

Launceston Field Naturalists Club

John Skemp Memorial Lecture



Florence Perrin, *The Examiner*, September 1936
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*Florence Perrin
(1884-1952);
Wilderness to
seaweeds*

will be presented by
Tabatha Badger

Tuesday 2 May at 7.30 pm



Provided by Speaker

**To be held at Briggs Hall
Scotch Oakburn Senior Campus
Penquite Road Newstead**

**Join us to hear Tabatha's presentation
on this important early naturalist**

**Phone Noel (0458 030 767)
Club Secretary for further information**

Title

Florence Perrin (1884-1952); *Wilderness to seaweeds*

Abstract

Visionary Tasmanian bushwalker and botanist, Florence Perrin (1884-1952), lived an eclectic life devoted to the community and environment. Based in Launceston, 'Flossie' was drawn to the natural world, enjoying bushwalking, skiing and photography in the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair region. The remote massif, Perrins Bluff was conferred in her honour in 1920, after she had spent 6 summer seasons summiting many of the peaks in the region; was Florence the first female post colonisation to do so?

Over the course of her life Florence became a globally sought after expert in Seaweed and a local expert in orchid and fern species. Specimens of each could be found in abundance at Low Head, where Florence and husband George owned a significant portion of farmland and spent their summers. Florence co-authored *Seaweeds of South Australia* (1936-1947) with colleague and friend, A.H.S Lucas, and frequently lectured on her various study subjects to the Country Women's Association, Launceston Horticultural Society, Northern Royal Society and the Launceston Field Naturalists, of which she was a founding member sharing the inaugural role of co-vice president.

Tabatha Badger Bio

Like too many women of her time, 'Flossie's' stories and achievements have largely gone untold, have become lost or distorted by time. As an ardent bushwalker and wilderness photographer, Tabatha Badger stumbled onto the enigmatic Florence Perrin by happenstance in 2019, and in 2023 completed a biography. Tabatha is based in the Derwent Valley and runs a small conservation business.