



The Royal Society of Tasmania Guidelines for Honours, Medals and Awards

Prepared by the Awards Committee for Council

Revised and amended June 2017

(Being Schedule 1 of the Rules of the Society)



The Tasmanian Society for the advancement of knowledge



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Revised June 2017 by Hon. Secretary Dr John G. Thorne, AM, FACEA

The Royal Society of Tasmania

Awards Guidelines

1. Recent history and Constitution of the Honours Committee

- An Honours Committee was set up by Council in 1995 to make recommendations concerning The Royal Society of Tasmania Awards. The Committee then consisted of: Dr Shirley Jeffrey, Mr David Hannan, Prof. Jim Reid and Prof. Michael Roe.
- The Committee in 2017 consists of: Dr John G. Thorne, Convenor, Prof. Jim Reid, Prof. Greg Woods, Prof. Matt King, Prof. Elaine Stratford, A/Prof. Erik Wapstra and Prof. Ross Large.

2. Role of the Honours Committee

- Council expects the Honours Committee to make recommendations concerning Awards and, under Council guidance, to develop new awards from time to time as appropriate.
- No directive on time frequency for any of the Awards was given to the Honours Committee apart from the new Doctoral Award (which is offered annually) and the Peter Smith Medal (which is offered biennially in alternate years to the M. R. Banks Medal). The M. R. Banks Medal is awarded every one to three years but not in the same year as the Peter Smith Medal.
- Suggested guidelines on time frequency are discussed in Item 5 below (p. 5). See also Appendix E (p. 11).

3. Guidelines on membership of the Honours Committee

Members should be or should have recently been:

- high-ranking members of the University or research institution
 - highly experienced in a field of science or humanities
 - well used to selecting and evaluating personnel
 - experienced in evaluating students (particularly doctoral students)
 - experienced in evaluating the literature.
- Members should collectively cover a wide spectrum of fields: biological and physical sciences (including chemistry) and the humanities. The Committee has the ability to co-opt experts from other fields (e.g., social sciences) when needed. All members of the Honours Committee should be members of the Society.



4. The Royal Society of Tasmania Awards

- Six Awards are available. These include the Peter Smith Medal (to be awarded from 2018 onwards) and have been introduced by the Honours Committee and ratified by Council and the Membership.

- **R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal**

Established 9 March, 1920

Awarded to a scholar of great distinction in any field within the Society's purview.

The awardee will deliver the 'R. M. Johnston Memorial Lecture'.

If not a member of the Society, the awardee will be offered free membership for one year.

See also Appendix A.



R. M. Johnston,
FLS (1895)

- **The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal**

Established 9 May, 1927

Awarded to a scholar for substantial original research in any subject within the Society's purview.

A significant part of the research shall have been conducted while the awardee was a resident of Tasmania.

The awardee must have been, in the view of the Council, an active member (see below) of the Society for at least five years.

The awardee will deliver 'The Royal Society of Tasmania Lecture'.

The minimum requirement of an 'active' member should be one or more of the following:

- membership of Council
- membership of a Society committee (program, honours, foundation, etc.)
- contribution to Society lectures or symposia
- convenor of Society meetings, excursions, etc.

When more than one candidate meets the criteria for 'active' membership, precedence shall be given to the quality of the scholarship.



The Royal Society of
Tasmania Medal

- **Clive Lord Memorial Medal**

Established July, 1930

Awarded to a scholar distinguished for research in Tasmanian science or Tasmanian history.

The award will alternate between the fields of science and history, unless particular circumstances dictate otherwise.

The awardee will deliver the 'Clive Lord Memorial Lecture'.

If not a member of the Society, the awardee will be offered free membership for one year.

See also Appendix A.



Clive Lord Memorial
Medal

- **M. R. Banks Medal**

Established March, 1997

Awarded to a scholar of distinction in mid-career in any field within the Society's purview with an age limit of 45 years.

See also Appendix B for conditions of the award.



Dr Maxwell R. Banks,
AM

- **Peter Smith Medal**

Established 2017 (first year of conferring in 2018)

Awarded biennially to an outstanding early career researcher.

A medal will be presented and the recipient may be requested to deliver the 'Peter Smith Lecture' to the Society.

For the purpose of the medal, 'early career' is taken to mean that the time since the award of a PhD, at the award nomination deadline, is less than seven (7) years.



Dr Peter Smith, OAM

The conditions of this Award are:

- The works are to have been largely carried out in Tasmania or under the aegis of a Tasmanian-based organisation and within the Society's purview.
- The nationality of the recipients is not to be considered in making the Award, that is, the Award is not restricted to Australian nationals.

- **The Royal Society of Tasmania Annual Doctoral (PhD) Awards**

Established September, 1998

Awarded annually in any fields within the Society's purview.

No more than three years shall have passed since the award of the applicant's PhD.

Applicants must be less than 35 years of age on the day of PhD graduation.

For full details see Appendix C.

5. Frequency of Awards

Historically, for the three early awards (that is, R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal, The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal and the Clive Lord Medal) no guidelines on frequency of bestowal were given (- see Appendix A: *Memorial Funds, Honours, Medals and Awards*).

The three more recent awards (M. R. Banks Medal, the Peter Smith Medal and the Doctoral Award) have suggested frequencies. A schedule has been established that offers guidelines for the presentation of all the awards (- see Appendix E).

Guidelines for a timetable for award bestowal suggested by the Honours Committee and ratified by Council are:

- Doctoral (PhD) Awards to be awarded annually
- M. R. Banks Medal to be awarded every two years (in alternate years to the Peter Smith Medal)
- Peter Smith Medal to be awarded every two years (in alternate years to the M. R. Banks Medal)
- Clive Lord Memorial Medal to be awarded every three years
- The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal to be awarded every four years
- R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal to be awarded every five years.

The above guidelines permit some flexibility in award frequency. For example, more frequent bestowal could occur if circumstances indicate (e.g., special events or applicants). Less frequent bestowal could be due to the lack of appropriate applicants.

6. Multiple bestowal of medal to single applicants

Normally a period of five years should elapse before an awardee can receive a further award.

See Appendix D for past awardees.

7. Nomination procedures – general guidelines

No self-nominations for any award are allowed.

For Medals: Nominations shall be sought by open notice to all members of The Royal Society of Tasmania with the Honours Committee exercising the function of a 'search' committee, considering further applicants prompted by its own deliberations.

For the Doctoral Awards: Nominations shall be widely sought from supervisors of potential applicants in Tasmania's research institutions.

Members of the Honours Committee may act as nominators for the Doctoral Award through their role as supervisors, but will be absent from the final selection.

A pro forma for all award applications (see Appendix F) should ensure compatibility of information provided to the Honours Committee for all applicants.

8. Guidelines to the Selection Process – Nominations and Examination of Nominations

(i) Medals of The Royal Society of Tasmania

- No self-nominations will be accepted.
- Nominations shall be sought by open notice to all members of the Society by 30 June each year, together with additional names put forward by the Honours Committee acting in its role as a 'search' committee.
- Nominations in confidence, using the pro forma (see Appendix F) and specifying the pertinent award or awards shall be received by the Honorary Secretary by 31 August each year.
- If a member of the Honours Committee is nominated for a medal, that member must be absent from the pertinent discussions. The Committee may then co-opt a suitably qualified expert for discussion of that particular award.
- For any award, the Honours Committee may advise that no applicant has a record appropriate to justify an award.

(ii) The Royal Society of Tasmania Doctoral (PhD) Awards

- No self-nominations will be accepted.
- Nominations shall be sought from supervisors of potential applicants by circulating notices within the University of Tasmania and Tasmanian research institutions by early October each year.
- Members of the Honours Committee may act as nominators in their role as supervisors or Department Managers.
- Nominations are not restricted to members of the Society.
- Nominations in confidence from the applicant's supervisor or Department Manager shall be received by the Honorary Secretary by 15 November each year.
- Nominations, which will include a summary of the doctoral thesis, title, publication list and copies of published material (see Appendix C) will be examined by the Honours

Committee with recommendations being forwarded to the Honorary Secretary for Council ratification by 31 January of the year immediately following.

- Nominees must have had their PhDs formally conferred by the end of the calendar year of the nomination.

(iii) Timetable for Nominations

	Call for Nominations	Nominations close	Recommendations of Awards to Council
Medals	30 June	31 August	15 November
Doctoral Award	1 October	15 November	31 January

(iv) Confidentiality

All matters pertaining to Society awards (nomination, selection, deliberation by the Honours Committee and Council and then notification to awardee) are confidential until the public announcement of the awards at the Society's Annual General Meeting each year.

This information about confidentiality must be observed by both the nominator and the nominee.

9. Use of this Awards guidelines document

The Honours Committee wishes Council and the Membership to know that the aim in producing and revising this document is both to ensure that fair and meritorious awards are made to the best applicants available and to support the advancement of knowledge of the highest calibre.

These guidelines should be reviewed by the Honours Committee and Council every five years or as circumstances dictate.

APPENDIX A

Memorial Funds, Honours, Medals and Awards

All previous Rules and Regulations referring to the R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal, the Clive Lord Memorial Medal and The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal are cancelled. Administration and determination of the award of the Johnston, Lord and Royal Society Medals are at the discretion of the Council. The award of one or other Medal should be a regular event in the life of the Society.

APPENDIX B

The M. R. Banks Medal: Conditions of Award

The Award is to honour Dr Maxwell R. Banks' contribution to science and The Royal Society of Tasmania.

The conditions of the 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. The Award is to be made every two years, alternating with, and not in the same year as, the Peter Smith Medal.
6. 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.

APPENDIX C

The Royal Society of Tasmania Annual Doctoral (PhD) Awards

The Royal Society of Tasmania has instituted this Award to honour two young, recently-graduated, doctoral (PhD) academics who have made significant advances in the course of their doctoral research.

The conditions of this Award are:

- The Awards shall be made no more than three years after graduation (PhD degree) .
- To be awarded in any fields – sciences, medicine, arts or humanities – within the purview of the Society.
- The Awards are to be for work leading to significant advances based on the PhD research, as evidenced by published or *in press* peer-reviewed papers in the national/international literature.
- The works are to have been largely carried out in Tasmania or under the aegis of a Tasmanian-based organisation.
- The nationality of the recipients is not to be considered in making the Award, that is, the Award is not restricted to Australian nationals.
- The recipients shall be less than 35 years of age on the day of the PhD graduation.
- The Awards are to be made available annually, but will not be awarded if there are no candidates of sufficient quality.
- Expressions of interest are to be sought widely from all relevant institutions on an annual basis and must include a nomination from the candidate's supervisor or Department Manager.
- Each awardee will be encouraged to address the Society.
- The value of each award is \$1000.

Applications to be submitted online as advised by the nominated due date.

All applications must include:

- A full academic curriculum vitae including the date of birth, the date of receipt of degrees (including the date of PhD graduation) and a full list of published works. The most significant works highlighted with an asterisk. Where the candidate's standing relies on many co-authored papers, the candidate's roles in those significant publications should be indicated.
- An abstract (not more than one page) of the PhD study, including the thesis title.
- A letter of nomination from the candidate's Department Manager and/or PhD supervisor. Applications will not be considered without this document which must include a statement of the new and original contribution to the field of research.

Receipt of applications must be no later than 15 November in each year. The Awards will be announced at the Society's Annual General Meeting in Hobart in March, the following year.

APPENDIX D

The Royal Society of Tasmania Medallists and Prize-Winners

The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal	Clive Lord Memorial Medal	R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal
1927 Leonard Rodway, C.M.G. 1930 Clive E. Lord, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S. 1934 H. H. Scott 1935 Dr Arndell N. Lewis, M.C., L.L.D. 1940 Dr W. E. L. Crowther, D.S.O., M.B., V.D. 1940 Vernon V. Hickman 1950 Prof Vernon V. Hickman 1970 Dr D. L. Serventy 1976 Dr Donald Martin, D.Sc. 1978 Dr M. R. Banks 1982 Dr Grote Reber 1987 E. O. G. Scott 1993 Prof David H. Green, FRS, FAA 1996 Dr Patrick G. Quilty 2001 Prof Jim Reid 2005 H. Marchant 2009 O. M. Roe 2013 Trevor McDougall 2018 Disting. Emeritus Prof Ross R. Large	1936 Prof L. F. Giblin 1939 Prof J. B. Cleland 1947 Dr H. Thompson 1951 Prof J. Burke 1958 P. G. Law 1960 Emeritus Prof Vernon V. Hickman 1966 Dr Winifred M. Curtis 1973 Dr William Bryden, C.B.E., B.A., M.Sc. (N.Z.), Ph.D. (Edin), F.R.S.E. 1977 Dr E. R. Guiler 1983 N. J. Brian Plomley 1986 R. G. H. Green 1989 Dr Lloyd L. Robson 1993 Donald R. Gregg 1996 Dr A. A. Alexander 2001 Prof Robert Menary 2004 T. D. Sprod 2007 A. J. Crawford 2010 Don Kay 2013 Prof Brad Potts 2016 Prof Henry Reynolds	1923 Sir T. W. Edgeworth-David 1925 Prof F. Wood-Jones 1959 Dr R. J. Tillyard 1934 Prof W. J. Dakin 1937 Sir David Rivett 1946 Prof L. H. Martin 1948 Prof T. Griffith-Taylor 1950 Prof J. T. Wilson 1957 Prof F. Walker 1959 Sir Edmund Hillary 1977 Prof S. W. Carey 1983 Dr A. G. Fenton 1987 Dr T. C. Beard 1993 Dr Shirley W. Jeffrey, AM, FAA 1997 Prof Peter Sculthorpe 2001 Prof William Budd 2006 G. Farquhar 2011 S. Foote 2016 Emeritus Prof David H Green, AM, AAA, FRS
M. R. Banks Medal	Peter Smith Medal	The Royal Society of Tasmania Annual Doctoral (PhD) Award
1998 Dr Trevor J. McDougall 2001 Prof Ned Pankhurst 2003 Dr Steven Rintoul 2005 B. Yates 2007 J. C. Vickers 2009 S. Wijffels 2011 Assoc/Prof Erik Wapstra 2013 Emily Hilder 2015 Prof Matt A. King 2017 M. C. Breadmore	2018 Dr Lucia McCallum	1999 Dr Simon Ellingsen 2000 Sr Annie Wong 2001 Dr Helen Fricker 2002 Dr Paul Adlard 2003 Dr Dugald Close 2004 B. Fulton 2005 R. Barbour 2006 R. Chung 2007 J. N. Brown 2008 M. A. Haas 2009 G. While 2010 Peter Molesworth 2011 J. Zika 2012 D. Aitken 2013 Martin Schultz 2014 Amy Peacock 2015 Dr Daniel Gregory 2016 Dr Aliaa Shalan and 2016 Dr Jane Younger 2017 Dr L. Ratnarajah

Right: The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal.



APPENDIX E

The Royal Society of Tasmania Awards by Year							
Year	R. M. Johnston Medal	The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal	Clive Lord Memorial Medal	M. R. Banks Medal	Peter Smith Medal	The Royal Society of Tasmania Doctoral (PhD) Awards	
	5 years	4 years	3 years	2 years	2 years	yearly	
2014						✓	
2015				✓		✓	
2016	✓		✓			✓	
2017		✓		✓		✓	
2018					✓	✓	
2019			✓	✓		✓	
2020					✓	✓	
2021	✓	✓		✓		✓	
2022			✓		✓	✓	
2023				✓		✓	
2024					✓	✓	
2025		✓	✓	✓		✓	
2026					✓	✓	
2027	✓			✓		✓	

APPENDIX F

Guide for Medal Nominations of The Royal Society of Tasmania and Suggested Pro Forma

The following is a guide for nominating candidates for The Royal Society of Tasmania Medals:

- R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal
- The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal
- Clive Lord Memorial Medal
- M. R. Banks Medal
- Peter Smith Medal

The first page of the nomination should list:

- The name of the medal
- The name of the candidate and contact address and details
- The name of the proposer and contact address and details.

No self-nominations are allowed.

The description of the candidate's achievements relevant to the particular medal should follow. It should be no more than one page and should be written concisely and in language that is widely understood outside the candidate's field of research. The candidate's research or other scholarly contributions to science, history or other field of learning, industry or society should be clearly stated.

A full curriculum vitae for the Honours Committee should be provided by the nominee to the nominator in confidence. It should include the candidate's date of birth, the date/s of receipt of degrees and a full list of published works. The most significant publications should be highlighted (e.g. with an asterisk). Where the candidate's standing relies on many co-authored papers, the candidate's role in those significant publications should be indicated.

The Honours Committee of The Royal Society of Tasmania has limited ability to seek additional information and therefore depends on the nomination papers to provide a full and fair account of the candidate's suitability, taking into account the criteria of the particular medal applied for.

All nominations should be submitted online to the Honorary Secretary of the Society by the due date.

Confidentiality is the hallmark of all the Honours Committee deliberations and will be strictly adhered to. All matters pertaining to the Society Awards (nominations, selection, deliberation by the Honours Committee and Council, and subsequent notification to recipients) are confidential until the public announcement of the Awards at the Society's Annual General Meeting each year. This information about confidentiality must also be observed by both the nominator and nominee.

