

HBR News May 2010



huon bush retreats



Autumn is Fungi Time in the old growth forest

Each autumn, the forest here comes alive with spectacular fungi, lichens and mosses. Fungi are the forest nutrient recyclers, decomposing dead (and sometimes live) materials and releasing the nutrients back to the ecosystem. Some of these nutrients have been locked up in a particular organism for hundreds of years. Take the case of a fungi growing in a log that is 1.5 metres in diameter. That means about 750mm radius, with the widest growth rings being 2mm this tree was at least 325 years old when it fell. Add to this the 50 to 150 years that the log has been lying on the ground, and you can start to appreciate the enormous time scales involved in operation of an old growth forest ecosystem.

We see only the fruiting part of the fungi on the outside of the log, but the hyphae extend right through the full diameter. As then fungi decompose some sections faster than others, they

create soft areas and hollows that are inhabited by all manner of invertebrates as well as the possums, birds, bats and wallabies who like the shelter of a rotting hollow log.

A particularly interesting relative of the fungus is the slime mould (pic. right side above). These fascinating communities of tiny organisms ooze their way through the forest. Sometimes they will stay in the same place for weeks. Other times they move several centimetres per day digesting items laying in their path. Don't get too relaxed or you might get recycled by a passing slimemould.

Come and enjoy fungi season. The walks are open at no charge, but of course the best way to experience Huon Bush Retreats is a two night stay with a whole day to just enjoy the tranquillity and beauty.

Relax ● Explore ● Experience ● Nature

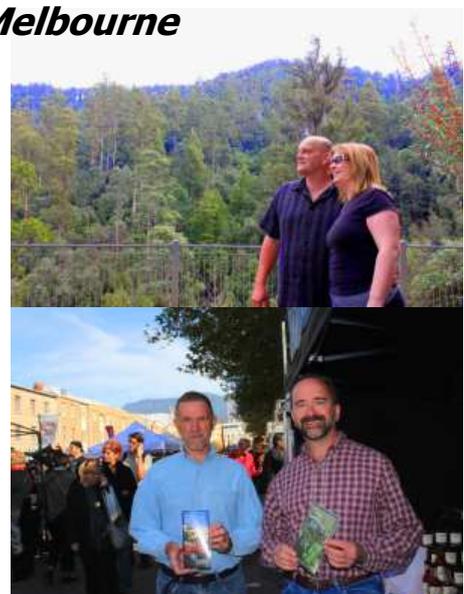
A Weekend of Winners from Brisbane and Melbourne

Denis and Jeff from Brisbane, were winners of free accommodation at Huon Bush Retreats. They stayed with us for two nights recently then visited Salamanca Market, where Paul photographed them enjoying the beautiful autumn weather. Huon Bush Retreats now has a presence every week at Salamanca Market, sharing a stall with Grandvewe Cheese. On the same weekend, we also hosted Wayne and Yvonne, winners of the Tourism Tasmania Hawthorn football promotion. They were photographed at the lookout.

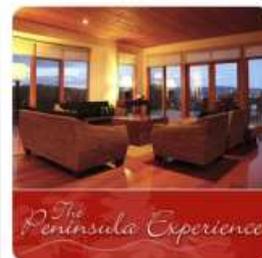
The monthly free draw will continue, but from June winners will be able to choose from a free night at either Huon Bush Retreats or at Driftwood Cottages. To enter the draw each month, go to www.huonbushretreats.com or www.huonvalleyescapes.com.au and look for the link.



To unsubscribe at any time. just send an email to entry@huonbushretreats.com with the subject "unsubscribe".



Huon Valley Escapes: Waterways, wilderness and wildlife



Huon Bush Retreats is now part of Huon Valley Escapes. Encouraged by the success of Huon Bush Retreats, Michael and Paul have additionally taken on management of a portfolio of properties around Dover, at the southern end of the Huon Valley. "We are Huon Valley residents and are passionate about our beautiful piece of Tasmania, especially the nature based experiences on offer." Paul says of the new focus.

The Huon Valley Escapes concept is that Tasmania's Huon Valley is so much more than a day visit from Hobart. Huon Valley Escapes provides an ideal way to explore the Huon Trail, spending 2 nights at each of two properties. Of course you can book just one night and our wide range of accommodation choices will enable you to find just the right style of accommodation to match your needs.

Accommodation Choices From secluded eco-cabins and tipis at Huon Bush Retreats, waterfront studios and beachouses at Driftwood Cottages to total luxury and seclusion on a private 250 acre Peninsula, Huon Valley Escapes has your Huon Trail experience covered. Stay a few days, slow down, do as little or as much as you like. Experience the best of the Huon: food, culture and the tranquillity of Tasmania's southernmost trails. Huon Valley Escapes makes it easy:

[Book & Pay Now](#)

1. Go to www.huonvalleyescapes.com.au
2. Check out our different properties by using the image links
3. Find the property or properties that match the experience and location you seek
4. Click the "Book & Pay Now" button or phone us on 1800 353 983

Date From May 3, 2010		2 Weeks			1 Week			1 Day			1 Day			1 Week			2 Weeks												
Huon Valley Escapes		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	3May	4May	5May	6May	7May	8May	9May	10May	11May	12May	13May	14May	15May	16May
Driftwood Cottages	★★★★ View Map	CHECK AVAILABILITY	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 135	
Huon Bush Retreats	★★★★ View Map	CHECK AVAILABILITY	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 105	\$ 105	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 105	\$ 105	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 105	\$ 105	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 79	\$ 105	\$ 105	\$ 79	
The Peninsula Experience	View Map	CHECK AVAILABILITY	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	ENQUIRE	ENQUIRE	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	ENQUIRE	ENQUIRE	\$ 365	\$ 365	ENQUIRE	ENQUIRE	\$ 365	\$ 365	\$ 365	

Free Accommodation Draw Winners



Congratulations to the following people who have won a gift voucher for free accommodation for two people at Huon Bush Retreats. We give away a free night every month. If your name is listed here, you should have received your gift certificate by now. If not, please contact us.

Feb 2010: Suzanne Dykes
Post Code 7008

March 2010: Laurence Kirkwood
Post Code 4067

April 2010: Katherine Deveney,
Post Code 2777

Weekly Salamanca Market

Perhaps you had one of our breakfast baskets including one of our homemade jams. Our food range is now available at Salamanca Market each Saturday. Made with organic sugar and chemical free Huon Valley produce, our jams sauces and chutneys make a great gift or general stock for your pantry.

Try our raspberry, chilli, chocolate sauce or traditional strawberry jam.



Hold your event at Huon Bush Retreats or The Peninsula

Weddings, meetings, corporate retreats, training sessions, workshops - Huon Bush Retreats or the Peninsula Experience are ideal venues for small gatherings in a natural setting.

Participants can choose from accommodation choices including secluded eco-cabins and tipis at Huon Bush Retreats or the total luxury of the

Peninsula Experience. Both venues offer total privacy and no distractions by booking the entire site

Events can be self catering or we can provide a feast for up to 60 at Huon Bush Retreats with the Peninsula suited for small groups only.

To discuss your requirements, catering etc phone us on 1800 353 983



Radio Advertising Campaign

Dave Noonan and his partner have been frequent guests at Huon Bush Retreats over the years. Other station personalities, Kim Geal and Brett Marley have also stayed with us.

So when Huon Valley Escapes decided to run a radio advertising campaign in southern Tasmania, Dave's radio station Heart 107.3 FM was the obvious choice.

The campaign encourages people from Hobart and surrounds to think of the Huon Valley as an ideal short winter break rather than just a day trip from Hobart.



Green Rosellas Fly In

Rory has grown up and spends most of his time outside now, so I was wondering what wildlife story to put in this edition.

Right on cue, a flock of Green Rosellas noisily arrived and spent an hour picking through the bushes outside the office.



We Like Huon Bush Retreats on Facebook

Many people now use social media websites as the new way to keep up to date with friends. This is also rapidly becoming an effective way to find out about what your favourite businesses are doing too.

By clicking that you "Like" Huon Bush Retreats, you will share your HBR experience and photos with all your Facebook friends. You can also get early notice when we make new offers or have special events.



HBR Defies Tourism Downturn

According to the Federal Government's Tourism Research Australia, domestic visitors to Regional Tasmania are down 18%. However Huon Bush Retreats is continuing to grow. This is due to additional facilities and word of mouth from happy guests is also a significant factor. About 1/3rd of all guests are either word of mouth or repeat. (The chart shows Tas Regional X1000 and Tas total X1000.)

