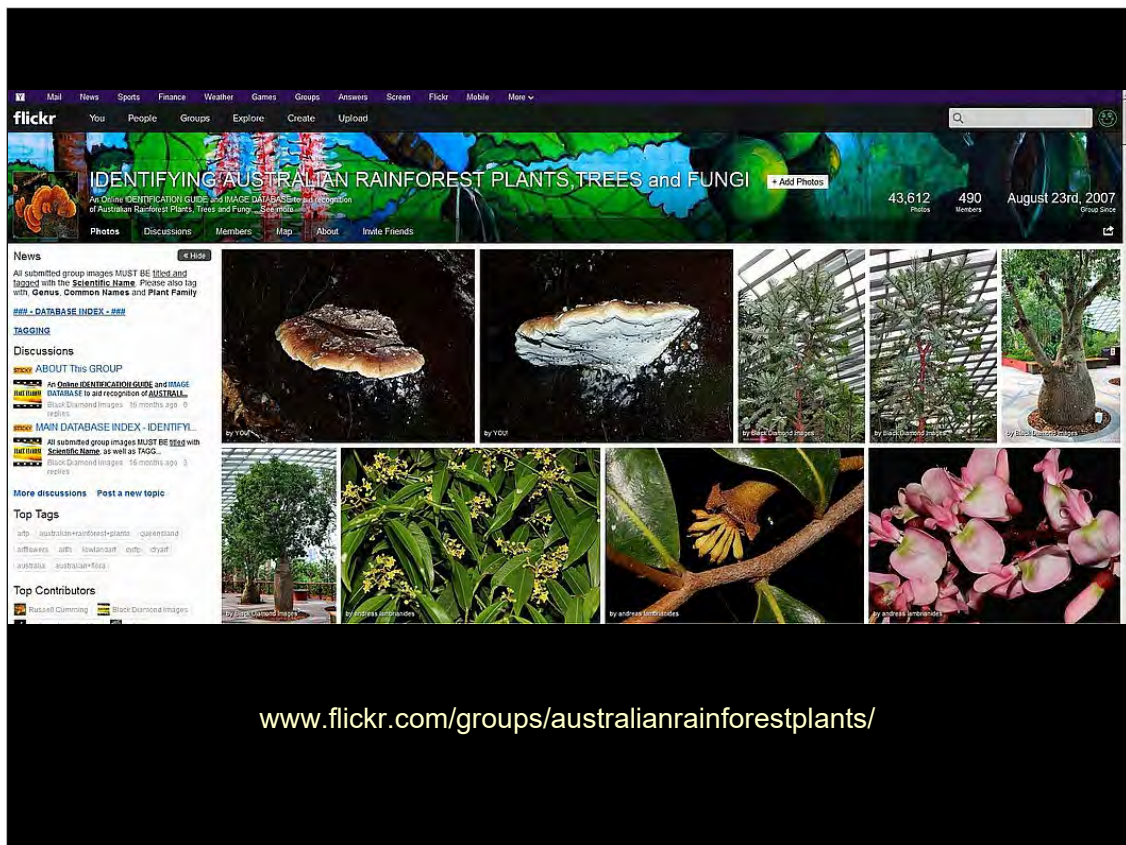


I've also been putting some of Chris's and my nicest photos up on Flickr.

For those who don't know, Flickr is an image and video hosting website. Anyone can access it for free and you don't have to join to be able to see the photos.

I first started putting our Tassie fungi photos up there because one of the park rangers we talked to at Mt Field National Park had asked if she could see them.

She is very interested in fungi and had told us where we could find some good specimens along one of the tracks, so it was nice to be able to show her what we had found.

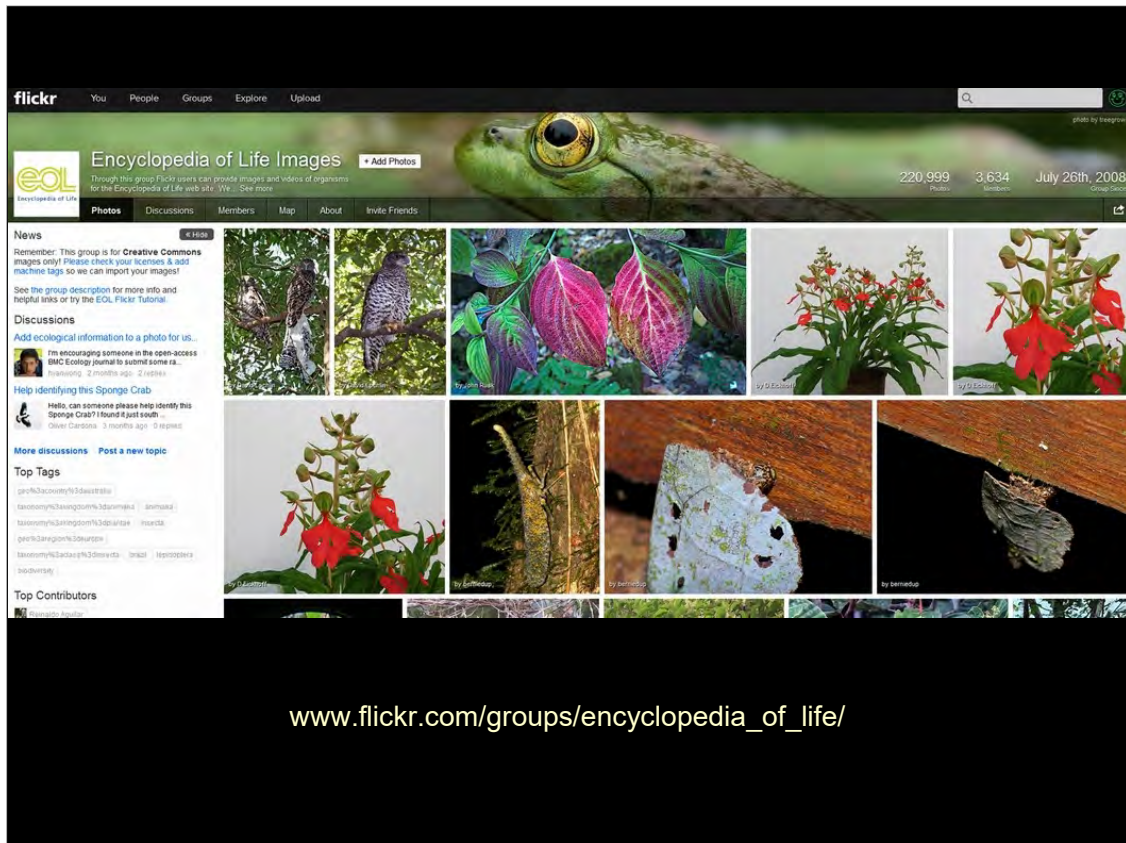


Since I started putting the photos up on Flickr, I've also been invited to join the Australian Mosses and Lichens group and the Identifying Australian Rainforest Plants, Trees and Fungi group.

The Rainforest group is very interesting in that they have created a database system for their photographs.

You can search the group's photos by using some special tags that they've set up.

The tags for fungi are pretty basic just now, but I'm helping them to develop a more refined and, hopefully, useful system.



I'm also a member of the Encyclopedia of Life Images group, which is a feeder for the Encyclopedia of Life website.

The Encyclopedia of Life is a free, online collaborative encyclopedia intended to document all of the nearly two million living species known to science.

It is compiled from existing databases and from contributions by experts and non-experts throughout the world.

Many respected organisations are involved - such as Harvard University and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

The Atlas of Living Australia, that was set up by the CSIRO, is also a partner and they share photographs and information.

So, eventually, our fungi photos will end up on both the EOL and ALA websites.



## The Breakdown – So Far ...

815 instances photographed



529 processed to date

**Can't identify** = 33 instances

**Identified** = 1 Slime Mould  
1 Alga  
89 Lichen  
405 Fungi

Ok, enough of that. It's time to start sharing with YOU some of the information I've put together.

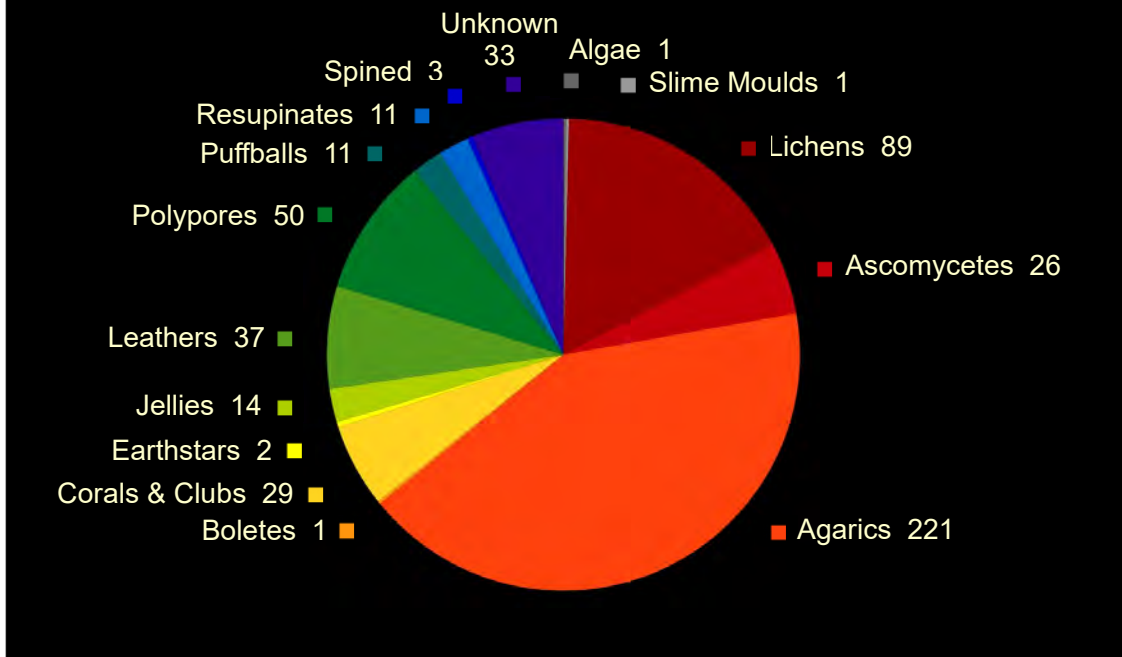
Of the 815 instances we photographed, I've processed 529 of them so far .

There are 33 that I simply can't work out what they are because the photos are too bad.

Of the ones I have identified:

One is a Slime Mould;  
One that I thought was a lichen I now think is an Alga;  
89 are Lichen;  
and 405 are Fungi.

## The Breakdown – So Far ...



Of the fungi:

26 are Ascomycetes;

221 are Agarics;

1 is a Bolete;

There are 29 Corals and Clubs;

2 Earthstars;

14 Jellies;

37 Leathers;

50 Polypores;

11 Puffballs;

11 Resupinates (that's Paints and Crusts);

and, last but not least,

3 are Spined fungi.

We didn't find any Bird's Nests, Chantarelles, Earthballs (that's Truffles) or Stinkhorns.

# Agarics



Number of incidences:	221
Identified to genera:	155
Identified to species:	103

Summary:	38 genera
	44 species

It was very hard choosing which of the agarics to show you. As you just saw with the pie graph, it was by far the largest group we photographed.

Of the 221 incidences of gilled fungi I've looked at so far, I've managed to identify 155 of them to genera. Of those, I managed to get 103 to species.

In summary, I've identified 38 different genera and 44 different species.

In my first talk, I showed you some photos of agarics that were every colour of the rainbow.

I might as well begin with those and then I'll go on to show you some of the extremes - the biggest, smallest, most common and so on.

# Fungus /'fʌŋgəs/

Before we get started on the photos, I must first apologise for my pronunciations – or rather - mispronunciations - of some of the fungus's names.

Many of them I've never heard spoken before, so I'm just doing my best with what I think they are.

Also, if you think I've misidentified something, please let me know ...

and please don't hesitate to ask any questions.



*Hygrocybe* sp. (*H. firma*?)  
Forestry Tasmania Reserve - Duckhole Lake



The first of the rainbow agarics was Red...

This is a very brightly coloured *Hygrocybe* species.

It had very pale pink or whitish gills, which makes me think it could be *Hygrocybe firma*.

*Hygrocybe firma* has been found in Queensland, but as I'm not sure about this one, it's staying as a "species" and a question mark.



The next is Orange...

*Galerina patagonica*.

This is an extremely common fungus in Tasmania and it has also been found in Queensland.

It grows on wood and is usually associated with moss.

It has an umbo on the cap and a wispy ring on the stipe.

The cap can fade with age to be quite yellowish in colour.



*Hygrocybe chromolimonea*  
Blue Tier - Goblin Forest

© Chris and Vanessa Ryan



Yellow...

From its solid yellow stipe and funnel-shaped cap, I'm pretty sure this is *Lichenomphalia chromacea*.

There is another *Lichenomphalia* species in Tasmania – *Lichenomphalia tasmanica* - but it has a whitish stipe.

*L. chromacea* is definitely in Queensland. I've seen lots of it in Girraween National Park.

[I've since been told that this is actually an *Hygrocybe chromolimonea*. *Lichenomphalia* have a much more distinct funnel-shape to their cap.

This lovely little yellow *Hygrocybe* is also found in Queensland.]



Green...

This was a pretty little *Hygrocybe graminicolor*.

In my first talk, I showed you the green form, but it also has a brown form. We were lucky to find both of them.

Both forms have whitish gills.

There is a very similar species, *Hygrocybe pseudogramnicolor*, which has yellowy-green gills.

Both species are known to be in Queensland.





Blue is...

### *Cortinarius rotundisporus*

It's a very common mushroom. We found it in a lot of places right across the state.

The species is hugely variable in colour. We found ones with caps ranging from the typical blue, to different shades of brown and some that were almost white.

The gills are usually pink or violet.

On Facebook, Genevieve often refers to this as a “group” rather than a species.



*Russula lenkunya*  
Mt Victoria Forest Reserve – Ralphs Falls



Indigo...

I think this is *Russula lenkunya*, but then again it could also be *Russula clelandii*.

Both species are very similar in appearance, but *Russula lenkunya* is supposed to have yellowish gills and a darker coloured cap and stipe.

Both species have been found in Queensland.



and finally Violet.

This little fungus has recently had a name change.

In the Tassie book it's *Hygrocybe lewellinae*, in the Subtropical Fungi book it's *Humidicutis lewellinae*, but I've been told that it's new name is *Porpolompis lewellinae*.

That's the end of the rainbow, so now I'll show you some of the extremes.

[Nigel Fechner later confirmed that it is still known as *Humidicutis lewellinae* in Queensland.]



This is the biggest agaric we found.

It was a *Lepista nuda*.

There were two fruiting bodies in the instance. The other was only about half the size of this one.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Parasola* sp.?  
Hartz Mountains National Park - Lake Osborne



This is the smallest agaric we found.

As usual, Chris spotted it. I had walked right past it.

It's too tiny to tell for sure, but I think it could be a *Stropharia* species.

I don't know what kind of dung it was growing on – possibly a wallaby's.

[Nigel later expressed his doubts about my identification, so I had another look at it. I now think it could be a *Parasola* species.]



*Protostropharia semiglobata*  
Cradle Mountain - Enchanted Walk



In comparison for size, here's another *Stropharia*.

I'm pretty sure this one is *Stropharia semiglobata* and it's obviously a lot bigger than the previous fungus.

It was growing on some wombat dung.

[It has a new name - *Protostropharia semiglobata*.]



*Mycena subgalericulata* was the most common species of agaric we found.

It usually grows in small groups on tree trunks, like this one.

It's an extremely variable little fungus.

The caps can be just about any shade of brown and can range in shape from conical to convex – even within the same group.



This fungus had the most number of fruiting bodies.

There were tiers of bright orange brackets growing right up the entire length of this dead tree trunk.

The upper surface was covered with hairs and looked really velvety. I didn't touch them, so I don't know if they were soft or not.

[At first I thought it was *Crepidotus* aff. *stromaticus*, but I'm now pretty certain it is *Tapinella panuoides*.]





*Laccaria* sp.  
Cradle Mountain - Dove Lake Circuit



This humble little brown fungus, a *Laccaria*, was growing next to the track at Dove Lake.

I reckon it's got to be one of the toughest fungi we saw, to survive being in the snow.

*Laccaria* were very common. Unfortunately, the different species are very hard to tell apart, so I've had to leave the names for most of them just as "species".



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Panellus longinquus*  
Cradle Mountain - Pencil Pine Falls and Rainforest Walk



I thought I might finish off the agarics with another photo of the *Panellus* I showed earlier.

This is what it looked like from the top.

The species is quite variable in colour. We saw some that were this lovely pink and others that were the colour of honey.

# Boletes



Number of incidences: 1  
Identified to genera: 1  
Identified to species: 1

Summary: 1 genera  
1 species

As I mentioned earlier, we found only one Bolete during our entire two weeks in Tasmania.

It was in Freycinet National Park.

Freycinet has a granite landscape, very similar to Girraween National Park here in Queensland.

As we started on the walk, I joked with Chris that we'd probably find lots of boletes in Freycinet, because there are lots of boletes in Girraween.

You can imagine my surprise when we actually found one!



Bolete 'Coles Bay'  
Freycinet National Park -  
Wineglass Bay / Hazards Beach Circuit



And here it is.

This gorgeous fungus matches the description of a species in the Tassie book with the temporary name of Bolete “Coles Bay”.

There are a couple of other species it could be, but one of the main identifying features is that it doesn't bruise blue.

You can't see it in this photograph, but on the other side of the fruiting body, someone (not me!) had scratched the cap and stipe. There was no sign of any blue bruising. It could have faded, but the marks looked to be quite fresh.

Also, we found the fungus growing very close to the Coles Bay lookout on the walking track. So we were definitely in the right area for Bolete “Coles Bay”.

# Corals and Clubs



Number of incidences:	29
Identified to genera:	28
Identified to species:	20

Summary:	5 genera
	6 species

I hadn't seen many Corals or Clubs before we went to Tasmania.

Chris and I were in for a real treat as they were pretty much everywhere!

We saw five different genera and, within those, there were six different species.



*Ramariopsis pulchella*  
Mole Creek Karst National Park - King Solomons Cave



This beautiful little coral was growing at the base of a tree fern. There were some other smaller ones growing in the ground nearby.

I found quite a few different fungi along the short track from the car park to the King Solomons Cave.

Our tour guide was quite interested in fungi. He showed me a place near the ranger's hut where he usually finds morels. Unfortunately, there weren't any there. He said he hadn't found any so far this year, which he thought was unusual.

I asked if he'd ever found fungi growing inside the caves and he said he'd only ever found them near the entrances.

[Nigel later identified this as possibly *Ramariopsis pulchella*, or it might even be an entirely new species.]



Tony Young has kindly helped me as much as he could with identifying this pretty little coral.

It could be a *Ramaria* (subgenus *Echinoramaria*) or a *Ramariopsis* species.

There was quite a lot of it growing all over the trunk of a single tree fern.

This is one that I really wished I could have taken a specimen of. Tony wishes that, too.

Fortunately, some people from the Tassie Facebook group have offered to keep an eye out for it.

[Nigel thinks that it's a *Ramariopsis*, one very similar to *R. crocea*.]



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Ramaria gelatinosa* var. *oregonensis*?  
Burnie - Fern Glade Reserve



Here's another one that the Tassie Facebook people have offered to keep a watch for.

I used Tony's *Ramaria* key, which is available on the QMS website, and worked out that it was *Ramaria gelatinosa* var. *oregonensis*.

Tony agrees that, without seeing a specimen, it could very well be that species.

To my knowledge, it hasn't yet been recorded in Tasmania.





© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Ramaria filicicola*  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



And here's another one that I don't think has been found in Tasmania before. At least it's not in the ALA records as being there.

Once again, I'd used Tony's key and had to ask him for advice about it when I suspected it was another new one for the state.

Again without a specimen, we are as sure as we can be that it is this species.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Clavulinopsis amoena*  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



On the opposite side of the coin, this delicate little club is very common in Tasmania.

We found it in quite a few places.

In Queensland, it's called *Clavaria amoena*.



This particular specimen has got to be the second-most photographed fungus in Tasmania. (I'll show you the most photographed one a bit later.)

Images of this little orange club kept turning up on the Tassie Facebook group. I know it was the same fruiting body, because of this very distinctive split here and the photos were all taken at the Goblin Forest.

This species has also been found in Queensland, only we call it *Clavaria miniata*.



*Clavulinopsis corallinosacea*  
Blue Tier - Goblin Forest



This one could also be a *Clavulinopsis sulcata*, but I'm not so sure.

The clubs weren't flattened or ridged in form like all the other specimens we saw. As you can see here, they were smooth and cylindrical.

It was also more translucent and the surface didn't have such a strong whitish bloom to it.

It really reminds me more of the yellow *Clavulinopsis amoena*, than *C. sulcata*.

[Nigel later told me that he thinks it is most likely *Clavulinopsis corallinosacea* and that *Clavulinopsis miyabeana* is also similar.]

# Earthstars



Number of incidences: 2  
Identified to genera: 2  
Identified to species: 2

Summary: 1 genera  
2 species

We saw only two incidences of Earthstars on our trip.

Both of them weren't very easy to identify from the photos.



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*Geastrum* sp.  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



This sad old specimen could be a *Geastrum pectinatum*.

This species has been found all over the world – including Asia, Africa, Europe, and north America. In Poland, it is considered threatened.

The Tassie Fungi book says that it is an introduced species.

I think that the book means it was introduced to Tasmania, as there are some fairly early records of it being found in other Australian states – including Queensland.



*Geastrum* sp.  
Burnie - Fern Glade Reserve



I think this is a *Geastrum triplex*.

There were quite a few of them growing in the lawn around the base of a tree fern.

Some of the older specimens showed signs of the cracking of the rays into the distinctive saucer shape this species is known for, but I think this one had only just opened.

It was also sopping wet from some heavy rain.

[Nigel thinks this might be *Geastrum fimbriatum*.]

# Jellies



Number of incidences:	14
Identified to genera:	14
Identified to species:	11

Summary:	5 genera
	4 species

Tasmania's damp and cool conditions seems to really suit Jellies.

I could identify them all to genus, but I had more difficulty trying work out some of the species.





This fantastic jelly was one of the easy ones to identify.

It's a *Tremella fuciformis*.

This main clump was a bit bigger than my hand.

The fruiting body looked like it was hollow inside. I would have really liked to have been able to cut it open to see for sure.



*Heterotextus miltinus*  
Cradle Mountain - Pencil Pine Falls and Rainforest Walk



You might know this one as “Jelly Bells”.

There are two species of Jelly Bell in Tasmania.

Its proper name is *Heterotextus* and the Tassie species are *Heterotextus peziziformis* and *Heterotextus miltinus*.

Apparently, the only visual difference between the two species is their size.

*H. miltinus* gets to about 10mm, while *H. peziziformis* only gets to about 5mm.

This one in the photo looks to be quite big, so it's probably *H. miltinus*.

*H. miltinus* has been found in Queensland.

[Nigel also thinks that it's *Heterotextus miltinus*.]

© All Images: Chris and Vanessa Ryan



*Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



This wonderful jelly is also found in Queensland.

Its common name is “Jelly Tooth” and it's pretty obvious why.

We saw a lot of it in Tasmania, in all phases of growth.

When they get old, the teeth fall off and then it looks a bit like a very pale *Auricularia*.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Calocera* sp.  
Cradle Mountain - Pencil Pine Falls and Rainforest Walk



When I first saw this, I thought it was a kind of coral.

It was only until I got home and started looking up names that I realised it was a jelly.

The Tassie book lists *Calocera guepinioides*, but says that this species has simple, unbranched rods and suggests that specimens that have branches might be a different species.

As the ones we photographed have branched ends, I'm calling it "species".

*Calocera guepinioides* has been found in Queensland.

[Nigel thinks it might be *Calocera sinensis*.]

# Leathers



Number of incidences: 37  
Identified to genera: 30  
Identified to species: 24

Summary: 2 genera  
3 species

We saw quite a lot of Leathers.

Some of them were quite colourful and pretty big.

There was one species in particular that was very easy to identify and it was just about everywhere.



And this is it ... *Stereum ostrea*.

Some of the fruiting bodies were huge and a couple of the troops just about covered entire logs.

Even though it is a very common fungus, I still like it for its rich, earthy colours.

Someone else must have liked this one, too – you can see here it's been neatly cut.



This leather took me quite a while to identify.

According to Genevieve, it's also a *Stereum ostrea*.

Apparently, this species can be quite variable in colour... and size... and shape.

[Nigel does not think this is a *Stereum ostrea*. I tend to agree with him. It is just too different.]



Here's another *Stereum* that seems to be very common in Tasmania - *Stereum hirsutum*.

As the “hirsutum” part of its name suggests, it has quite a hairy upper surface.

*Stereum ostrea* has a mostly smooth upper surface, so that's how you can tell them apart.

This species also apparently doesn't grow as large as *Stereum ostrea*.

That's not a very helpful feature to go by, though, because you often find ones that aren't fully grown.





This is my favourite leather - *Podoserpula pusio* – otherwise known as the Pagoda Fungus.

We found quite a few of them in different places, but most of them were pretty old and tatty.

I was very pleased to find these fresh examples on the day before we had to head back to Hobart.

From the top, it doesn't look much different from a bracket, but when you look at it from the side, it's a different story, multiple storeys, in fact. (Sorry.)

# Polypores



Number of incidences: 50  
Identified to genera: 34  
Identified to species: 32

Summary: 13 genera  
13 species

Polypores.

As you know, polypores can be very hard to identify, even when you have a specimen to look at.

It's been a real battle to get over half of them identified to genus and then further on to species. I couldn't have done it without lots of help from Genevieve.

I thought I'd start the polypore photos with what I think has to be the most common species in Tasmania.

It was simply everywhere and sometimes we found it in vast numbers.



*Fomes hemitephrus*  
Everywhere!



## *Fomes hemitephrus.*

This species is fairly easy to identify, as it is usually hoof-shaped with a resupinate area below.

The upper surface can be pale greyish-brown and sometimes it's banded with different shades of brown. There is usually a thick, white margin.

The underneath is white, with fine pores. It doesn't mark dark brown if scratched, like *Ganoderma australe*, which is another similar-looking polypore that's also found in Tasmania.

According to the Tassie book, it's only found in Tasmania on dead Myrtle Beech – *Nothofagus cunninghamii*.

I can only assume that it's also found on *Nothofagus* species in Queensland.



*Postia punctata* is another common polypore in Tasmania.

Its upper surface is quite variable in colour – from cream through to a reddish-brown. It can be a solid colour or mottled.

Its shape also varies a lot - multiple tiers like this one or a rosette.

One distinguishing character is that it often oozes water droplets.

That's not very helpful when it's been raining and it's dripping wet!

[Nigel doesn't think this is a *Postia*. He thinks it could be a *Ryvardenia*, a *Bondarzewia* or perhaps even an *Inonotus*. However, Genevieve had identified this as a *Postia* and it looks like the one in the book.]



Here's another one from Mount Field National Park.

I really needed Genevieve's help to identify it.

Again, it would have been very useful to have a specimen to refer to.

[Nigel thinks it might also be *Heterobasidion annosum*.]



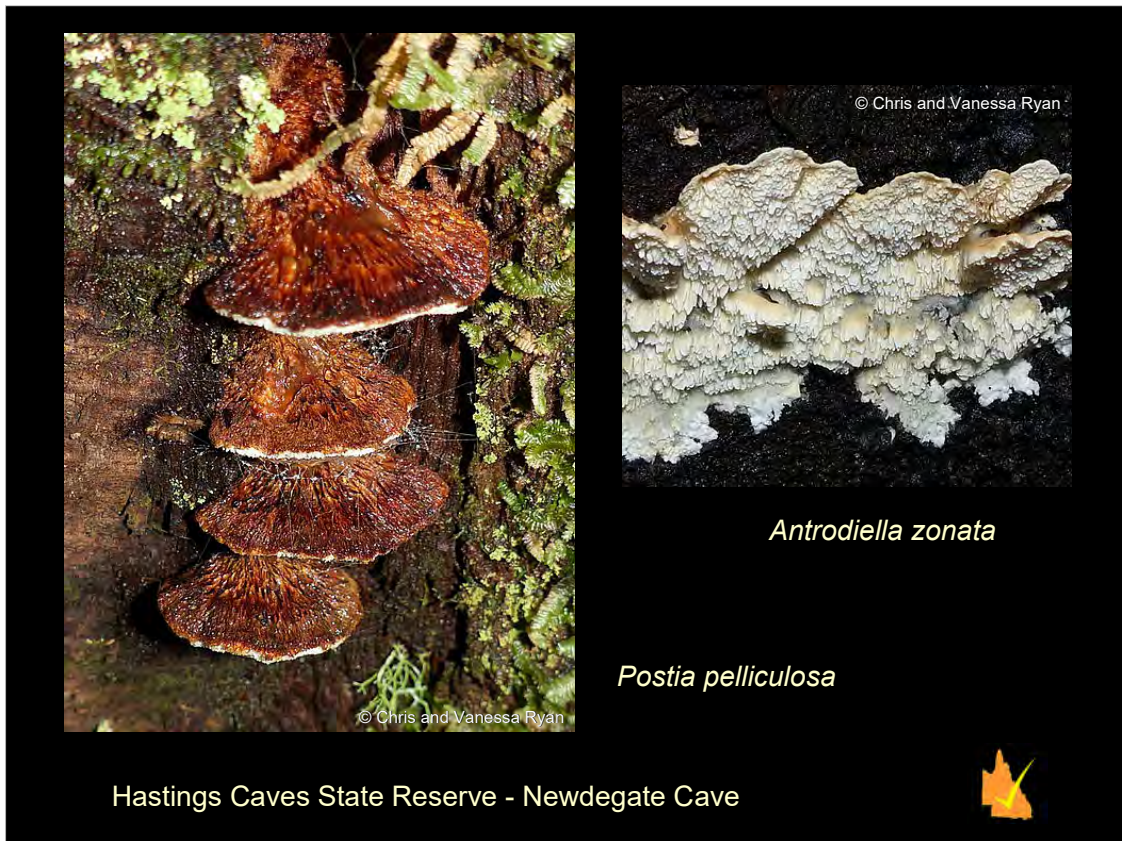
I was photographing this tier of four fungi down here, thinking that the mossy lumps next to it were just bits of the rotting tree stump.

It wasn't until I bent over to photograph the underside of the fungi and saw the cinnamon-brown pored surface right next to them, that I realised the mossy lumps were fungi as well.

They are *Phellinus wahlbergii*.

In Queensland, the species is known as *Fuscoporia wahlbergii*.

And what were the four fungi that I was looking at?



They were *Antrodiella zonata*. It's quite a common bracket. Some fruiting bodies had really fibrous upper surfaces, like these, while others were almost smooth.

This species has very a distinctive pore surface. Apparently, the actual pores are only near the margin. The rest of the underside is made up of of a maze of flattened spines and grooves, which the Tassi book says is called irpicoid.

The underside of these ones at Newdegate Cave were starting to decay. This is a better photo of a younger specimen that shows the irpicoid structures really nicely. This particular fungus was in Mt Field National Park.

[Nigel says the four (on the left) weren't *A. zonata*. He didn't know what they were. I've since identified them as *Postia pelliculosa*, which has not been found in Queensland. The one on the right definitely is *A. zonata* and that has been found in Queensland.]



*Pycnoporus* sp.  
Frenchman's Cap



Any collection of polypores wouldn't be complete without a humble *Pycnoporus*.

Megan has mentioned on Facebook that *Pycnoporus* has recently just been included in *Trametes*.

For such a common fungus, I only saw this one instance during the whole two weeks, which is quite surprising.

Even though I'm not sure which particular species this is, Tasmania has the same three species as Queensland, so it's a good bet that it's one of them.

Some of you might have noticed this different coloured fungus up in the corner here?





Frenchman's Cap



*Trametes versicolor*



Yes, it was a *Trametes versicolor* – the common old Turkey Tail.

I think we only saw two instances of this during our trip, which was also a bit surprising for such a common fungus.



I'll finish off the polypores with a species I showed earlier, when I was talking about our photography.

In this photo, you can see the edges of the pores on the underside of the fruiting bodies.

You can also see how the rain droplets are milky from the spores they've picked up.

That's one of the ways I could tell the spore colour of some of the fungi we'd photographed, by looking at the colour of the water droplets on their undersides.

# Puffballs



Number of incidences:	11
Identified to genera:	9
Identified to species:	7

Summary:	3 genera
	2 species

As you can see, we didn't find very many puffballs.



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*Lycoperdon perlatum*  
Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park - Nelson Falls



These puffballs were growing on soil and had a longish false stipe.

You can see the stipe here in this fruiting body near the rear of the group.

I think they are *Lycoperdon perlatum*.



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*Lycopodium pyriforme*  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



These were growing on wood and are most likely to be *Lycopodium pyriforme*.

When we found them, they were usually in large numbers.

In this photo, the camera's flash shows up the puffballs' gleba as a greeny-grey mass that you can see through the open holes in the tops.

It normally looks dark as light doesn't reach it inside the ball.



*Pisolithus* sp.  
Freycinet National Park -  
Wineglass Bay / Hazards Beach Circuit



We found this very different species of puffball in the much drier environment in Freycinet.

I almost didn't spot it, as it looked just like a little rock sitting at the base of a big rock.

It's a *Pisolithus*.

It was growing next to the track and someone or something else had obviously seen it and scratched some of its skin off to reveal the gleba.

There are a number of *Pisolithus* species in Tasmania and Queensland, but I don't know which one this is, so I can't say if it's here or not.

# Resupinates



Number of incidences: 11  
Identified to genera: 5  
Identified to species: 3

Summary: 4 genera  
3 species

Resupinates.

These are the crusts and paints and there were plenty of them about.

Even though I knew they would be hard to identify, we still photographed a few of the more interesting ones.

Unfortunately, I don't think I'll be able to get names for a lot of them without having specimens to work from.

Here are a few that I have managed to find names for.



Near Russell Falls, there was a hollow log at the side of the track that was so big you could walk into it.

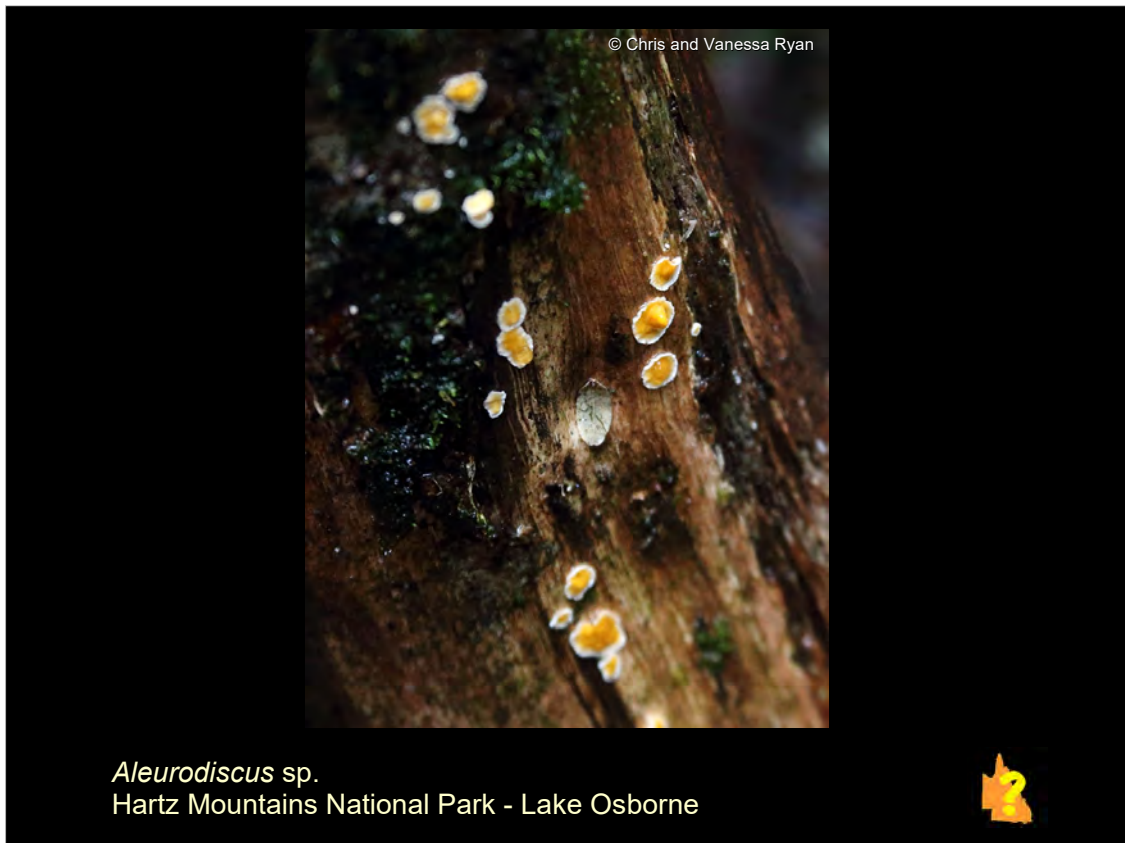
The inside surface was dotted with patches of this fungus. It's a kind of dry rot.

The air was so calm and humid inside the log that the hyphae of the fungus' mycelium had grown into these large, fluffy patches. Normally, I don't think it's quite so prominent.

Only one *Serpula* species has been recorded for Tasmania, so it's highly likely that this is it.

Some related species have been found in Queensland.





I'm pretty sure this is an *Aleurodiscus* species.

The Tassie book describes *Aleurodiscus limonisporus* as being an apricot-orange in colour.

This is clearly a bright yellow, so I'm not certain it's that.



This is an interesting resupinate fungus we saw growing alongside the Duckhole Lake track.

From the pinky-brown colour of its pore surface and these layered edges, I think it could be a *Phellinus* species.

This looks like it's a *Ganoderma australe* that's being surrounded by the *Phellinus*.

There's another *Ganoderma* up there that's clear of the resupinate fungus and maybe other one down here that looks as if it's been engulfed.

# Spined



Number of incidences: 3  
Identified to genera: 3  
Identified to species: 3

Summary: 3 genera  
3 species

We didn't find many spined fungi during our trip, so every time we did come across one, it was a real highlight.

Each one was very distinctive, so they were pretty easy to identify.



When I first saw this one, I was looking down on it.

I thought it was probably a *Clitocybe* because the cap was funnel-shaped and seemed a bit waxy in texture.

It wasn't until I got down to photograph the underneath that I realized that I had found something different.

Instead of the expected gills, it had these lovely spines.

It was my very first *Hydnum repandum*.



This was another unexpected surprise.

There was a large mass of these fungi growing right next to the track.

I had found a much smaller instance of the same species a few days before, at Lake St Clair. I don't think it's very common.

This species has been found in Queensland.

Megan has posted a photo of one found at the Linda Garrett reserve on the SEQ Facebook group.

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*Hericium coralloides*  
Mt Field National Park - Russell & Horseshoe Falls Track



Earlier tonight, I showed you what I thought was the second-most photographed fungus in Tasmania. I'm pretty sure this one has to get first place.

This magnificent specimen of *Hericium* was growing right beside one of the most popular walking tracks in the state.

You simply could NOT miss seeing it.

Photos of it kept popping up regularly in the Tassie Facebook group.

When we saw it, it was beginning to age a bit. You can just see the discolouration in the lower part, here.

This species is edible, so it was lucky to be growing in a protected area, otherwise I'm sure someone would have made a good meal of it!

# Ascomycetes



Number of incidences:	26
Identified to genera:	22
Identified to species:	17

Summary:	14 genera
	11 species

We saw a lot of Ascomycetes - in all colours, shapes and sizes.

I haven't had much to do with them before and now, the more I learn about them, the more I think they are amazing things.



This is one of the first Ascos we encountered in Tasmania – a common old Jellybaby, *Leotia lubrica*.

Some of you might have seen this species yourself, as it's here in Queensland.

This is the yellow form.

Chris also saw the green form at Nelson Falls, but unfortunately his photos didn't turn out.





This is another very common pin-shaped Asco in Tasmania.

They are quite small, but because they're white, they are really easy to spot.

They grow on wood and seem to be associated with moss.

© Chris and Vanessa Ryan



*Chlorovibrissea* sp.  
Forestry Tasmania Reserve - Duckhole Lake



This is a very unusual little pin-shaped Asco.

Chris found it growing on top of a very large old mossy log.

It's another one I really wish I could have got a collection of.

It isn't in the Tassie book, but I found something that looks just like it in Fuhrer - *Chlorovibrissea melanochlora*.

Since I'm not 100% sure it's that, I'm just calling it a "species".

As far as I'm aware, no *Chlorovibrissea* species have been found yet in Tasmania and I don't think there are any records of it being in Queensland, either.

[Nigel thinks it could be *Chlorovibrissea phialophora*, which has been found in New Zealand.]



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*Anthracobia muelleri*  
Tasman National Park - Waterfall Bay



We found this lovely little cup fungus growing on the ground in a recently burned bit of forest.

I saw just the one patch of it. I think it was about a meter across and it was at the base of a large Eucalypt of some sort.

Its common name is Charcoal Cups, as it's usually found in burnt areas.



Here's another little yellow cup fungus.

*Discinella terrestris*

It grows on moist soil and it's often associated with moss and very rotten wood.



*Ascocoryne sarcoides*  
Lake St Clair - Aboriginal Cultural Walk



This pretty little pink Asco has been found in Queensland.

When I first noticed it, it was a single fruiting body and I thought someone had left a lump of chewing gum on a tree.

Then I saw more of it and realised that it was actually a fungus.

The colour can vary from this lovely rose pink to pinkish-brown.

We did see more instances of this species. They were usually growing on the ends of cut logs, which is something the Tassie book mentions.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Cyttaria gunnii*  
Hartz Mountains National Park - Lake Osborne



I had been hoping we'd find one of these on our trip and we did, sort of.

This very old specimen of *Cyttaria gunnii* was on the Lake Osborne track in the Hartz Mountains.

We were lucky to find it at all, as it usually fruits in the warmer months of the year and we were there in winter.

*Cyttaria septentrionalis* is the species that has been found in Queensland.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Isaria* sp.  
Peoples Park, Strahan - Hogarth Falls



This is a kind of “Vegetable Caterpillar”. We found it on the trunk of a fern tree.

It is most likely to be *Isaria farinosa*, but without microscopic examination, I can't be sure, as there are three species that look very similar.

Someone on the Tassie Facebook group said that this particular genus lives on moth caterpillars.

Chris also photographed another species of “Vegetable Caterpillar”...



*Isaria tenuipes*  
Peoples Park, Strahan - Hogarth Falls



This one was coming up from the ground.

Its tall, slender habit with the little fuzzy branches at the top made it easy to identify as *Isaria tenuipes*.

I don't think either species has been found in Queensland.





© Chris and Vanessa Ryan



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Geoglossum* sp.  
Blue Tier - Goblin Forest



I'd never seen an Earth Tongue before, so I was quite excited when we found a large patch of them.

The fruiting area was a couple of meters across.

There are at least three species of *Geoglossum* known to be in Tasmania.

This looks a bit like two of those species, but without a specimen, there is no way of telling which it one is.

© Chris and Vanessa Ryan



*What is it?*  
Freycinet National Park -  
Wineglass Bay / Hazards Beach Circuit



There were a couple of these weird-looking fruiting bodies growing at the base of a tree in Freycinet.

They seemed to be almost black in colour under a white, fuzzy coating that looked as if it was weathering away.

I think it's some sort of *Xylaria*, but I have no idea which species it might be.

The ALA website lists at least six different species of *Xylaria* for Tasmania and of those, five have also been found in Queensland.

[Nigel doesn't think it's a *Xylaria*. Now I know a bit more about them, I agree with him. We both have no idea what it could be. There were a few of them protruding from the tree trunk.]



*Aleuria aurantia*  
Dover - Dover Beach Park



This bright orange Asco was fairly large. It was growing in the grass near the edge of a public park.

It's commonly known as the Orange-peel Fungus.

This is another one I would have missed seeing, if Chris hadn't pointed it out to me.

# Slime Moulds



Number of incidences: 1  
Identified to genera: 1  
Identified to species: 1

Summary: 1 genera  
1 species

We only found one slime mould.

It must have been too early in the season for them.

A couple of months after we got back, the Tassie Facebook group was pretty much just all about slime moulds.

They've got some really beautiful species down there.

A few people in the Facebook group had seen the same kind I'd photographed, so it was fairly easy to identify.



Some species can be very colourful when they start fruiting – bright pinks and oranges – and they can look like rows of little shiny plastic beads.

Unfortunately, this isn't one of them.

I found it growing inside an old rotting tree trunk. The white bits are the fruiting bodies.

I remember them being quite small and very difficult to photograph. I had to use the flash because inside the log was very dark, but being white, they just kept bleaching out.

# Lichens



Number of incidences: 89

Not much work done on them yet – just what you see here.

Summary: Identified 10 to genera  
7 to possible species

Now, to finish off, here's some of Tasmania's fabulous lichens.

There were lichens growing everywhere and on everything down there.

I joked with Chris that if we'd stood still long enough, we'd probably find them growing on us, too!



*Caloplaca* sp.  
Bicheno - Waubs Bay



This is some of the bright orange lichen that makes the Bay of Fires famous. It actually grows all along the Tasmanian coastline, particularly on the eastern side.

I think it's a *Caloplaca* species.

These lichens live in a very harsh environment. They are in the full sun most of the day and are just above the high tide mark where they'd get a lot of salt spray.

At extra high tides or during storm swells, they'd be inundated.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Cladonia* sp.  
Cradle Mountain - Dove Lake Circuit



Here's another tough lichen. This one has to contend with freezing temperatures.

It was growing on top of an old log and, yes, that's snow on it.

I think it's a *Cladonia* species, probably *Cladonia rigida*.

You can tell it's a *Cladonia*, because species in that genus often look like two lichens in one.

The base is made up of tiny scale-like structures, but the fruiting part is quite tall and often trumpet shaped.





© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Cladonia* sp.  
Cradle Mountain - Dove Lake Circuit



Here's another *Cladonia* that we found at Dove Lake.

It was a very common species. And, like the other *Cladonia*, we often found it covered with snow and ice.

I think this species was always growing on or close to the ground.

The bright red apothecia really stood out in the snowy landscape.

[It could possibly be *Cladonia ustulata*.]



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Hypogymnia* sp.?  
Cradle Mountain - Dove Lake Circuit



This is another lichen from Dove Lake.

It was growing on a small bush in quite an exposed and windy area.

From its silvery-coloured, leafy – or foliose - form and the greenish apothecia, I think it could be *Hypogymnia enteromorphoides*, which is known to be in Tasmania.

Like other foliose lichens, the underside was a different colour to the upper surface. In this case, it was almost black – a stark contrast to the silvery-grey top.



Here's a lovely, fresh, green foliose lichen we found growing on a tree trunk in the Goblin Forest.

I think it could be a *Crocodia poculifera*.

[Pat McCarthy later identified it as *Crocodia rubella*.]



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Pseudocyphellaria glabra*  
Cradle Mountain - Pencil Pine Falls and Rainforest Walk.



I'm pretty sure this one is *Pseudocyphellaria glabra*.

It's another pretty green foliose lichen, but it was almost black on its underside.

If you look carefully, you can see little hairs around the edges of the pink apothecia. They look a bit like eyelashes.



*Placopsis* sp.  
Lake St Clair - Aboriginal Cultural Walk



I thought this was a lovely crust.

From the grey thallus and pink apothecia, it could be a *Haematomma* species, but I'm not sure.

[It has now been identified as a *Placopsis* species.]



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Rhizocarpon geographicum*  
Cradle Mountain - Dove Lake Circuit



Here's another elegant little crust.

This patch really stood out with its lacy black thallus and bright green apothecia.

Its common name is the Map Lichen, because large areas of it look just like a map.



© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Baeomyces* sp.?  
Lake St Clair - Aboriginal Cultural Walk



This unusual lichen was growing on top of a rotting log.

I think it might be a *Baeomyces* species.

I'll be interested to see what the Tassie Facebook people have to say about it, as I haven't asked them about it yet.



*Dibaeis* sp.  
Cradle Mountain - Enchanted Walk



This one was identified by the Tassie Facebook group as a *Dibaeis* species.

It was growing on the ground and the patch had to be well over a square meter in size.

A good portion of it had been covered by water pooling from all the rain and melted snow, but it didn't seem to be suffering for it.





© Chris and Vanessa Ryan

*Stereocaulon ramulosum*  
Blue Tier - Goblin Forest



Here's another lichen that we found growing on the ground.

It was in a couple of different national parks across the state. I think those particular parks were all at higher altitudes, but I need to recheck that.

It's most likely a *Stereocaulon* species.

[Again, thanks to Pat McCarthy, we can say it is most likely *Stereocaulon ramulosum*.]



Two *Cladia* species and a *Cladonia*.  
Blue Tier - Goblin Forest



And finally, this is my favourite lichen photo. Some of you might remember it from my other presentation.

In it are three different species:

I think the green, solid looking one is *Cladia inflata*.

This very fine lichen in the middle is a *Cladonia* - possibly *Cladonia rangiferina*.

Even though it's definitely a lichen, its common name is Reindeer Moss. And yes, reindeer do eat it in the northern hemisphere.

And last but not least, this is *Cladia retipora* – the Coral or Snow Lichen.

This lichen is in Queensland and is very common in the Granite Belt.

# Thank you!



[www.flickr.com/photos/gugglebun/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gugglebun/)

We've got lots more photos, but that's it for tonight.

Chris and I both hope you've enjoyed seeing them.

I'll be putting more up on Flickr as I continue to process them.

Thank you.