

1. Best wishes for 2009! I hope you're enjoying your holidays.
2. There was a good turnout at the Weindorfer Centennial Service held at Waldheim on New Years Day. Quite a few folk in colourful period costume, enjoying the atmosphere, meeting up with old friends, and paying their respects to our pioneer mountain man. Perhaps appropriately, given the alpine setting, sleet, hail and snow started falling as soon as the programme got underway. Congratulations to the Weindorfer Memorial Committee Members whose hard work and enthusiasm ensured that this year's celebrations were so successful.
3. Please note that there is a Stakeholders meeting at the Cradle Mountain Parks and Wildlife Service Visitor Centre on Thursday 5th February 2009 at 10am. The agenda includes: welcome and introduction (Eddie Staier), Kentish Council Local Area Plan presentation (Mark Crouch), Cradle Sewerage Treatment Plant update (Andrew Roberts) and Cradle Park Projects update (Eddie Staier). If attending, please RSVP to Roberta Dwyer 64921133 ASAP.
4. If you've been following the 'Kakadu-Kakadon't' debate in The Australian newspaper recently, you may notice some similarities with local issues, such as inadequate funding and resourcing for the park's management (a Commonwealth Government responsibility), the possibility of high entrance fees being imposed, problems with all-year-round accessibility, limitations being placed on visitor numbers and activities in sensitive areas, demands for easier access (an airport in the park) and for higher quality tourist accommodation, questions about whether to privatize facilities in the park etc. In these difficult economic times, who knows where this debate will go!