

Royal Society of Tasmania  
Northern Chapter



## Northern Notes August 2013

### Upcoming Launceston Lectures:

August 11<sup>th</sup> **National Science Week Forum: “Fish Health and Seafood.”**

**Three speakers from the National Centre for Marine Conservation and Resource Sustainability, University of Tasmania, Launceston**

Professor Barbara Nowak: *Fish parasites – why should we care?*

Victoria A. Valdenegro-Vega: *Combating Amoebic Gill Disease in Atlantic salmon.*

Fu Dingkun: *Heavy metal pollution effects on Sand Flathead.*

August 25<sup>th</sup> - ***Cardiovascular Disease and type 2 Diabetes - links to childhood overweight and obesity***, Professor Alison Venn

September 22<sup>nd</sup> - ***Science Education in Tasmania***, Mrs Jane Hall-Dadson

\*\* To facilitate organisation please let us know if you are coming –phone the Museum on 6362 3718, or email [bookings@qvmag.tas.gov.au](mailto:bookings@qvmag.tas.gov.au)

### General News:

- The 2014 Northern Lecture Program is being finalised, and we are hoping to include topics as diverse as ancient Aboriginal archaeology, avian DNA, food technology and innovation, an early medical survey of Australia's convicts, the vaccination debate, educational issues, and an exploration of the Royal Society's own Library and Archives. Send your suggestions as to topics you would like presented to Chel Bardell.
- Professor Don Chalmers, who gave an exceptional lecture in July on the influence of human genome testing on the future of personalised medical treatments, has invited us to participate in a community consultative study on the future of genetic research, particularly in relation to the proposed “Biobank Project Tasmania”. The questionnaire can be accessed online at [www.tasbiobankproject.com](http://www.tasbiobankproject.com) or contact our secretary, Chel Bardell on 6362 3102, [cj.bardell@bigpond.com](mailto:cj.bardell@bigpond.com), or PO Box 201 Deloraine 7304 for a paper copy to be sent to you with a postpaid reply envelope.
- The RST website is being updated. Go to [www.http://rst.org.au](http://rst.org.au) and explore the new website, including the Northern News Tab and send us your comments to Andrew Parsons, [andrew.parsons@launceston.tas.gov.au](mailto:andrew.parsons@launceston.tas.gov.au) who is the manager of the Northern section of the website. A first for the Northern Chapter.

- Dr John Morris. At the June meeting of the Society Dr Morris was presented with a citation honouring his almost 60 years of service and participation in the activities of the Royal Society of Tasmania and his election by the Council to the significant award of Honorary Life Member.

The citation, signed by Professor Sue Jones, President read:

**DR JOHN MORRIS. AO. HONORARY LIFE MEMBER.**

*Dr John Morris's association with the Royal Society of Tasmania has extended over 68 years, with a short break from 1948 to 1953 while he studied Medicine in Melbourne.*

*In 1947, while a Demonstrator in Zoology at the University of Tasmania, he presented two papers to the Society which were published in the Papers and Proceedings in that year.*

*He returned to Launceston in 1953 and resumed his membership of the Society. In the 1960's he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for a number of years. He was elected Chair of the Northern Branch management Committee in 1969-70 and occupied the same position in 2005-06.*

*In January 2001 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his services to medicine and the community through educational, medical research and social welfare organisations.*

*From 2006 to 2009 he was again a member of the Executive Committee of the Society and in the latter year was elected President of the Society.*

*Since 2010 to 2013 he has been a member of the Northern Chapter Management Committee.*

*He was the Northern Representative on the Royal Society Foundation from its inception to 2010.*

- A field trip to the UTAS HIT Lab, in Launceston, is being organised by Barry Waining. Members will be notified when arrangements are finalised.
- The Northern Chapter of the Royal Society was represented at Government House for the Queen's Birthday celebrations on 26<sup>th</sup> June by John and Denise Paull. Professor Sue Jones, RST President and her Husband Warren Jones also attended.