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AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Northern Branch August Lecture

On Sunday 25 August, at 1.30pm at the QVMAG Meeting Room at Inveresk, **Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC Governor of Tasmania and Patron of The Royal Society of Tasmania** will speak on *The History of the Government House Gardens*.



The 15-hectare estate of Government House, first laid out in the 1850s to reflect the formal landscaping of an English country residence, has undergone many subtle changes while retaining the basics of the original design. The lecture will trace these changes in the garden's structure and uses.

Open to the general public. Admission is free for members of The Royal Society of Tasmania; \$6 for general admission; \$4 for students, QVMAG Friends and the Launceston Historical Society.

[Meeting Room, Inveresk QVMAG](#)

Tasmania's twenty-eighth Governor, **Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC**, was sworn to Office at Government House on Wednesday 10 December 2014.

Previously, Her Excellency was Professor, Faculty of Law, at the University of

Tasmania and Director of the Tasmania Law Reform Institute. In her career at the University, she also held the positions of Dean, Faculty of Law, and head of School. Following her appointment as Governor, she became Professor Emeritus.

Generously supported by



The Royal Society of Tasmania Lecture on Tuesday 3 September at 8.00pm

in the Royal Society Lecture Room
Customs House Building, entrance from Dunn Place.
Open to the general public. Admission free.

Dr Anita Hansen will present on **Creating History: How does a settler society create its own independent history and identity?**



This presentation is a companion to last month's lecture by Marley Large, *Snapshots of 175 Years of The Royal Society of Tasmania's Minutes* which looked at The Royal Society of Tasmania's history through its Minute Books.

The Royal Society of Tasmania developed the government gardens into a true botanical garden and created a museum that was to become the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, as well as starting a wonderfully eclectic library: WHY?

This 175th Anniversary of The Royal Society of Tasmania is a time to look, not only at the physical and scientific achievements of the Society, but also at the cultural and historical legacy of the Society to Tasmania and Tasmanians as we moved from an English penal colony to the vibrant cultural centre that is Tasmania today.

Born in Denmark, **Dr Anita Hansen** moved to Australia with her family as a child. Her artist mother was fascinated by the exotic plants and animals of their new home and taught Anita to draw them. Subsequently, Anita has worked as an artist all her life – in Tasmania, interstate and overseas.

She holds a doctorate from the University of Tasmania (*Nineteenth century natural history art and belonging in Tasmania*), a Master of Fine Arts (*Orchid Illustrations of William Archer 1847–1874*), a Graduate Diploma in Plant and Wildlife Illustration (University of Newcastle) and a Bachelor of Fine Art degree (University of Tasmania). Anita received a Fellowship with the Cultural Studies Department at the University of Toronto.

Anita co-edited two of The Royal Society of Tasmania's books *The Library at the End of the World: Natural Science and Its Illustrators* and *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*, also writing about the artists whose illustrations were featured in the books. She has published a number of journal articles.

Anita has curated a number of exhibitions in Tasmania and interstate, recently curating exhibitions for The Royal Society of Tasmania's 175th Anniversary (*Louisa Anne Meredith: a remarkable woman; Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*) and was on the Steering Committee for the *DINOSAUR rEVOLUTION* exhibition, as coordinator of The Royal Society of Tasmania's 175th Anniversary Committee.



Snapshots of the Minutes of The Royal Society of Tasmania over 175 Years

In her presentation at the August meeting, **Marley Large** gave members insights into the past Minutes of The Royal Society of Tasmania. She began with the origins of the Society on 14 October 1843 in the Sir John Eardley-Wilmot era and progressed chronologically through our history

highlighting specific people or events.

Extraordinarily influential on Tasmanian society were Sir John and Lady Jane Franklin. We learned that Betsey Island was once named Franklin Island and was populated with rabbits for the China fur trade – a failed enterprise.

Sir James Wilson Agnew's intense dedication to the Society was exceptional as he held the role as Secretary from 1861–1879 and 1884–1893 and Vice President from 1864–1899.

We learnt of the adventures of Robert M. Johnston and his deep commitment to the Society as Vice President from 1898–1911 and 1916–1917. Johnston led scientific expeditions to little-known parts of Tasmania and published his *Field Memoranda for Tasmanian Botanists* in 1874. He contributed many papers on palaeontology, geology, zoology and botany to the Society. The Society also received his large collection of specimens.

This is a mere taste of the array of details provided by a most interesting presentation. We all look forward to the coming presentation by Dr Anita Hansen on 3 September who will enlarge on certain events in the Society's 175 years.



Congratulations, Trevor McDougall!

The Royal Society of Tasmania congratulates member and RST medallist Prof Trevor McDougall AC FAA FRS, who has been elected as President of the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO).

IAPSO has the prime goal of "promoting the study of scientific problems relating to the oceans and the interactions taking place at the sea floor, coastal and atmospheric boundaries insofar as such research is conducted by the use of mathematics, physics and chemistry".

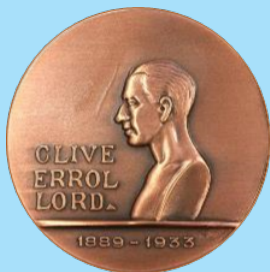
Above: Prof McDougall with his wife, Brita, receiving the RST Medal in 2014.

Trevor McDougall is the foremost world authority on many aspects of ocean mixing. He has discovered four new ocean mixing processes and has pioneered the concept of neutral surfaces along which strong lateral mixing occurs. His theoretical work on the three-dimensional residual-mean flow has underpinned the greatest single improvement in ocean climate models in the past twenty-five years, resulting in a dramatic improvement in the ability of ocean models to simulate today's climate.

Nominations are Invited for the Clive Lord Memorial Medal and the M. R. Banks Medal for 2019

The Royal Society of Tasmania invites nominations for the Clive Lord Memorial Medal and the M. R. Banks Medal for 2019.

Nominations must be submitted digitally to the Honorary Secretary (royal.society@tmag.tas.gov.au) no later than Thursday 12 September 2019 at 5 pm.



Clive Lord Memorial Medal 2019

Please note that nominations for the 2019 Clive Lord Memorial Medal will be taken for candidates in the **general field of science**.

A science lecturer will be selected to deliver the Clive Lord Memorial Lecture, the recipient being a scholar distinguished for research in Tasmanian Science. A memorial medal will be presented. The recipient will deliver the Clive Lord Memorial Lecture and, if not a member of the Society, will be offered free membership for one year.

- Nominations are sought from members of the Society.

- Nominators are not restricted to members of the Society.
- Self-nominations are not allowed.
- The Honours Committee of The Royal Society of Tasmania also acts as a 'Search Committee', considering names prompted by its own deliberations.

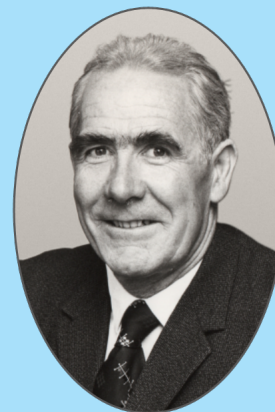
Guidelines for medal nominations are available at:

<https://rst.org.au/guide-for-medal-nominations/>

M. R. Banks Medal 2019

This Award is to honour the contributions of Dr Maxwell R. Banks AM to science and The Royal Society of Tasmania. The conditions of this Award are:

1. The scholar to be recognised must be no more than 45 years of age at the date of the Award and should have achieved a PhD or appropriate higher qualification.
2. The recipient shall be in mid-career, rapidly developing a standing in his/her field and be winning international recognition from peers.
3. The Award may be made in any field within the purview of the Society.
4. The work is to have been largely carried out in Tasmania or under the aegis of a Tasmanian-based organisation.
5. After the conferring of the Award, the recipient may be invited to address the Society by delivering the 'M. R. Banks Lecture' to the members.



Guidelines for medal nominations are available at: <https://rst.org.au/guide-for-medal-nominations/>

Bursaries Available to Tasmanian Students 2019



The Royal Society of Tasmania is offering bursaries for Tasmanian secondary/senior secondary students who have been selected through a competitive process to represent Australia at an international event. The amount of each bursary may be up to \$1000.

What is the Royal Society of Tasmania? The Society has been in active existence since 1843 and we have continued to achieve our aim of 'advancing knowledge' in a wide variety of ways. The bursaries are one way in which we support the youth of Tasmania. More information about the Society's activities is available on our website: <https://rst.org.au>

Who can apply? In 2018, bursaries were offered in the fields of science, mathematics and engineering. In 2019, the bursary program is being broadened to also support students selected through a competitive process for international events in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

What is the closing date? There is no closing date for applications, as applications are considered on a rolling basis throughout the year.

How to apply: Students need to send a written application including:

- a brief descriptor of the international summer school or event they have been selected to attend, including dates and costs
- a copy of the recommendation from the Australian selection event or activity that they were selected to attend
- a concise statement, written by the student, about their goals and aspirations and a short CV (max. two pages)
- the endorsement of a senior staff member of their school.

Note: As the student/staff member may be contacted for interview/further information, please provide contact phone numbers.

Youth ANZAAS 2019: Students accepted for Youth ANZAAS 2019 are also eligible to apply for financial support.

Send applications to: deborah.beswick@education.tas.gov.au

Engagement with Aboriginal Community

The discussion paper developed by the Aboriginal Engagement Subcommittee was emailed, on behalf of the Council of The Royal Society of Tasmania, to all financial members of the Society on April 6, 2019.

Fourteen responses were received by the requested date. The feedback from Members to the matters raised in the Discussion Paper was thoughtful. Constructive critical reflection was offered on many aspects of the challenges faced by the Society in our goal of better understanding the implications of past actions that have impacted adversely on Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

The Council is currently developing a set of recommendations to take forward to Members. These, along with a summary of Members' feedback to the Discussion Paper will be provided to members following the Council's next meeting on 3 September 2019.

Matt King and Greg Lehman
Co-chairs, Aboriginal Engagement Committee



2020 Calendar – OUT NOW!

Penguins and sea birds of Antarctica: the illustrations of Edward Adrian Wilson (1872–1912), artist on the Robert Falcon Scott expeditions to the south.

The Royal Society of Tasmania 2020 Calendar is now available for purchase. A beautiful gift for any occasion. The calendar can be purchased at our online shop, by postal order or directly from the Royal Society Rooms.

If you purchase directly from the Royal Society rooms, the price is \$18.00 – open Wednesday mornings at 19 Davey St (opp. Constitution Dock).

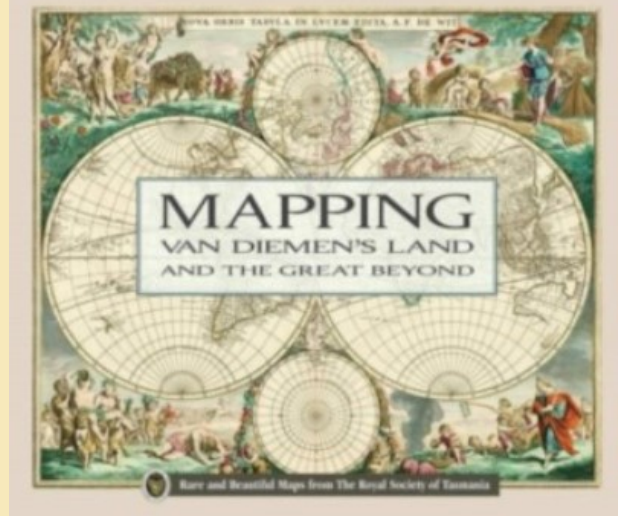
Retail price: \$19.95 – click here to go to our [online shop](#).

Or order by post for \$24.00 per copy (including handling and postage within Australia).

Download the Order Form here: [2020 Calendar Order Form](#)

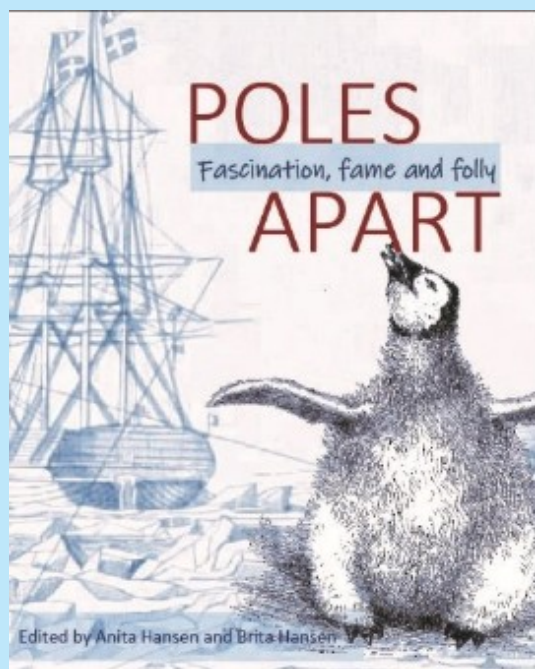
Recent Royal Society of Tasmania Publications

The first book published in 2018 by The Royal Society of Tasmania to celebrate its 175th Anniversary year was ***Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond***, edited by Lynn Davies, Margaret Davies and Warren Boyles.



This highly informative volume contains over 100 high resolution images of rare and beautiful maps from the Society's Rare Book Collection with interpretive text from a range of authoritative contributors. This beautiful book is a 'must' for everyone's personal library. Available in hardcover for \$65 or soft cover \$45.

Purchase your copy of 'Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond' now.



The second book published as part of the Society's 175th Anniversary celebrations is ***Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*** edited by Dr Anita Hansen and Dr Brita Hansen and is based on the Society's Rare Books Collection.

The last two frontiers on Earth, the Antarctic and the Arctic, are the stuff of heroes, heartache, courage, mystery, misery, endurance and loss. All these and more are captured in the pages of *Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly*. This wonderful book lays out, in a series of snapshots, mankind's incredible persistent battle in both taming and understanding our amazing icy wilderness.

Both hard and soft cover versions are available and can be obtained from the [Society's website](#) and from bookshops. The 1000 hardcover copies are numbered and signed by the editors. The hardcover version is \$75.00 and the soft cover version is \$50.00.

Ensure that a copy of this exciting book finds its way to your bookshelves or give copies as superb gifts!

Purchase 'Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly' now.

The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) is open Tuesdays to Sundays



between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm from 1 April until 24 December.

TMAG is also open from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm on Monday public holidays year-round.

The museum is closed Good Friday, Anzac Day (25 April) and Christmas Day.

[TMAG What's On - calendar of events.](#)

Save the Date

Hobart October Meeting

All welcome: Members and friends are invited to attend at no cost. This meeting and lecture will be held on **Tuesday 1 October** at 8 pm at the Royal Society Room, Customs House Building, Dunn Place entrance. Open to the general public. **Dr Lucia McCallum** will present the Peter Smith Medal lecture on ***The Dish redux: from the Apollo Mission to Earth surveying.***

The Northern Branch


This Branch will meet again on **Sunday 22 September** at 1.30pm for a presentation by **Dr Tas van Ommen** on ***Ice Cores and Climate Change: Looking back over a million years of Earth's history.***

Open to the general public. Admission is free for members of the Royal Society of Tasmania; \$6 for general admission; \$4 for students, QVMAG Friends and the Launceston Historical Society.

[Meeting Room, Inveresk QVMAG](#)

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