

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

ABN 65 889 598 100

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018



THE TASMANIAN SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE



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The Royal Society of Tasmania

ABN 65 889 598 100

Patron: Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania

OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Prof Ross Large
Vice-President	Mrs Mary Koolhof
Immediate Past President	Prof Matt King
Honorary Secretary	Mr David Wilson
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Peter Meyer
Council Members	Dr John Thorne AM (2019) Dr Anita Hansen (2019) Dr Robert Johnson (2020) Dr Greg Lehman (2020) Dr Angela Ryan (2021) Dr Adele Wilson (2021)
Northern Branch Representatives on Council	Mr David Morris Mr Robin Walpole, retired July 2018 Dr George Merridew, from August 2018
Early Career Researcher	Dr Taryn Noble (2020)
Student Council Member	Mr Austen Hawkins (2020)
TMAG Representative	Ms Janet Carding
Honorary Editor	Dr Margaret Davies OAM
Honorary Librarian	Ms Juliet Beale
Publicity Officer	Dr Adele Wilson
Deputy Publicity Officer (co-opted for 2018)	Ms Jeannie-Marie LeRoi
Assistant Treasurer (co-opted for 2018)	Mr John Hayton

RST FOUNDATION AND OTHER ROLES

The Foundation of the RST	Prof Jim Reid (Chair) Dr John Thorne AM Mr Peter Meyer Mrs Mary Koolhof Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM
Nominated by The Royal Society of Tasmania as Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) Honours and Bursary Committee (Chair)	Prof Jim Reid Associate Professor Penny Edmonds
Honorary Auditor	Dr John Thorne AM
Administrative Assistant	Mr Richard James
Newsletter Editor	Ms Ann Watson
Webmaster	Mr Bernard Pryor
Facebook Account	Dr Angela Ryan
Twitter Account	Ms Chel Bardell Prof Matt King

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS NORTH

Management Committee President	Mr David Morris
Immediate Past Committee President	Dr Frank Madill AM
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Christine Beswick
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Brian East
Committee Members	Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM Mr Andrew Parsons Dr George Merridew Mr Jonathan Morris Dr Damien Guihen Mr Robin Walpole Mr Neil MacKinnon
	QVMAG Director, <i>ex officio</i>
	Mr Richard Mulvaney, retired 6 July 2018; Ms Janet Keeling (Acting, 7 July–30 Sep 2018); Mrs Tracy Puklowski (from 1 October 2018)

PRESIDENT

The 175th Anniversary year has been an excellent year for The Royal Society of Tasmania. I would like to give special thanks to all members of the Council for their sterling efforts to make 2018 a highly memorable year where the profile of our Society has increased significantly amongst the general community of Tasmania.

Dr Anita Hansen (Convenor) and the 175th Anniversary Committee have worked tirelessly to produce an outstanding array of events for our 175th celebrations. The centrepiece is the *Dinosaur rEvolution* exhibition produced by a Tasmanian firm, Gondwana Studios, and held jointly with the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. The exhibition features many of the recent fossil discoveries, especially from China and Mongolia, which demonstrate the evolution of one particular lineage of dinosaurs to birds. This has been an expensive event to bring to Hobart and The Royal Society of Tasmania was successful in raising a total of \$100 000 sponsorship from a group of very generous supporters including Cripps Bakery, University of Tasmania, RACV Hotel, The Old Woolstore, Events Tasmania and an anonymous donor. The Royal Society Foundation and TMAG also contributed significant financial backing to ensure a high-quality event. The exhibition opened on December 6 2018 and has had a steady flow of visitors. It has been particularly pleasing to see the number of families, young children and student groups who are attending the exhibition. The event runs through to early May 2019.

Other events to recognise our 175th year included:

- A very enjoyable reception in October at Government House for members, hosted by our Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania, and Mr Richard Warner.
- The production of two magnificent books, *Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond* edited by Lynn Davies, Margaret Davies and Warren Boyles; and secondly, *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly* edited by Anita Hansen and Brita Hansen. These books draw on material from the Royal Society's special and rare collection with contributions from local scientists and artists.
- On November 10 2018, we linked up with the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart to run a Dinosaur Picnic at the Gardens. The attendance exceeded all expectations, with approximately 2,000 families joining in the fun.
- An anniversary play, *The Laughing Gas Cure*, written by Stella Kent was presented by our Northern Branch with great success and we are hoping that the play can be presented in the south next year.
- Several other anniversary events are at the organisational stage to run in 2019 including two art exhibitions, one in February jointly with the Art Society of Tasmania featuring the art of Louisa Anne Meredith; and another by TMAG in March featuring the art of Simpkinson de Wesselow.
- Finally, a Symposium: *Dinosaurs and Evolution of Life* featuring talks by dinosaur experts and palaeontologists from around Australia will run from March 23–24 2019.

Our monthly lecture series in the south and north continued with great success. There were 11 lectures in the north with attendance from 45–120; and 13 in the south with attendance from 32–200.

Special thanks to Dr John Thorne for his leadership of the Society's Honours Committee. We have substantially increased bursaries to students. For example, two Tasmanian students were given awards to attend Youth ANZAAS in Melbourne; three students were awarded some funds to attend overseas science events; and a team of six students received an award to represent Australia at an international Space Design Settlement Competition at Cape Kennedy, USA. Hearty congratulations to Dr Lucia McCallum, from the physics, astronomy, discipline at the University of Tasmania, who received the inaugural Peter Smith Medal. Twelve excellent applications were received for the 2018 RST Doctoral Award, which will be announced in early 2019.

During the year, the Society formed an Aboriginal Engagement subcommittee with co-chairs Dr Gregory Lehman and Professor Matt King. The first step was to receive a commissioned report from Dr Rebe Taylor and Zoe Rimmer on past activities of our Society and TMAG that have impacted the Aboriginal people of Tasmania. This report forms the basis for ongoing research to develop strategies for a better understanding between our Society and the Aboriginal people of Tasmania.

It was with considerable sadness that we farewelled one of the Society's strongest supporters, Professor Pat Quilty AM, who passed away during the year. Pat was a past Senior Vice-President (1986–87) and President (2010), Chair of the RST Foundation for several years and a very significant and highly respected member of Council for many years.

Finances of the Society are healthy, under our very capable Treasurer, Peter Meyer, and the Foundation, chaired by Professor Jim Reid, which continues to build a solid base to enable future activities to support our mission for the "Advancement of Knowledge".

Three members of Council deserve special commendation: Dr Margaret Davies for her many years of service as the Editor of the *Papers and Proceedings* of the Society. Margaret is stepping down from the role early next year and the Society has elected her as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of her service. Secondly, Mary Koolhof, the Vice-President of the Society, has been of immense help and advice to me and other members of Council throughout the year. Thirdly, our Secretary, David Wilson, is doing a marvellous job attending to the day-to-day affairs of our Society.

I would like to wish all our members the very best of health and happiness for 2019 as the Society continues its 175th year of continuous operations.

Professor Ross R. Large AO, FTSE
President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TMAG – CHAIR’S REPORT

On behalf of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) Board, I am very pleased to report that the 2017–18 year at the Museum has been one of significant progress with excellent outcomes across the board. TMAG’s performance was highlighted by inspiring exhibitions, important research, development of the collection and all of this was achieved within a tight but balanced budget.

Attendance numbers continued to grow strongly across all of TMAG’s locations, with total attendance of 436,341 at the city site, an increase of 8% above the previous year. We attracted more interstate and overseas visitors with a keen eye on the way we are telling Tasmanian stories, and local visitors continued to enjoy the dynamic program of exhibitions and activities on offer.

The Financial Statements for 2017–18 show that the financial outcomes for the year were most satisfactory. With judicious control of expenditures, we were able to work within the allocated funding and, together with the generous support of our donors and supporters, we were able to add breadth to the collection. We have recently increased the insurance coverage to enable major works on loan to the gallery to be displayed, and we now are looking to revalue and then increase the overall insurance coverage of the collection.

The new *Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Act 2017* was proclaimed on 14 February 2018 and this now sets the institutional framework for TMAG. A key feature is that TMAG became a statutory authority and an instrument of the Crown, from that date. Importantly, the new Act has specific provisions to enshrine the Board of Trustees’ stewardship of the collection. I am pleased to report that we are already seeing the benefits of the change with clearer accountabilities for the Board, the Director and the management team.

A newly-constituted Board of Trustees was put in place from the start date of the new legislation with Professor Jim Reid, UTAS and Associate Professor Penny Edmonds, UTAS appointed by the Minister for the Arts on the recommendation of The Royal Society of Tasmania. We also welcomed new Ministerial appointees Mr Scott Baddiley and Mr Mark Fraser to the Board. These experienced people bring additional skills to the Board and round-out our coverage of the skill sets prescribed in the new Act.

As TMAG leaves the 2017–18 year, it is worth noting that the severe storm in May 2018 has damaged the convict-built Watergate wall at the city site. Whilst support trusses and public safety barriers were quickly put in place, it is a timely reminder that TMAG is itself a collection of heritage buildings and as such they take careful planning and require great care to maintain. Over the past year, we have developed plans to prioritise this work and, in the year ahead, we will complement our 2016 asset management plan with a review of TMAG’s future “footprint” requirements for display, storage and research. We should then be well placed to establish an overall capital plan.

A special thank you to our many donors, sponsors, volunteers and supporters. Without your contribution we could not serve our public the way that we do. We are ever so grateful for every ounce of support. The Friends have been great supporters on a wide range of activities and the TMAG Foundation has made a particularly strong contribution through its recently-established Contemporary Art Circle, an excellent initiative that sets it up well to benefit from the Tasmanian Government's matching grant challenge to raise the level of philanthropic support.

During the year, important research work was undertaken and new research relationships fostered through generous bequests from the estates of Jayne Wilson, and Don Squires; and this is an area of philanthropy we are seeking to grow in coming years. We also acknowledge the wonderful support from Penny Clive and her Detached Cultural Organisation for 10 years of support for the Access Arts program. This investment will have lasting benefits for all the children who attended and also for TMAG as working with Penny and her team has taught us so much.

This year has marked the 175th Anniversary of The Royal Society of Tasmania (TRST), and we have been pleased to work together on the development of the exhibition that forms the heart of the celebrations, *Dinosaur rEvolution*. The exhibition began its run at TMAG on 7 December 2018 and will continue through until early May 2019. It is already proving popular with families and interested adults alike. While we have, of course, been closely linked since the founding of the Museum by TRST in 1863, this collaboration has shown how we can continue to work together most successfully for the benefit of all Tasmanians.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I would like to thank and acknowledge Director Janet Carding and her dedicated team on all the progress and achievements over the past year.

Geoff L. Willis AM
Chairman

EDITOR

Volume 152 of the *Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* was published on 14 December 2018 and comprised eight papers covering the impacts of fire on World Heritage vegetation (two), vegetation changes on coastal dune systems, herbicide impact for gorse control, the nomenclature of the Tasmanian Giant Freshwater Crayfish, the conservation status of *Lepidium hyssopifolium* Desv. (Brassicaceae), biographical notes on Bob Dingle, WWII aircraftsman and Antarctic meteorologist and an obituary for Professor Patrick Gerard Quilty AM. June Pongratz, as ever, ably set the volume and Caroline Mordaunt's eagle eye provided a final copy edit.

The Royal Society of Tasmania Calendar for 2019 was published comprising stunning images of Tasmanian native flora sampled from the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens and photographed by Matthew Baker and Maria McDermott from the Tasmanian Herbarium. Their contributions are gratefully acknowledged. Kent Whitmore again designed the calendar beautifully. Calendar sales continue to be an important source of revenue for the Society.

Two books were published in 2018 as part of the Society's 175th Anniversary celebrations. The first, published on 19 July 2018 was *Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond* edited by Lynn Davies, Margaret Davies and Warren Boyles and based on the Society's Map Collection held in the Special and Rare Collection of the Morris Miller Library at the University of Tasmania. Contributors to the volume were: Aidan Davison, Tony Fenton, Michael Giudici, Andrew Harwood, Matt King, Peter Marmion, Peter Mercer, James Parker, John VanderNiet and John Williamson.

Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly edited by Anita Hansen and Brita Hansen was published on 6 November 2018. This volume was based on material taken from books in the Society's Rare Book Collection, also housed in the Special and Rare Collection of the Morris Miller Library at the University of Tasmania. Contributors to this volume were: Ian Allison, Graeme Broxham, Sally Bryant, Jonothan Davis, Anita Hansen, Brita Hansen, Bob Headland, Simon Jarman, Robert Johnson, Matt King, Elizabeth Leane, Desmond Lugg, Ben Maddison, William de la Mare, Tony Marshall, Clive McMahan, Stephen Nicol, Pat Quilty and John Simons.

The Publications Subcommittee made up of the Editor (Convenor), Drs Anita Hansen and Brita Hansen, Lynn Davies and Warren Boyles met on numerous occasions overseeing, in particular, the two book publications, and reported regularly to Council.

Dr Margaret Davies OAM

Honorary Editor and Convenor of the Publications Committee

LIBRARIAN

The Royal Society of Tasmania Library materials (special and rare books, maps and extensive private deposits) are housed in the University Library and managed by the Special and Rare Collections staff. The Special and Rare Collections are open Monday to Wednesday inclusive from 9:30 am to 4 pm, closed for lunch between 12:30 and 1:30 pm.

A Deed of Agreement was signed by the University and the Society. This agreement is in place until 26 March 2021. This agreement provides better protection for the Collection in terms of insurance and disaster management. The Deed is filed with University Record Management: CON17628: *Deed of Agreement for the Royal Society of Tasmania library collection at the Morris Miller Library 2018.*

Collections: Management

Special and Rare Library staff continue to rehouse items in archival standard materials. Boxes have been custom-made for seven fragile books; three overcrowded boxes of private papers have been transferred to acid free folders and stored in archival standard boxes; and large archival-quality cardboard folders have been custom-made for 23 oversized items (with appropriate photographic labels to save handling of the fragile materials within).

Collections: Usage

	2018	2017	2016
Royal Society members visits	67	34	46
Royal Society rare books viewed	475	272	813
Royal Society deposits viewed	351	735	352
<i>Papers & Proceedings</i> downloads (2016 anomalous)	41,624	74,209	158,430
Visitors (including tour groups)	404	379	411
Research enquiries, in person, via phone and email	441	328	412
Physical items viewed from all collections, includes rare books and deposit boxes	1842	1612	1795

Papers and Proceedings most downloaded articles for 2018:

Article title	Downloads
<i>An account of food and drink in Tasmania, 1800–1900</i>	567
<i>Magnetic rocks – their effect on compass use and navigation in Tasmania</i>	553
<i>Notes on some Tasmanian Aborigines and on portraits of them</i>	518
<i>The food of the Tasmanian Aborigines</i>	474
<i>Native fishes of the Central Plateau area – Tasmania</i>	425

Paper and Proceedings

311 DOI's have been created for the *Papers and Proceedings*, dating back to 1992 issues.

Work continues to get the *Papers and Proceedings* indexed in the large indexing databases. Scopus now indexes over 250 articles, as recently as 2016.

Copyright

Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation received a digitised copy of *Progress on some notes on the excavation of aboriginal carvings at Mt. Cameron West, Tasmania* by Leo E Luckman. Final Deed signed, copy sent to TRST and copy filed with University Record Management: CON17592[V1 V2 V3]: *Deed – Estate of Jessie Sheila Luckman*.

Juliet Beale
Senior Librarian, Collections
Library Services | Academic Division
University of Tasmania
The Royal Society of Tasmania Honorary Librarian

HONORARY SECRETARY

This last year was very lively from an organisational point of view with much effort going into various events associated with our 175th Anniversary celebrations along with documenting Council procedures and staff changes.

Our hard-working Administrative Assistant, Jane Moran, left us in May to pursue other opportunities. Thanks, Jane, for your dedication to paid and voluntary service over the past three years. Our new Administrative Assistant, Ann Watson, stepped into the role in June with a rather steep learning curve.

Due largely to changes in various positions and some lack of clarity around organisational procedures, we have produced position descriptions for all executive and other roles within the Society as well as a set of Policies and Procedures for Council Members. Position Descriptions have now been completed for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor, Librarian, Publicity Officer, Webmaster and Council Members. These documents are a valuable contribution to the smooth running of the Society and provide clarification of duties for new position holders.

The Policies and Procedures document sets out and clarifies a number of procedures for Council members, including:

- Code of Conduct: Council Members and Officer Bearers
- Communications (Correspondence, Documents, Media releases & Public Statements)
- Confidentiality
- Procedures for contracts and agreements
- Decision making
- Reimbursement of expenses.

This document will assist both incumbent and new Council Members and will be issued to all new Council Members as part of a welcome pack. A big thanks to Mary Koolhof for undertaking the bulk of this work.

Significant progress towards a better understanding of our relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal People was made this year with the commissioning and completion of a report by Dr Rebe Taylor concerning past Society actions and relationships. Subsequent constructive discussions within Council led to the formation of an Aboriginal Engagement Subcommittee.

Organisational arrangements associated with the 175th Anniversary events took up a great proportion of my time during the latter part of the year. We were fortunate to have two events hosted by our Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania, at Government House. The first was for The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal Presentation and Lecture presented by Distinguished Emeritus Professor Ross Large and the second, a reception for the launch of the 175th Anniversary celebrations. Her Excellency also launched one of our two book publications this year in November, *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*, delivering an excellent review of the book. Her Excellency also attended our Christmas Lecture and annual dinner in December and a presentation by Susannah Fullerton on *The Diary of Samuel Pepys*.

The Deed of Agreement between The Royal Society of Tasmania (RST) and The University of Tasmania was finally completed and signed by both parties during March. The Deed replaces the previous Memorandum of Understanding and sets out the terms and conditions for the RST collection of books, journals and private deposits that are housed and managed by the University.

The acquisition of a Jabra Bluetooth speaker (which allows conference calling) has been a great step forward in allowing greater participation of Northern Branch officers at monthly Council meetings.

The Society recently became aware of the Royal Societies of Australia (RSA) website and that the RST is listed on this website, together with a short statement about it. Our Society had previously declined to become a member of RSA due to certain governance concerns at the time. We are currently gathering further information regarding the present constitution and governance papers of the RSA with the aim of deciding whether it is in our interests to engage further with this organisation.

Office space in the Customs House building has been an ongoing issue for some time, partly due to the need to store our books and other items for sale. The situation has been partly relieved by some reorganisation and the provision of some additional storage units in the office. The question of appropriate rooms for the Society within the TMAG building is an ongoing discussion with TMAG management.

David Wilson
Honorary Secretary

2018 LECTURES AND EVENTS – SOUTH

5th March: RST Rooms – 52 attendees

Speaker: Rosalie Martin (Tasmanian Australian of the Year 2017)

Title: “Transforming lives—the role of speech pathology in improving prisoners’ lives and society’s future.”

10th April: RST Rooms – 40 attendees

Speaker: Professor Michael Breadmore (RST M.R. Banks Medal winner)

Title: “Chemical answers now – safer food, water and environment through chemistry on a chip.”

1st May: RST Rooms – 60 attendees

Speaker: Ms Sophie Muller (Director of the Tasmanian Climate Change Office in the Department of Premier and Cabinet)

Title: “Putting the change in climate change.”

5th June: RST Rooms – 74 attendees

Speaker: Dr Andreas Klocker

Title: “Sistema Huautla, Cave diving for science in one of the world’s most spectacular deep caves.”

3rd July: RST Rooms – 35 attendees

Speaker: A/Professor Andrew Cole (Associate Professor in Physics and Astronomy and the Director of the Greenhill Observatory)

Title: “A New High-Precision Look at the Milky Way.”

10th August: UTAS Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre – 200 attendees

Speaker: Professor Margaret MacMillan (Professor of History, University of Toronto, Emeritus Professor of International History at the University of Oxford, Xerox Foundation Distinguished Scholar at the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at Johns Hopkins SAIS, and a Distinguished Fellow of the Munk School of Global Affairs) in Hobart as part of a short national speaking tour – supported by the High Commission of Canada.

Title: “War and the Making of the Modern World.”

30th August: The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal Presentation and Lecture, Government House – 130 attendees

Speaker: Distinguished Emeritus Professor Ross Large, President of The Royal Society of Tasmania

Title: “The Rhythms of Earth and Life Through Time.”

4th September: RST Rooms – 47 attendees

Speaker: A/Professor Arko Lucieer (Geography and Spatial Science, University of Tasmania)

Title: “Rise of the Drones: how Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) create new opportunities for environmental remote sensing and geosciences.”

2nd October: Postgraduate evening: RST Rooms – 32 attendees

Speakers:

- Nicole Hellessey – a PhD student in Antarctic Krill Ecology at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic studies, University of Tasmania.
- Shasta Henry – a PhD student in Entomology and Invertebrate Taxonomy, University of Tasmania.
- Peter Lynch – a PhD student at Conservatorium of Music, University of Tasmania.

8th October: RST Special Curator’s gallery tour of The National Picture exhibition, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. Led by Dr Greg Lehman – attendees limited to 20.

16th October: The Royal Society of Tasmania 175th Reception hosted at Government House by Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania – 116 attendees

14th November: TMAG Central Gallery – 58 attendees

Speaker: Susannah Fullerton OAM FRS (N) (President of the Jane Austen Society)

Title: “And so to bed ... The Diary of Samuel Pepys.”

4th December: Christmas Dinner Lecture CSIRO Lecture Theatre – 92 attendees

Speaker: Professor Rufus Black (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania)

Title: “Ethics in the modern world and a view of the future.”

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Advertising The Royal Society of Tasmania's monthly lectures continues to be the priority of the Publicity Officer with flyers circulated widely in the community and interviews on ABC Radio 936 arranged for speakers. Special thanks go to interviewer Ryk Goddard and producer Jo Spargo from ABC Radio 936, and to the Events Team at UTAS including Belinda Brock, Jeanette Farnell and Pat McConville. Our key community partners are also thanked for their help in publicising the Society's events, namely: Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery staff; Damian Bester at the *Mercury*; and Jenni Klaus on behalf of National Science Week and Inspiring Australia.

Lectures and events were also advertised to relevant interest groups and organisations including the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, Libraries Tasmania, the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies, the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (Tasmanian branch), the Science Teachers Association of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Association for the Teaching of English, the Australian Antarctic Division, the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC, von Humboldt Fellows, and Elizabeth College.

Recording of monthly lectures is being investigated so that northern members can access southern lectures and vice versa. On line transcripts of lectures have also been suggested for wider access after the event.

Publicity for the special events organised to celebrate 175 years of The Royal Society of Tasmania was undertaken by the 175th Anniversary Special Projects subcommittee.

Increasing use was made of social media this year through the Society's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/RoyalSocietyTas) run by Chel Bardell from the Northern Branch and the Twitter account (@RoyalSocTas) run by Past President Matt King. In 2018, 132 posts were published on Facebook, with the most popular posts relating to the Dinosaur Picnic at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens reaching 6000 people. The Facebook page now has 406 followers and just under 100 followers on Twitter.

Publicity was also undertaken for The Royal Society of Tasmania Awards, including the new RST Student Bursary with a focus on reaching teachers of senior secondary science.

Special external awards won by the Society's members were acknowledged on the website and social media, notably Australia's Day highest honour, the Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) which was awarded to Prof. Trevor McDougall, and Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) awarded to Chief Justice Alan Blow. Dr Adele Wilson was acknowledged as the 2018 recipient of the Winifred Curtis Memorial Medal for Excellence in Science Education, awarded by the Science Teachers Association of Tasmania.

The Royal Society's monthly newsletter has been an important means of communicating with members, and our sincere thanks go to our Newsletter Editor, Bernard Pryor, and Administrative Assistant, Ann Watson, for all their hard work in compiling and distributing this. Thanks also go to our Webmaster, Dr Angela Ryan, as well as members who have helped to publicise events, shared newsletters, flyers and social media posts, and who have invited people along to events, ensuring ongoing interest in the Society's activities.

Dr Adele Wilson, Publicity Officer; Jeannie-Marie LeRoi, Deputy Publicity Officer

SPECIAL EVENTS – 175th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

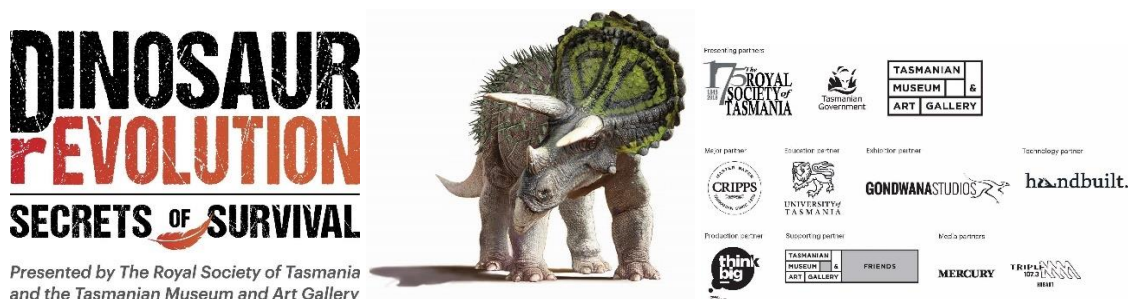
Background

The Royal Society of Tasmania was formed on 14 October 1843, and in 2018 the RST celebrated its 175th Anniversary. A 175th Anniversary Committee was formed after a planning meeting of the RST Council on 18 July 2015, where it was decided that events should be held to commemorate the anniversary. At the Council meeting in September 2015, I was appointed to convene this Committee.

All RST members were invited to join the Committee (and other Committees that were formed at the time: Publications, Marketing, Events, and Membership). Professor Ross Large (President), Chel Bardell (Northern Branch) and Dr Brita Hansen (RST member) agreed to join the Committee in 2015. As time has progressed, more people have joined the Committee and now the entire RST Council works on 175th projects. A number of members—and especially the partners of RST Council members—give up their time to work on 175th events.

The Committee met regularly and a report was presented at each RST Council meeting. As there have been a number of events in the past year, several subcommittees were established to concentrate on particular projects. I would like to thank and congratulate everyone involved in what has been a very busy and time-consuming year for all the RST Council.

The Projects



Dinosaur rEvolution Exhibition

The showcase of the 175th celebrations has to be the *Dinosaur rEvolution* exhibition held as a joint venture with the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG). The exhibition was officially opened on 6 December 2018, opened to the public on 7 December and will run till 11 May 2019.

The exhibition was first proposed to TMAG by Prof Ross Large in 2016. *Dinosaur rEvolution* is a travelling exhibition from Gondwana Studios (Launceston) and a partnership project between RST and TMAG which increases the operational linkages between the two organisations by sharing a single project. It meets multiple objectives for both RST and TMAG, namely:

- create a large-scale attraction and experience for visitors and take advantage of TMAG's increasing visitation
- increase general awareness of the RST and TMAG's exhibition program and confirm TMAG's capacity to successfully deliver a fee-paying exhibition
- generate profit for both organisations

- present new perspectives to TMAG’s audience of the known narratives around dinosaurs and relate to the Tasmanian/southern hemisphere/Antarctic region.

Given the complexity of the partnership, sponsorship requirements and revenue model, a Steering Committee was established for this project. The Committee meets monthly and information is relayed to the RST Council by the 175th Committee and President’s Reports.

Role	Nominee/Membership	Accountability
Project Owner	Janet Carding (operational role)	Accountable for the project’s target outcome(s)
Steering Committee	Project Owner (Chair) Janet Carding (Director TMAG) Steering group members (Project role, TMAG/TRST role): Scott Baddiley (TMAG Trustee Representative, member TMAG Audit & Risk Committee) Andy Baird (Project Manager, Deputy Director Engagement TMAG) Anita Hansen (TRST Representative, TRST Council Member) Melissa Kemp (Assistant Project Manager, Exhibitions Manager TMAG) Ross Large (TRST Representative, TRST Council Member and former TMAG Trustee) Stephenie Cahalan (Sponsor Liaison, TMAG Development Manager)	Supports the Project Owner with his/her accountability by overseeing the conduct of the project
Project Manager	Andy Baird (operational role)	Accountable for producing, delivering and implementing the project’s outputs – within the constraints of an agreed timeframe and budget
Reference Group	John Long (Flinders University) Patrick Bender (TMAG Honorary curator)	Provides advice to either the Project Owner/Steering Committee or direct to project, as requested.
TMAG Project team	Project Manager: Andy Baird Project Curator: Cathy Byrne Production manager: Melissa Kemp Public Programming coordination: Michael McLaughlin with mentee John Retallick Communications and marketing manager: Andree Hurburgh Registration: Pip Cox Conservation: Nikki Kingsmith Development Manager: Stephenie Cahalan	Clear role definition and accountability

Other staffing contacts

Key external organisations/individuals that are involved in the exhibition project:

The Royal Society of Tasmania (Ross Large, Anita Hansen, Mary Koolhof)

University of Tasmania (Ross Large)

Cripps Bakery (Paul Gadowski, Tanya Stevenson)

Individuals:

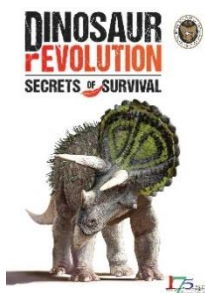
TMAG honorary curator Patrick Bender

Prof Patrick Quilty

Dr Tony Brown: ex Trustee of TMAG, ex Director of Mineral Resources.

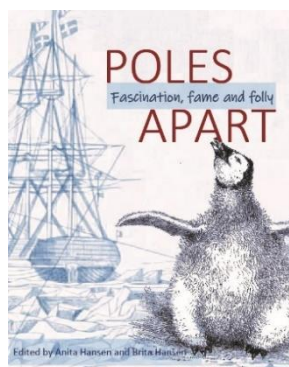
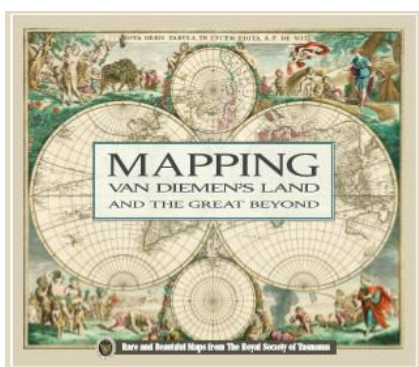
A Marketing Group was also established during 2018, again comprising members from TMAG, RST (Ross Large, Mary Koolhof, Anita Hansen) and the major sponsor.

Booklet



A forty-page booklet has been produced by the RST for sale at the *Dinosaur rEvolution* exhibition. The booklet, intended as a souvenir of the exhibition, features all the dinosaurs and a number of the Luis Rey illustrations from the exhibition. The cost of producing the booklet will be covered from sales at the box office.

175th Anniversary Books

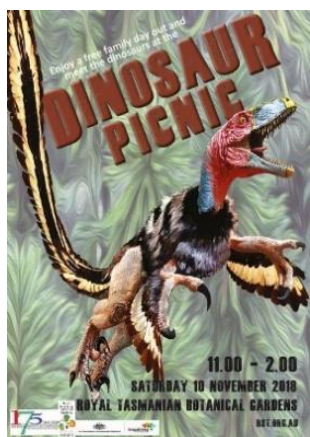


Two new coffee table books were released by the Publications Committee under the 175th banner during 2018— *Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond* and *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*. The full details are in the Editor's Report.

Poles Apart Exhibition – Morris Miller Library, University of Tasmania

As the RST library is housed at the Morris Miller Library, University of Tasmania (UTAS), it seemed appropriate that an exhibition featuring the *Poles Apart* book should be held there. The exhibition ran from 13 November till 18 December 2018. It was curated by the editors of the book, Anita Hansen and Brita Hansen, and included some rare books used for the publication's content as well items loaned by TMAG and the Australian Antarctic Division. Thank you to the UTAS library staff for helping with this exhibition.

Dinosaur Picnic



The Royal Society of Tasmania and the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (RTBG) have a long and close association. The RTBG celebrated their 200th anniversary in 2018 and a joint event was planned. A subcommittee was formed to organise an event (Anita Hansen, Ross Large, Brita Hansen, Karin Orth (UTAS) and Tory Ross (Business Enterprise & Marketing Manager, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens). The subcommittee met regularly through 2018 and reported to the RST Council via 175th and President's Reports. It was decided that a Dinosaur Picnic, featuring the dinosaur puppets from the *Dinosaur rEvolution* exhibition, would be held at the Gardens on Saturday 10 November. This was a free admission event and costs of the event were off-set by sales of dinosaur merchandise at the picnic (showbags, toys, books, jewellery, etc). The event ran at a profit—details are in the Financial Report. A grant of \$2000 was secured from Inspiring Australia for the event.

A number of activities were held:

- Fossil digs
 - UTAS supplied fossils for one sandpit (built by W. Boyles)
 - Brittany Trubody, History Museum and Events Coordinator, Central Coast Council provided two fossil sandpit digs
- Colouring-in (thank you to Roxanne Steenburgen for supervising)

Guided talks were also held: *A Walk Through Time* (Karin Orth, UTAS), *Dinosaur Spotting* (Ross Large, RST), *Jurassic Plants in the Gardens* (David Marrison, RTBG), *Dinosaur Plants in Tasmania* (Miguel de Salas, TMAG Herbarium). The main attraction was the dinosaur puppets (thanks to those who acted as puppeteers and wranglers). The picnic was a huge success with the official RTBG attendance of 6000 people!

Thank you to Tory Ross (RTBG) and all the RST Council, partners and members who worked so hard to put this event together.

Government House

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania is the patron of the RST and two events were held at Government House during 2018: on 30 August, the RST Medal Presentation and Lecture—presented to Distinguished Emeritus Professor Ross Large; and on 16 October an evening reception for RST members to commemorate the 175th Anniversary.

Symposium

Planning for a two-day symposium on 23 and 24 March 2019 at the Stanley Burbury Theatre, UTAS, linked to the *Dinosaur rEvolution* exhibition is well underway. Morning sessions are for families, with afternoon sessions for scientists and aspiring scientists young and old.

These include:

- The latest fossil discoveries
- The colourfully feathered velociraptor
- How the dinosaur world evolved
- Where the dinosaurs lived
- The Jurassic swamps and Triassic forests
- Dinosaurs in the ocean
- What finally wiped out the dinosaurs?
- Are the dinosaur descendants still living?
- Evolution and mass extinction.

Keynote Speakers

Professor John Long – Flinders University, will give an overview on evolution of life on Earth and the rise of vertebrates in Australia.

Dr Steve Salisbury – University of Queensland Dinosaur Lab, will talk about the exciting recent discovery of dinosaur tracks in northwest Western Australia.

Dr Stephen Poropat – Swinburne University of Technology, will talk about Australian dinosaurs through the Mesozoic period and the Triassic fossils found in the Hobart area – Are they dinosaurs?

Dr Phil Bell – University of New England, will talk on recent opalised dinosaur discoveries from Lightning Ridge, NSW.

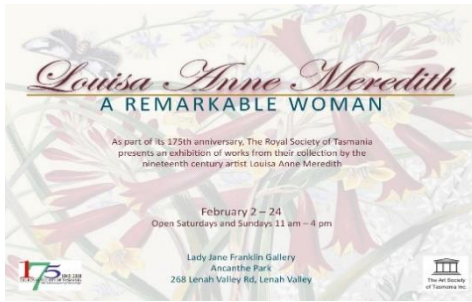
Professor Ross Large AO – University of Tasmania, will talk about his research on ocean chemistry and mass extinction events as well as atmospheric oxygen and evolution of life.

John Pickell – a well-known author has published several books on dinosaurs will run a Q & A session on dinosaurs, fielding all sorts of questions from the audience.

Northern Branch

As part of the 175th Anniversary, a play was staged by the Northern Branch of the RST. *The Laughing Gas Cure* – a full-length play in one act by Stella Kent, was presented at QVMAG Inveresk at 1.30 pm, 30 September 2018. Directed by Peter Hammond, it starred Michael Edgar, Gerard Lane, Christopher Jackson and Caitlin McCarthy. After the reading, a cake was cut by the RST President, Prof Ross Large, to mark the occasion. The full details are in the Northern Branch Report. The reading proved to be very popular and negotiations are underway to possibly put it on in Hobart.

Louisa Anne Meredith Exhibition, Lady Franklin Gallery



An exhibition *Louisa Anne Meredith: A Remarkable Woman* featuring a number of Louisa Anne Meredith works from the RST collection is to be held at the Lady Franklin Gallery, Lenah Valley on Saturdays and Sundays, 11.00 am – 4.00 pm, from 2 February till 24 February. A subcommittee (Anita Hansen and Brita Hansen) was formed to curate this exhibition. RST material (as well as a book on Louisa Anne Meredith from the Glamorgan Historical Society) will be on sale at the exhibition. The RST President, Prof Ross Large AO, will open the exhibition on Friday 1 February 2019.

Simpkinson de Wesselow Exhibition

As TMAG's contribution to the RST's 175th Anniversary, an exhibition of a number of Francis Guillemard Simpkinson de Wesselow works from the RST collection will be held at TMAG. The exhibition, titled *Simpkinson's Hobart* will run from 21 March through to 11 June 2019.

Additional

Janet Carding (Director TMAG) and I met to discuss the possibility of putting a plaque on the old TMAG building (corner Argyle and Macquarie Streets) as part of the 175th Anniversary, and a plinth, similar to the one already at the Customs House entrance near the entrance to the RST office. The wording for the plaque has been approved by the RST Council and quotes for the proposed plaque are being obtained.

A new plinth, which includes the RST office address, has been erected on the Customs House building steps.

Conclusion

The profile of The Royal Society of Tasmania has been raised within the Tasmanian community by the events held during the 175th year of the Society. A number of very successful events have been held.

The number and scope of events has called for an enormous commitment in time and resources by the RST Council, family members and members, and thanks go to everyone involved.

Dr Anita Hansen
Convenor 175th Anniversary Committee

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA FOUNDATION

The Royal Society of Tasmania Foundation was established with the following objectives:

To take over and undertake the investment and administration of the funds and investments of the Society which have been provided by donors, or which are raised by the Foundation for the purposes, or which are surplus to the requirements of the day-to-day running of the Society.

To raise by subscription, gift, bequest, public appeal or other means, funds for the use of the Society and to invest and deal with those funds.

Any monies or assets which have been provided by donors to the Society and have been annually transferred to the Foundation are separately identified in order to allow the Society to give effect to the special conditions imposed by the donors.

These funds, together with the proceeds of surplus assets held by the Society, provide a basis of investment funds which allow the Society to more rapidly achieve the stated aims.

The Committee met twice in 2018 and has closely monitored the Foundation's investments. The Committee also agreed to provide a grant to TMAG of \$80,272.50, in support of the special joint dinosaur exhibition. It is anticipated that this exhibition, which ends in May 2019, will be hugely successful, fully repaying the grant plus 50% of the income achieved.

Current Credit Balances

The Royal Society of Tasmania Funds as at December 31st, 2018			
CBA current Balance	15,075.90		
My State Bank Term Deposit 1	32,892.36	maturing April 2nd, 2019	2.65%pa
My State Bank Term Deposit 2	31,865.10	maturing June 29th, 2019	2.80% pa
Total RST Transaction	79,833.36		
Foundation	373,238.59		
TMAG Grant	80,272.50		
Total RST	533,344.45		

The Royal Society of Tasmania Foundation Funds

		Current		Current	2018
	Institution	\$	Term	Performance	Interest Earned
Fund 1 – Select Mortgage Fund	Perpetual Trustees		ongoing	3.18%	
Previous Holding		43,299.15			
Interest earned Q1		687.80			687.80
Interest earned Q2		922.34			922.34
Interest earned Q3		986.12			986.12
Interest earned Q4		527.00			527.00
Current Holding		46,422.41			3,123.26
Fund 2 - Long Term Fund	Perpetual Trustees		ongoing		3.08%
Current Holding		25,795.66			
Interest earned Q1		178.55			178.55
Interest earned Q2		187.59			187.59
Interest earned Q3		202.11			202.11
Interest earned Q4		205.92			205.92
Current Holding		26,569.83			774.17
Fund 3 – Fixed Term Fund - ANZAAS	Perpetual Trustees		ongoing		3.07%
Previous Holding		28,743.87			
Interest earned Q1		228.98			228.98
Interest earned Q2		214.13			214.13
Interest earned Q3		222.63			222.63
Interest earned Q4		226.97			226.97
Current Holding		29,636.58			892.71
Perpetual Trustees Interest					4,790.14
Peter Smith Trust					5,621.60
Fund 3 - Term Deposits	My State Bank	38,303.27	10/04/19	2.60%	995.89
Fund 4 - Term Deposit	My State Bank	131,569.45	2/04/19	2.60%	3,420.81
Fund 5 - Term Deposit	CBA	40,737.05	17/04/19	2.60%	1,059.16
Fund 6 - Term Deposit	CBA	60,000.00	17/02/19	2.40%	1,440.00
Term Deposit 12 months interest					6,915.85
Total Annual Foundation Interest					17,327.59
Total		373,238.59			

Notes:

- Money diversified into separate Funds/Term Deposits
- All Term Deposits renewed and interest earned re-invested - not liquid
- The \$250K Federal Government Deposit Guarantee only protects funds deposited in Banks
- Grant to TMAG for Dinosaur Exhibition \$80,272.50, from Fund 1

HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Honours and Awards committee of the Society was established to oversee the awards that, in turn, highlight the Society's aim to advance knowledge. In 2018 we recognised, for the first time, a distinguished early career researcher for the Peter Smith Medal and, in addition, began the recognition of students of school age in a bursary program that formalised earlier ad hoc support for students at that level.

The recipient of the 2018 Peter Smith Medal will be Dr Lucia McCallum. Members will be interested to learn a little of her work. Lucia's work has focused on improving the accuracy of the data from the AuScope VLBI array – three telescopes distributed over the Australian continent, but operated by UTAS, forming an integral part of Australia's national position, navigation and timing (PNT) infrastructure. She is contributing to international leadership in the development of observational techniques for the next generation of geodetic very long baseline interferometry systems (VLBI systems). Dr McCallum has received wide recognition including a recent Australian Research Council DECRA Fellowship. She is a worthy inaugural recipient of the Peter Smith Medal.

With regard to bursaries, the Society supported two students to attend the Youth ANZAAS in Melbourne: Max Cross (Hobart College) and Dominic Grose (St Patrick's College). More substantial assistance was given to students who represented Australia at overseas science events, namely: Raiden Lemon (The Hutchins School) to Beijing for a physics challenge; Fergus Ayton (The Friends' School) and Rose Donnelly (Launceston College) both attended the International Science School in London. A team of six students from The Hutchins School represented Australia at an International Space Design Settlement Competition at Cape Kennedy, USA. They were: Alex Titchen, James Pash, Fabian Natoli, Koh Kawaguchi, Fergus Charles and Alex Hogan-Jones.

The Honours and Awards Committee members were delighted that our current President, but also a former Medal recipient, Distinguished Emeritus Professor Ross Large gave a summary of some of his extensive scientific work at a Royal Society meeting at Government House in 2018 and it was recorded in a special small publication.

My full appreciation is noted here to the Committee members who made recommendations during the year – Professors Jim Reid, Elaine Stafford, Greg Wood, Ross Large and Matt King for the medals and Dr Robert Johnson, Dr Adele Wilson, Mr Rex Kerrison and Mr Peter Meyer for the bursaries – all for their careful consideration of all nominations. At the time of writing this report, we are in the process of making a recommendation to Council for the 2018 Doctoral Awards, having received 12 nominations.

In 2019 we will be seeking nominations for the Clive Lord Memorial Medal, the M. R. Banks Medal, the Doctoral Awards and student bursaries. We encourage all members to be active in promoting these recognitions that, in turn, promote the goals of The Royal Society of Tasmania.

Dr John G. Thorne AM, FACEA
Chairman

ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

My appointment to the Council of The Royal Society of Tasmania in 2018 came about in a particularly significant year for the organisation. Initiatives, including the commissioning of a report by Dr Rebe Taylor, had already been taken to bring about a better understanding of relationships between the Society and Aboriginal people in Tasmania. Willingness by the Society to bring an Aboriginal person with significant experience in research, public policy, and community relations onto its Council has also demonstrated a strong commitment to take meaningful action on this matter. My thanks go to Lynn Davies for her encouragement in deciding to take up this opportunity.

The Taylor Report, undertaken with contributions from Zoe Rimmer, Senior Curator of Indigenous Cultures, and Theresa Sainty, Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Council of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, is a highly significant first step in making an objective assessment of the impacts that decisions and actions made by the Society, its members and associates have had on Aboriginal people. While some of these have been highly publicised in the past, it is my hope that this process will result in not only an exhaustive appraisal of such impacts, but also a critical evaluation of the context of events and the consequences for both Aboriginal people and other stakeholders of the Society.

The first public statement in relation to this initiative was made at Government House on the 16 October 2018, on the occasion of the Society's 175th Anniversary Reception, hosted by Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania. The following statement was read by Vice-President, Mary Koolhof:

Recently the Society has focused on the need to more properly acknowledge the continuing culture of Tasmanian Aboriginal people, as well as acknowledging the continuing role of the Society in advancing knowledge of Tasmania's first people. At times in the past, this role reflected prevailing attitudes and values that failed to respect the human dignity of Aboriginal people. So, we've been doing a lot of listening, and have formed an Aboriginal Engagement Subcommittee to implement strategies to progress this matter.

During my term on Council, it is my hope to contribute positively to realising these objectives as Co-Chair, along with Prof Matt King, of the Society's Aboriginal Engagement Subcommittee. While the Society has presided over some highly regrettable episodes in its history in this regard, it has also been responsible for positive contributions to improving understanding of Aboriginal culture and heritage in Tasmania. Recognising this will not only result in a balanced acknowledgement of the Society's role, but also enhance the responsibility the organisation has for taking leadership in such matters.

Dr Gregory Lehman
Co-Chair, Aboriginal Engagement Subcommittee

STUDENT COUNCILLOR

Firstly, I would like to thank my fellow councillors for warmly welcoming me onto the RST council and the regular RST members for providing so many wonderful and insightful conversations over the last 12 months.

Despite originally cutting my teeth at the Tasmanian University Student Union and Rostrum Tasmania, I have still had much to learn. So, my thanks to all for their patience.

As others have mentioned, this past year has been a phenomenally busy year for everyone on the solely volunteer council. I have spent the better part of this year trying to settle into the role of the Student Councillor and working out how I can best assist everyone on Council to achieve our mission statement of advancing knowledge.

In addition to attending the monthly council meeting and society meetings, most of my efforts this year have centred more around the laborious work of assisting with set-up/pack down, moving equipment and general housekeeping errands.

My goal for 2019 is to help modernise the society by working with the Council to set up a live-streaming service of all our meetings (where possible).

It is hoped to run a stall at the UTAS Clubs and Societies day to attract new students to the Society. This will be run in conjunction with continuing talks led by Prof Ross Large to work with the University to set up a membership program for graduates.

Another plan that is intended to be executed over the coming year is to run a number of student-orientated events on campus that run in a similar format to the Tasmania University Law Society networking nights, but with a wider range of eminent guest speakers talking about their personal words of wisdom and reflecting on how they ended up as experts in their career.

As always, I would love to hear from any members with any further ideas or thoughts about how I can help them or assist the Society.

Austen Hawkins
Student Councillor

NORTHERN BRANCH

Management Committee

The Committee met on eight occasions during the year, on each occasion prior to a lecture.

Committee members communicated frequently on other occasions as necessary, by email and telephone. The acquisition of a teleconferencing facility by Council allowed Northern representatives to participate in Council meetings more readily, which has been very much appreciated by the Northern Chapter Management Committee and the representatives concerned.

Nominations for election to membership and as office bearers of the Management Committee will be called for at the February 2019 meeting, including nominations for a new President.

Northern Collection of the Society's Library

Library growth for the 14 months to end October 2018 was negligible, with five titles being added to the end of October 2018, including Solomon Walker Bowd's thesis on the history of the Northern Chapter and the script and accompanying ephemera for the play *The Laughing Gas Cure*. This brought the collection size to 117 titles.

At the Management Committee's request, Council in November agreed to provide a copy of The Royal Society of Tasmania titles to the Northern Chapter's library collection. A copy of *Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond, Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly* and *The Library at the End of the World: Natural Science and its Illustrators* were received in November. Future titles will also be gladly welcomed.

Website

The Northern section of the Society's website has been maintained by the Royal Society's Hobart office throughout the year. Ms Bardell coordinated the Royal Society's Facebook page.

Venue

The Committee acknowledges the assistance extended to the Chapter by the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, whose Inveresk facilities are used for both lectures and committee meetings and whose staff assist us enormously. We thank the outgoing, acting and incoming Directors of the museum, Mr Richard Mulvaney, Ms Janet Keeling and Mrs Tracy Puklowski, for their support of our efforts to bring important and interesting lecturers before the community. The paid services of an external audio-visual technician from Sound House Tasmania continued successfully throughout 2018. No recordings or documentation of the lectures are maintained.

Newsletter

All Northern lectures and other activities were included in the monthly State newsletter for distribution to all members in 2018.

Lecture Program 2018

The Committee extends its thanks to all 2018 speakers for their generosity and for the excellence of their presentations. This year's program has been notable for the quality of the speakers and for the large attendances at many of our lectures. Each guest speaker was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a local history book as a token of thanks for their contribution. The third Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Staff Lecture was delivered by the Curator of Natural Sciences, Mr David Maynard in November.

Admission to Northern lectures is free to all Royal Society members and also to all children under 16 years of age. The admission price in 2018 remained as for 2016 and 2017, viz. \$6 for the general public, with a discounted price of \$4 for members of the Launceston Historical Society, members of QVMAG Friends and secondary students and tertiary students who were enrolled half-time or greater.

Date	Speaker	Lecture	Attendance
Feb-18	Mr Jim Palfreyman	2016 Glitch of the Vela Pulsar	80
Mar-18	Prof Pat Quilty	Highlights of Tasmania's Antarctic Exploration	70
Apr-18	Prof Hamish Maxwell-Stewart	Height, Health & History in Victoria and Tasmania 1850-1920	69
May-18	Ms Lynette Ross	Science & Nature: Government Cottage & the Franklins	71
Jun-18	Dr Karin Orth	Mega Volcanic Eruptions and the Greatest Mass Extinction of All Time	96
Jul-18	Drs Caitlin Vertigan & Richard Tuffin	Shoot. Catalogue. Eat: Interacting with Nature at a Tasmanian Penal Station	66
Aug-18	A. Prof Jonathan Binns	Why does an engineer need a PhD?	45
Sep-18	Dr Patsy Cameron	Voices from the Other Side of the Colonial Sea Frontier	120
Sep-18	175 th Anniv.: Peter Hammond	<i>The Laughing Gas Cure</i> - play reading	60
Oct-18	Panel including: Brianna Atto Erica Spain Fletcher Thompson Manoja Herath	Breaking New Ground: PhD candidates present: – Respiratory probiotics: A new way to fight respiratory tract infections? – Mapping the extremes: underwater robots and ice shelves – Torpedo Teamwork: Marine Robots Working Together – Beyond infant growth charts: Time to measure the body composition of infants?	60
Nov-18	Mr David Maynard (QVMAG ASL 3)	Tasmania's Forgotten Emus	88

In August, Royal Society Bursary recipients Dominic Grose and Rose Donnelly presented short reports on their attendance at science fairs in Melbourne and London, which were well received.

It is with regret that we report that Prof Pat Quilty's memorable lecture in March to the Northern Chapter was his final public engagement before he died. His passing was marked by an obituary in the Society's *Papers and Proceedings*.

175th Anniversary of the Society

To celebrate the 175th Anniversary of The Royal Society of Tasmania, on 30th September the Northern Chapter staged *The Laughing Gas Cure*, a one-act play by Dr Stella Kent. The play was directed by accomplished director Peter Hammond and was performed by professional actors Michael Edgar, Gerard Lane, Christopher Jackson and Caitlin McCarthy. All involved gave their time and talents freely for the Society. The thoroughly enjoyable event was well received by the audience.

Set over a period of years, in the 1770s, the main character in the play was a Dr Thomas Beddoes. The play traced the change in his friend Joseph Banks from a fop to the gigantic President of the Royal Society along with Banks' manoeuvring to poach the brilliant young Humphrey Davy from Thomas, setting him also on the path of eventually becoming President of the Royal Society. Along the way, the play examined how the very notion



of science was replacing anecdotal evidence and natural philosophy. Apart from its serious concerns, the play was also full of humour and included the enactment of early laughing gas experiments and tooth-pulling. A superb presentation was capped off by the President of the Royal Society, Professor Ross Large, cutting the Anniversary Cake, supplied by Elphin Continental Cakes, expertly decorated with both the Society's emblem and the logo used for the Society's 175th Anniversary—a memorable celebration indeed. Christopher Jackson from the University of Tasmania oversaw stage management, Mrs Linda Madill provided period costuming from the Launceston Players' wardrobe, Mrs Kathryn Gray and her Year 10 Drama class from Scotch Oakburn College built the theatre property laughing gas machine, and Sound House Tasmania provided the audio-visual support.



As part of the Society's State-wide 175th Anniversary celebrations, Northern Tasmanian book launches were conducted for the new Royal Society of Tasmania publications *Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond* in July and *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly* in November, with the Northern Chapter's thanks to the Society's 175th Anniversary Committee for organising these.

The Committee and members owe special thanks to our Honorary Secretary, Mrs Christine Beswick, for her hard work and dedication to a demanding job. Thanks are due to Ms Chel Bardell for her coordination of northern merchandise sales, and to Mr Walpole's wife, Julie, for her patient and enthusiastic assistance in the task of formatting files transitioned between Mac and PC. Finally, our sincere thanks to all Committee members for their efforts in making sure our lectures and meetings are well run.

David Morris
President

Mrs Christine Beswick
Honorary Secretary

Northern Branch
Statement of Receipts and Payments, Year Ended December 31, 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<u>Receipts</u>		
Door receipts from non-member patrons ⁴	1982.00 ¹	1868.00
Interest from Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees	36.15	39.15
Operating grant from State Council	2000.00	-
Revenue share from sales of RST Merchandise	<u>-</u>	<u>171.50</u>
Total Receipts	4018.15 ¹	2078.65
<u>Payments</u>		
Audio-visual costs – Sound House Tasmania	1852.50 ²	1950.00 ³
Travel & accom RST State Council	-	1020.60
Laminating speakers' certificates	6.97	-
Postage	90.55	54.00
Printing, photocopying	214.37	185.30
Catering	138.95	171.71
Retiring QVMAG Director's gift	88.00	
Net cost 175 th Celebrations	772.50	
2016 AV Charge	<u> </u>	<u>975.00</u>
Total Payments	3163.84	4356.61
Change in Cash Balance	854.31	2277.96
Cash Balance TPT, January 1	1713.16	3991.12
Change in Cash Balance	854.31	- 2297.96
Cash Balance TPT, December 31	2567.47	1713.16
Items Pertaining to 175th Anniversary Celebrations		
Door receipts		170.00
AV services	700.00	
Costume hire	75.00	
Decorated cake	<u>167.50</u>	<u>942.50</u>
Net cost		\$ 772.50

Notes (Main statement pertains to normal monthly Society meetings)

- 1 Excludes door receipts \$ 170 from 175th Anniversary patrons
- 2 Excludes AV charges for 175th Anniversary performance
- 3 Excludes \$ 975 paid in 2017 but incurred in 2016
- 4 Comparison: 2013, \$ 853; 2014, \$ 1148; 2015, \$ 1419; 2016, \$ 1443

B. M. East
Honorary Treasurer, Northern Branch

HONORARY TREASURER

The annual results for the fiscal year 2018 were very encouraging and revenue was considerably better than for the previous period. However, expenses, mostly related to the 175th Anniversary celebrations, reduced the net annual income to approximately \$2,000. Some of this expenditure should generate extra income in 2019.

The engaging and extended lecture program, which in 2018 did not include the popular Annual Winter Series because of competing 175th events, was very well received attracting new members and advancing the aims of the Society as well as resulting in new possible corporate partnerships.

The sales of publications, including the beautiful 2019 calendar and the three coffee table books, indicate that these items are a major factor in income. Such merchandise keeps the Society afloat.

For the financial period 2018, revenues were much higher than the budget. Revenue relied on the following items:

- book sales
- calendar and card sales
- donations
- grants
- membership dues
- publications

Membership numbers tend to be static. The new members are mainly younger individuals and are not all Tasmanian or Australian residents. These individuals have surely been attracted by the wide distribution of our *Papers and Proceedings*, the improved website and also the social media platforms.

Membership fees in 2018 were unchanged. Membership revenue increased by \$3,000.

Because funds are invested in various term deposits, interest earned at the end of these term deposits was reinvested and is reflected in the current balance sheet.

Gifts and donations of about \$12,000 were received.

Grants were received from Treasury, UTAS, Inspiring Australia, and Events Tasmania. The funds from grants are generally applied to the production of the *Papers and Proceedings*, the preservation and archiving of rare books and maps, exhibition development, movie and book production, and the staging of the Winter Series of lectures.

The expenses for the fiscal year were way above budget, again due to the 175th events.

Bursaries and other awards were made to deserving students.

The major expense items were:

- Cost of publications - *Papers and Proceedings*, the calendar and two coffee table books
 - printing

- editing
- setting
- copy editing
- postage
- calendar
- Grants and awards as per budget
- Lecture programs expenses for interstate and overseas lecturers
- Postage as per budget
- All others not budgeted
 - Christmas dinner – cost neutral as per budget
 - 175th year event – costs as per budget
 - Report by Dr Rebe Taylor to inform potential apology to Aboriginal communities

The fully paid-up membership of the Society now stands as follows:

Current Membership								
	Ordinary Members	Life members	Honorary Members	Total 2018	Total 2017	Total 2016	Total 2015	Total 2014
Total Members	415	18	6	439	438	408	396	387
North	85	1	0	86	87	79	79	85
South	294	10	5	309	307	283	278	264
Australia	30	6	0	36	36	36	32	33
Overseas	6	1	1	8	8	10	7	5

Funds surplus to day-to-day requirements have been invested in term deposits and transferred to the Society's Foundation as per the budget. The Foundation holds over \$370,000 in diversified, well-invested funds.

A sum of about \$80,000 has been borrowed from the Foundation to assist in funding the *Dinosaur rEvolution* Exhibition at TMAG. It is expected that this money will be repaid.

RST ordinary funds are secured by the Federal Government's Financial Claims Scheme and are protected up to \$250,000 per account per institution.

In accordance with legislation, the Society is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and maintains its Deductible Gift Recipient status. It is now also entitled to use the ACNC Charity Tick to indicate the legitimacy of the Society.

A budget for 2019 is being prepared for approval by the Council. This budget document will help to provide good operating guidelines and cash flow requirements for the coming year.

Peter Meyer FAICD
Honorary Treasurer

Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 31 December 2018

	Jan - Dec 18	Jan - Dec 17	Jan - Dec 16
Income			
Calendar Sales	11,238	7,407	8,780
Cards	593	761	461
Christmas Function	3,696	3,143	3,080
Copyright	0	0	1,014
Gifts and Donations	11,918	6,935	6,230
Grants	6,300	10,000	10,700
Tabletop Books – Income	26,957	2,965	2,225
Membership Dues			
Associate - No Papers	0	0	610
Full - No Papers	12,058	10,140	5,675
Full - With Papers	11,592	10,475	8,220
Student - No Papers	160	360	140
Student - With Papers	275	225	90
Total Membership Dues	24,085	21,200	14,735
Miscellaneous Income	5,167	2,994	0
Publications	12,994	3,257	4,405
Interest Earned	0	0	0
Total Income	102,948	58,662	51,630
Expense			
Administration	10,497	5,705	7,429
Bank Service Charges	1,383	992	875
Books and Publications	47,854	8,815	15,441
Calendar Expenses	6,217	5,562	5,996
Christmas Dinner	3,726	2,812	3,059
Communications	600	1,166	1,500
Grants and Awards	7,550	4,462	2,950
Insurance	1,421	1,373	1,457
Darwin Book Reprint - Expenses	0	0	4,760
Meeting Expenses	1,588	4,187	2,476
Miscellaneous	1,495	0	6,000
Office Supplies	1,602	772	1,570
Parking Expense	1,768	565	446
Postage and Delivery	3,624	2,723	2,983
Printing and Reproduction	1,007	822	0
Professional Fees – Audit	7,056	160	150
Programme Expense	0	2,552	1,316
Marketing/Advertising	1,507	199	1,589
Transfers - to Northern Branch	2,000	0	2,000
Total Expense	100,895	42,867	61,997
Surplus/Shortfall	2,053	15,795	-10,367

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018

	Dec 31, 2018	Dec 31, 2017	Dec 31, 2016
Accumulated Funds			
As at 1 January 2018/2017/2016	129,799	114,004	124,370
Surplus/Shortfall	2,053	15,795	-10,366
As at 31 Dec 2018/2017/2016	131,852	129,799	114,004
Current Assets			
CBA Current Account	15,076	37,133	40,215
My State Term Deposit 30020969	32,892	32,012	30,000
maturing April 2nd, 2019			
My State Term Deposit 30024910	31,865	31,865	30,000
maturing June 30th, 2019			
Sub-total	79,833	101,010	100,215
Other Assets			
Publications, Books, Calendars & Cards	52,019	28,789	13,789
Medals & Office Furniture etc.	0	0	0
written-off			
Sub-total	52,019	28,789	13,789
Total	131,852	129,799	114,004

AUDIT REPORT FOR 2018

Notes to the Accounts

1. Statement of Accounting Policies. This is not a general purpose financial report. It is a special purpose report to meet the requirements of the Society. The Society is of a type identified in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1 as a non-reporting entity. No regard has been paid to other Statements of Accounting Concepts in the preparation of this report. The accounts have been prepared on a cash basis from historical cost records, except where otherwise stated.
2. Income Tax. Pursuant to Section 50-45 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, The Royal Society of Tasmania is exempt from Income Tax.
3. There is an Art Collection held by the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery which has been catalogued, but the ownership of some items is still being resolved. The value of this collection is not as yet determined and as such is not shown in the accounts.
4. The Rare Book Library has been professionally valued to be worth \$2,757,355, and the remaining books are estimated to have a value of approximately \$300,000. This valuation was performed in 2013 and 2016.
5. A Rare and Historical Map Collection also owned by the Society and professionally stored at the University of Tasmania is currently being valued.
6. Publications, books, cards and office equipment used and stored at the Society's and TMAG's offices are estimated at \$52,019.
7. Other assets, such as office furniture and medals, are fully written-down.
8. The Society is now a registered entity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and will retain the Deductible Gift Recipient status.

Richard H James

ABN: 40 849 023 979

Registered Tax Agent and Public Accountant

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AUDIT REPORT

Independent auditor's report to members of The Royal Society of Tasmania.

1. Scope

I have examined the books, accounts and vouchers for The Royal Society of Tasmania for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018. The Management Committee is responsible for the special purpose financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 in the attachment are appropriate to its needs.

I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an independent opinion on it to members of The Royal Society of Tasmania. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.


2. Independence

To the best of my knowledge and belief, there has been no contravention of auditor independence and any applicable code in relation to the audit.

3. Audit Opinion

Donations, bequests, subscriptions, symposia, exhibitions, calendars, cards, publications and other fund raising activities are a significant source of revenue for the Society. The Society has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of donations, subscriptions and other funds prior to entry into financial records.

The accounts record all the income and expenditure recorded in the books of the Society, but while I have no reason to believe that there has been any unrecorded income or expenditure, I am not able to confirm this. With these reservations, in my opinion, the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure and Asset List represents a true and fair view of the Society's affairs for the year ended 31 December 2018.


Richard H. James

B Bus FIPA

11 January 2019

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