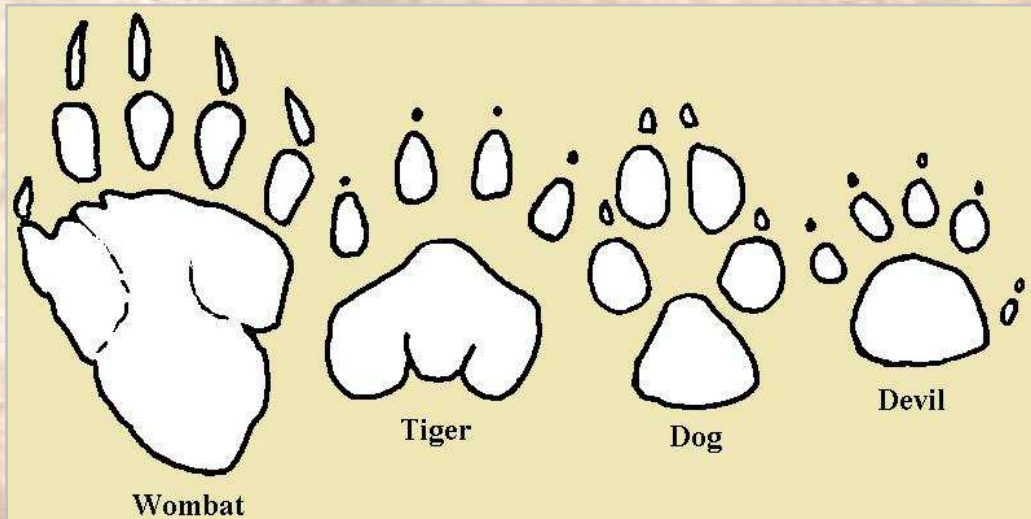
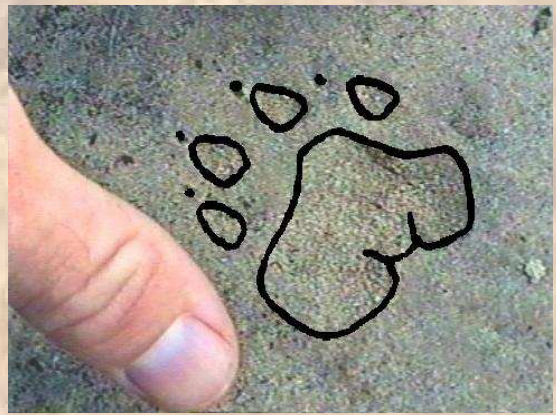


Magnificent Survivor

Continued Existence of the Tasmanian Tiger



Tigerman, Bailey, Terry

Foreword

Australian Greens Senator Robert Brown

My own scepticism about this 'Magnificent Survivor' is no match for the excitement of the chase and the high expectations that one day the world news headlines will run 'Tasmania's Tiger is back!'

For naturalists, sleuths and those just wanting a good look at tiger hunters and the fabled animal they pursue, this is a very worthwhile book.

October 2004

Published free on the Internet
as a public awareness campaign,
October 2004
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2007 Tigerman

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Magnificent Survivor

Continued Existence of the Tasmanian Tiger

The more magnificent a survival story becomes,
the less likely a society to believe it is true.
Yet stronger the reason to prove it so.

One such story awaits the telling in Tasmania. A majestic species hangs on by its fingertips, and will be lost without legislative change, but society will not protect an animal it thinks is extinct. If the Tasmanian tiger is to survive then somebody must prove it exists, and that has been my life for the past six years.

This is a time of enormous change, and there are damaging forces of greed and apathy at work in Tasmania which the rest of the world either does not know, or does not care about. The old guard of colonial ignorance has almost died, and with its passing we welcome a new day of understanding and appreciation for native wildlife. Appreciation and hence protection comes from knowledge, but today there is a veil of secrecy smothering the Tasmanian tiger. That species was unforgivably persecuted in the past, and I tell you this is still happening today.



Plate 1. "Devils Whirlpool"; mid east coast Tasmania

I have tried to prove the Tasmanian tiger still exists; tried with all the pride and passion and excitement of a young patriot explorer on the verge of changing the world. It has always been a game of extreme ups and downs, but lately something has changed; the thylacine has beaten me as it has so many others. Lately I have accepted that I will not be able to do it. There remains an urgent story that the world must hear, but nobody will listen without irrefutable proof, and so I must here and now attempt to create "irrefutable proof" where there is none.

This book is new, first hand comment; all simply opinion of the author at the time of writing. All photographs and diagrams are original work of the author (except Plates 8, 68 & 69), and all entirely new to the thylacine debate.

There is no copyright enforced on any of my work, so long as the copier acknowledges the Internet website URL source, and shows respect for both the author and subject. Chapters 10 and 11 are subject to full copyright as defined in the Conclusion/Bibliography.

The one and only aim of this book is to benefit the Tasmanian tiger as much as possible, by screaming to the world that it does exist, it is in trouble, it needs your help now. I have learned a lot about this, the most elusive animal in the world, and most of what I have learned is summarised here in the hope that you will hear my message and believe it.

Six years ago I set out to look for the Tasmanian tiger. Two years ago I found it. Proving the species exists is the relative hard part. There are still one or two cards to play, and it is imperative that I remain anonymous in that pursuit. That is why I write under a pseudonym. Somebody called me "tigerman", so that will suffice for now. I seek no personal recognition or income from writing this book.

Title is "Magnificent Survivor, Continued Existence of the Tasmanian Tiger". That prompts two areas of discussion; A) the fact that the thylacine does exist now, and also B) what is required to allow continued existence into the future. I have thus divided the book into two parts, with a third part offering comment from two leading thylacine advocates of our day.



Plate 2. Tasmanian devil trying to reach a suspended bait; still from an infra-red motion activated automatic video camera image

I speak to you personally, from one good soul to another. Judge the value of my comment for yourself and it shall be so, but don't underestimate the amount of blood, sweat and tears these pages represent.

Tigerman, Tasmania, April 17th 2005.