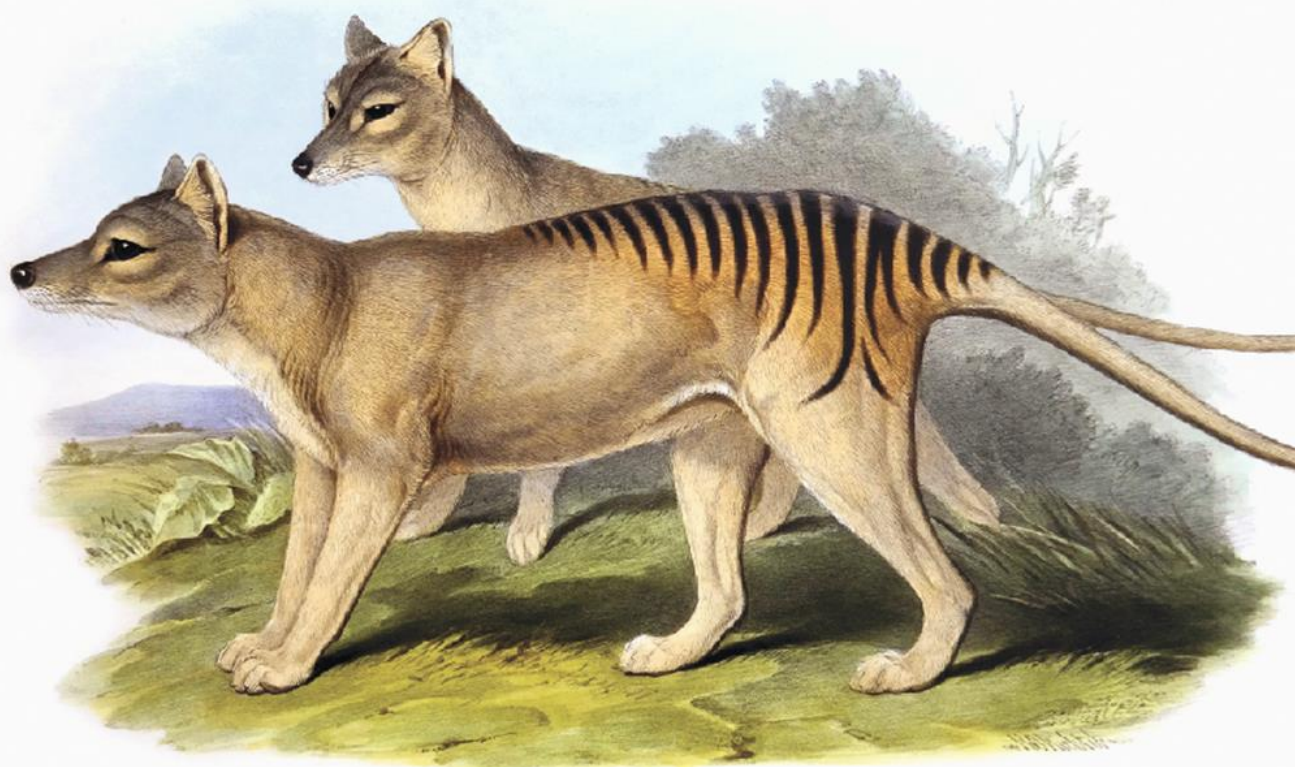




THE ROYAL  
SOCIETY OF  
TASMANIA

*THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE*

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



We acknowledge that Tasmanian Aboriginal Peoples have survived severe and unjust impacts resulting from invasion and dispossession of their Country. As an institution dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, the Royal Society of Tasmania recognises Aboriginal cultural knowledge and practices and seeks to respect and honour these traditions and the deep understanding they represent.

## The Royal Society of Tasmania Annual Report for 2021

Produced by The Royal Society of Tasmania for the Annual General Meeting 7 March 2022



ABN 65 889 598 100

### The Royal Society of Tasmania

Mail: GPO Box 1166, Hobart, Tasmania 7001

Office: 19 Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000 (open Wed 9.00 am – 12.00 pm)

Phone: +61 03 6165 7014

Email: [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)

Web: [www.rst.org.au](http://www.rst.org.au)

Cover Image: Thylacine *Thylacinus cynocephalus* from John Gould's *Mammals of Australia*, 1863.



## CONTENTS

OFFICE BEARERS & COUNCIL MEMBERS.....	3
NORTHERN BRANCH & OTHER ROLES.....	4
COMMITTEES 2021 .....	5
PRESIDENT’S REPORT .....	6
SECRETARY’S REPORT .....	10
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TASMANIAN MUSEUM & ART GALLERY .....	11
RST FOUNDATION .....	13
MEMBERSHIP .....	15
LIBRARY .....	17
PUBLICATIONS .....	20
EVENTS.....	22
MEDIA & PUBLICITY .....	25
HONOURS & AWARDS .....	27
BURSARIES .....	29
ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT.....	30
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.....	31
STYLE GUIDE & LOGO.....	33
ROYAL SOCIETY ART COLLECTION .....	34
NORTHERN BRANCH – 2021 ANNUAL REPORT .....	36
Statement of Receipts & Payments, Year to 31 Dec 2021 Northern Branch .....	40
RST FINANCIAL REPORT .....	41
Audit Report.....	46
Auditor’s Statement.....	47

# THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

**PATRON:** Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania (to June 2021), Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania (July 2021)

## OFFICE BEARERS & COUNCIL MEMBERS

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Mrs Mary Koolhof
Vice President	Prof Jocelyn McPhie
Immediate Past President	Prof Ross Large AO, FTSE
Honorary Secretary	Ms Marley Large
Honorary Treasurer	Mr David Wilson
Council Members	Ms Chel Bardell
	Dr Anita Hansen
	Ms Shasta Henry (Student Councillor)
	Dr Robert Johnson (Early Career Researcher) to Dec 2021)
	Mr Peter Manchester
	Associate Professor Julie Rimes
	Mrs Roxanne Steenbergen
	Dr John Thorne AM
	Dr Adele Wilson (co-opted for 2021)
Northern Branch Representatives	Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM
	Mr Neil MacKinnon

### EX OFFICIO COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorary Librarian	Ms Juliet Beale
Honorary Editor	Dr Sally Bryant
TMAG Representative	Ms Janet Carding / Dr David Sudmalis (Acting)
Honorary Solicitor	Mr James Crotty

## NORTHERN BRANCH & OTHER ROLES

### NORTHERN BRANCH OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Northern Branch President	Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Christine Beswick
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Neil MacKinnon
Northern Branch Rep on The Foundation	Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM / Mr Neil MacKinnon
Committee Members	Dr Lois Beckwith Mr Brian East  Dr Frank Madill AM (Immediate Past President)  Mr David Morris  Mrs Melanie Morris  Mr Andrew Parsons (Honorary Librarian)  Ms Tracy Puklowski (GM of Creative Arts & Cultural Services / QVMAG)/Mr Dan Ryan (Acting GM) (ex officio)  Ms Lynette Ross

### OTHER RST ROLES

Auditor	Mr Richard James
Newsletter Editor	Mr Bernard Pryor OAM
Webmaster	Mr Eddy Steenbergen
Publicity & Twitter Account	Dr Adele Wilson
Facebook Account	Ms Chel Bardell
Office Assistant	Mrs Ann Watson / Ms Ruth Mollison
RST Nominees to Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery (TMAG)	Prof Jim Reid Assoc Prof Penny Edmonds

## COMMITTEES 2021

<b>RST COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CHAIR</b>	<b>MEMBERS</b>
Aboriginal Engagement	Mrs Mary Koolhof	Dr Robert Johnson Prof Matt King Ms Marley Large Prof Greg Lehman Prof Jocelyn McPhie Mr David Morris Mr David Wilson
Artworks	Prof Ross Large AO	Dr Anita Hansen Ms Marley Large
Bursaries	Dr Deborah Beswick	Ms Penny Cocker Dr Robert Johnson Mr Andrew Porter Dr Adele Wilson
Events	Dr Robert Johnson	Assoc. Prof. Julie Rimes Ms Shasta Henry
Media & Publicity	Ms Chel Bardell	Dr Adele Wilson
RST Foundation	Prof Jim Reid (to Aug) Prof Ross Large AO (interim)	Mr Tony Culberg OAM Mr Neil MacKinnon Mrs Mary Koolhof Ms Marley Large Dr John Thorne AM Mr David Wilson
Honours & Awards	Prof. Jocelyn McPhie	Dr Margaret Davies OAM Dr Eva Meidl Prof Jim Reid Dr Steve Rintoul
Membership	Mrs Roxanne Steenbergen	Ms Shasta Henry Mr Peter Manchester Dr John Thorne AM Ms Chel Bardell
Publications	Dr Sally Bryant	Ms Chel Bardell Dr Margaret Davies OAM Ms Ruth Mollison
Logo & Style Guide	Prof Ross Large AO, David Wilson	Prof. Jocelyn McPhie Ms Shasta Henry Dr Adele Wilson

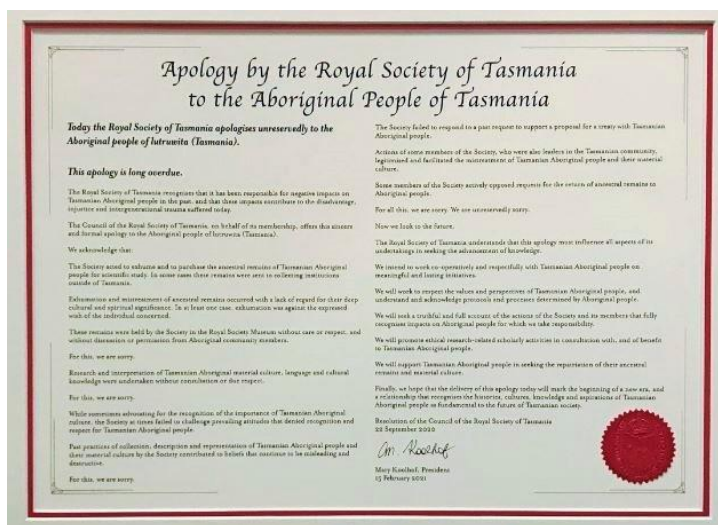
## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year 2021 began with a very important milestone in the history of the Royal Society of Tasmania: our Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people delivered on 15 February in person at the Courtyard, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart and via livestream. This was an important step for the Society as we took responsibility for past actions and committed to building a strong and respectful relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal people. We hope that our Apology signifies a move towards healing and the beginning of a new phase of respect and productive collaboration. The partnership with the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery in the lead-up to the Apology, and in particular collaboration with Director Janet Carding and Board Chair Brett Torossi, was much appreciated. RST Council members participated in an Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training Day in November as part of our commitment to re-setting the relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal people.



Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people 2021

On Monday, 15th February, 2021, the Royal Society of Tasmania delivered its Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people, taking responsibility for the negative impacts of its past actions. Learn more about the Apology at [https://rst.org.au/apology-to-tasmanian-aboriginal...](https://rst.org.au/apology-to-tasmanian-aboriginal.../) or view it on the RST YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRVwcS6DQW8&t=29235>



Mary Koolhof (RST President) and Janet Carding (Director TMAG) at the Apology event. Framed RST Apology (above).

The 2021 *Papers and Proceedings* published in December contained full transcripts of the RST Apology, the TMAG Apology, the Preamble by Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency Prof the Hon Kate Warner AC and responses to the Apologies by Aboriginal Elders Michael Mansell and Rodney Gibbins. A report commissioned by the RST to inform the Apology is also published in the *Papers and Proceedings*.

Another very significant achievement was the resolution by mediation of the ownership of the Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection on loan to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. As President I represented the Society at the mediation held on 26 November, together with Hon Solicitor James Crotty and the Art Committee. An agreement was reached with 18 works from the 1965 Loans List conceded to TMAG ownership and an additional 21 artworks loaned at other times to TMAG successfully claimed by RST. In total, 684 of the disputed artworks are owned by RST, making a total of 904 including the works in sketchbooks and albums. Two additional works are owned jointly with TMAG. Ownership of the Louisa Anne Meredith fish illustrations was not agreed at the meeting and will be the subject of a separate process. A formal agreement will now be drawn up regarding the loan of the agreed artworks to TMAG and matters such as storage conditions and access; this is expected to be finalised in late January 2022. This is a very important achievement in the history of the Society. In recognition of the truly herculean efforts of our Art Committee (Prof Ross Large AO FTSE, Chair; Dr Anita Hansen; Mrs Marley Large), the Society conferred Honorary Life Membership on these committee members to recognise their outstanding work. Our Art Committee is currently hard at work on plans for the conservation and future exhibition of artworks in the collection.



The Executive and Council members have accomplished a great deal this year, due to hard work and determination. In addition to the usual busy monthly meetings, the Council held two planning sessions related to the Society's Strategic Plan. During the year the Council rolled out a refreshed logo and introduced a style guide for RST documents, which has given the public face of the Society a much-needed update. In addition to the two volumes of the *Papers and Proceedings* published this year, a second print run of *Australian Mineral Discoverers* was very successful as was the *Illustrated Checklist of Tasmanian Beetles* launched in December, produced with the support of the Friends of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. The Society continued its support for school students through financial support for the Science Investigation Awards run by the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Science Talent Search coordinated by the Science Teachers' Association of Tasmania.

In addition to the monthly lectures held in the North and South of the state, additional innovative events were held in 2021. On 23 June we held a joint public lecture with prestigious national Australian body the Academy for Technology and Engineering (ATSE) at the Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania. The topic was *Climate challenges and the path to mitigation*, and the symposium-style event featured three speakers: Professor Nathan Bindoff, a three-times lead author on the International Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) assessment report; ATSE Fellow Professor Mary O'Kane; and energy consultant Andrew Catchpole. We thank the university for their support of this event.



The inaugural Royal Society of Tasmania Midwinter Dinner was held on 12 July. This event provided a chance for members and friends to enjoy a delicious meal at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania and hear acclaimed literary speaker Susannah Fullerton OAM FRSN on the fascinating topic of 'The importance of being Oscar: the life and works of Oscar Wilde.' Susannah's talk was very well received, as was the dinner, and the Midwinter Dinner will become a fixture in the program.

The first joint Royal Society of Tasmania–Beer Aquatic event held on 26 August was a resounding success. To a packed house at the Hobart Brewing Company, Professor Pete Strutton gave a very well-received talk, 'Dusty with a chance of phytoplankton', on the link between land and ocean ecosystems. Many thanks go to the speaker and organisers Dr Will Hobbs and Dr Christina Schallenberg. This collaboration is planned to become an annual event in the RST calendar.



The Northern Branch celebrated its centenary on 27 June in the presence of the Governor with the launch of the special centenary edition of the *Papers and Proceedings*, featuring a fine selection of articles highlighting achievements in Northern Tasmania. The Centenary Lecture delivered by geologist and mineralogist Ralph Bottrill on the topic of 'What made Tasmania?' was very well received and highlighted how modern developments in mapping, dating and information compilation have enabled the Tasmanian Geological Survey to produce detailed maps of most of Tasmania.



**Attendees at the Northern Branch Centenary celebrations Sunday 27 June 2021, Launceston. From left, Emeritus Prof Don Chalmers, Lyndle van Zetten, Albert van Zetten, Mayor of Launceston, Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker, Governor of Tasmania, Mary Koolhof, President of the RST, and Dr Eric Ratcliff, RST Northern Branch President.**

In July, incoming Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, accepted the invitation to become Patron of the Society. This continues the tradition of the Society's close involvement with the Governor of the day throughout its history. The Society is very grateful to outgoing Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania, up until June 2021, and to current Patron Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, for all their support this year and their attendance at our events.

The Society has renewed the agreement with the University of Tasmania for the care and management of the Society's substantial and important library of rare books, journals, maps and documents housed at the University of Tasmania. Under the leadership of Hon. Librarian Juliet Beale, the library team of Wendy Rimon and Heather Excell identified key items in the collection related to Tasmania history for digitisation, prepared regular articles for the newsletter and assisted members of the Society and other researchers with many research requests and tours of the collection.

Under the capable leadership of Prof Jocelyn McPhie, the Honours Committee attracted high calibre nominations for all awards offered by the Society this year. I offer very warm congratulations to Northern

Branch President Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM, who has been awarded the Royal Society of Tasmania Medal 2021. This award recognises Dr Ratcliff's outstanding research on architecture, building conservation, art, history and in the profession of psychiatry in addition to his service to the Royal Society of Tasmania spanning fifty years of membership. Dr Ratcliff will deliver the Royal Society of Tasmania Medal Lecture at Government House, Hobart on 30 March 2022, and RST members will be invited to attend. It is also a great pleasure to announce that Associate Professor Rebecca Carey has been awarded the M.R. Banks Medal 2021 for her outstanding work as a mid-career researcher in volcanology. Associate Professor Carey will deliver the M.R. Banks Medal Lecture in 2022.

The RST Doctoral Awards recognise two doctoral (PhD) graduates who have made significant advances during their doctoral research in any field within the purview of the Society for research carried out largely in Tasmania or under the aegis of a Tasmanian-based organisation. In 2021, one award was reserved for nominations in non-Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (non-STEMM) disciplines; the other award was open. The nominee cohort in both categories was exceptionally strong and covered diverse fields of research. On behalf of the Society, I offer very warm congratulations to the 2021 RST Doctoral Award winners: Dr Pratiksha Srivastava, an engineer who developed a new bioelectrical method of treating wastewater; and Dr Rhondda Waterworth, a lawyer who analysed the impacts of magistrate's decisions on defendants. As both awardees are currently working overseas, it is likely that their award lectures will be delivered by Zoom in 2022.

The Society has awarded Certificates of Appreciation to two people who rendered significant service to the RST during the year: David Reilly, a communications consultant who was of great assistance to the Society at the time of the Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people in February, and our Hon. Solicitor James Crotty whose legal advice has been very much appreciated. Grateful thanks go to both David and James.

The public face of the Society is very well served by our webmaster, Eddy Steenbergen and newsletter editor Bernard Pryor OAM, both of whom do a sterling job for the Society in their capacity as volunteers. The Society's online presence has allowed us to make lectures and events available to a much wider audience including overseas viewers. The RST YouTube Channel established last year has gone from strength to strength, with over 6,400 views to date. If you missed any of our past lectures, you can watch the recordings at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcNLxyONQH\\_adVLLim7An4Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcNLxyONQH_adVLLim7An4Q).

The year finished with a very well-attended and much enjoyed dinner and lecture on 9 December at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. The lecture on 'Terra nullius in Tasmanian colonial art' was delivered by Prof Greg Lehman, Pro Vice-Chancellor Aboriginal Leadership at the University of Tasmania.

We are a society of volunteers, and very warm thanks go to our Council, committee members and other volunteers for all their work. On behalf of the Society, I would like to express sincere thanks to Executive members Prof Jocelyn McPhie (Vice-President), Marley Large (Hon. Secretary), David Wilson (Hon. Treasurer) and to retiring Council members Prof Ross Large AO, Dr Robert Johnson, Roxanne Steenbergen, Dr John Thorne AM and Dr Adele Wilson. Membership Secretary Roxanne Steenbergen has had an extremely busy year with the Society welcoming a record 60 new members. The brisk rate of new members, membership renewals and communications received during the year indicate that our Society has strong support from members and from the community. The Royal Society of Tasmania is set to pursue its mission of 'The advancement of knowledge' very strongly in the future.

**Mary Koolhof**  
**President**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

There have been several major advances for the Society in 2021, two of which I feel particularly honoured to have been associated. The first of these is the Apology to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people. There were many hurdles to overcome in the process but to be present when our President delivered the apology made me very proud that as a Society, we are strong enough to explore and acknowledge a dark aspect of our history. More than this, we are committed to learning from it and to doing much better in the future.

Another event is the agreement that has been reached with the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery concerning the Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection. As a member of the Art Committee, along with Dr Anita Hansen, I was able to examine more than 900 artworks that make up the Collection. To be able to inspect an entire Collection in this way is a huge privilege and I thank TMAG and in particular Janet Carding, Jane Stewart and Paul Westbury. Prior to the mediation in November and immediately prior to Council's Strategic Plan meeting, I was able to arrange a viewing of around 25 of the artworks for Council members in the TMAG boardroom. It was a timely reminder for us all of what was at stake with regard to ownership of the Collection. We will be hearing much more about the artworks in the future from our newly appointed Honorary Curator, Dr Anita Hansen.



**Secretary Marley Large witnessing the library Deed of Agreement between RST and UTAS.**



**Council members inspecting some of the RST art works displayed in the TMAG Board Room.**

As in 2020, it has been necessary during the past year to use Zoom for Council meetings and some lectures have been accessed by members electronically via a variety of platforms. While there are restrictions in the use of our office in the TMAG building, the core business of the Society has not been affected. Twenty-five members only may be present at any one time in the Lecture room at TMAG so we will all need to continue to be flexible to access the superb 2022 Lecture Program which Adjunct Professor Julie Rimes is arranging. Numbers are also still limited in the office so it is likely that much of our business will continue to be conducted via the internet and other electronic means at least in the early part of the coming year.

In spite of some difficulties, the Society's office has been running smoothly and we are grateful to Ruth Mollison for stepping into the position of Office Manager for several months after Ann Watson's departure.

It turned out to be a particularly busy time and Ruth coped beautifully with a very steep learning curve but in December Ruth moved on with our best wishes to pursue her other interests. Early in 2022 we will seek a new office manager to join our team.

A personal highlight for me this year is to have been made a Life Member of the Royal Society in recognition of my small part in the Society's achievements. I am aware that to receive this award is a rare and great honour for which I am deeply appreciative.

**Marley Large**  
Honorary Secretary

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TASMANIAN MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

I am delighted to share with you some thoughts on 2021, a year which has required us to be responsive and alert to risk and sudden change, compelled us to keep working towards meaningful action to address past practices, and together progress resolution of long and overdue conversations about the ownership and custodianship of works.

It is impossible to reflect upon 2021 without recognising the central role that responses to the COVID-19 pandemic have played on the way that TMAG operates. Amidst longer-term and shorter-term closures and restrictions on capacity, TMAG has continued to provide access to the State Collection and to undertake research and scholarly activity. TMAG has also delivered programs of engagement with young people and their careers and undertaken important infrastructure and building maintenance.

TMAG has also seen some important changes in key personnel. TMAG's Director Janet Carding left us in August to take up the role of Executive Director of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, with TMAG's yet-to-be-announced incoming director to commence in the first half of 2022. And after many years with TMAG, Deputy Director Engagement Andy Baird bade us farewell in October to follow a personal path of development. The new voices and perspectives on the TMAG Executive will help in driving TMAG's ambitions to be accessible to the Tasmanian and global community, to tell unique stories that exhilarate and stimulate through our collections and to engage and involve communities by enabling participation, reflection, learning and discussion.

One of the ways we will do this is through enhancing our systems to provide improved access to our collections. TMAG's digital and infrastructure transformation has the potential to not only allow researchers and other interested parties to better explore our collections from wherever they may be, but also provide the opportunity for Tasmanians and visitors to compose their own cultural itinerary in exploring the wonderful cultural, artistic, and scientific treasures of our state.

On 15 February 2021, with the Royal Society of Tasmania, we apologised to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. TMAG was instrumental in showing profound disrespect for Aboriginal people, their families and communities, and their spiritual and cultural practices. As I said as part of the Apology:

*The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery commits to changing our practices. We commit to creating a shared and consultative vision – based on respect and good faith – to tell the rich, varied and difficult story of this island. While new ways of working do not make up for the past, we want this to be the beginning of a new relationship. We want the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery to be a safe place for Tasmanian Aboriginal people in the future.*

Together with the community, we have progressed the return of the Preminghana petroglyphs which is soon to occur, developed a baseline understanding of cultural respect throughout TMAG, listened to our Tasmanian Aboriginal Advisory Council, and have in the making a ground-breaking exhibition planned in 2022 led by our First Peoples Art and Culture team.

This year has also seen significant progress in addressing a long-standing issue between the Royal Society and TMAG, and in doing so, has provided valuable lessons for us. We have been reminded that collegiality, friendship, and partnership trump any contention – in fact, the strength of partnership can be measured by the willingness to engage in difficult conversations without impacting our relationship or shared future. The issue of the ownership of work that has been a point of disputation for many years between us meaningfully progressed, with some more work to do. I thank the Royal Society for asking questions of us and working together to unearth trails of evidence that have clarified much about the body of work under consideration.

TMAG is able to do what it does because of the ongoing and generous support of our friends, partners and donors. Our hearty and sincere thanks to Penny Clive AO and Bruce Neill, Dr Carol Colburn Grigor CBE with the assistance of Sir Jonathan Mills, and Joy Anderson and the Estate of Neil Thomas for their generosity and commitment, and for sharing the vision of TMAG. We also wish to thank the many generous donors to our most successful annual appeal yet.

My thanks to the Tasmanian Government, and the Minister for the Arts in particular, for her support of TMAG throughout the whole year, and the TMAG Board of Trustees for its diligence and strategic thinking. Through working together on a range of issues I am pleased that we have built a stronger relationship with the RST Council, and I would like to thank Mary Koolhof and her team for their efforts and conversations this year. Together, we are well-placed to continue to champion the cultural, creative and scientific essence of Tasmania.

**Brett Torossi**

**Chair, TMAG Board of Trustees**

## RST FOUNDATION

There was some movement in the organisation of the Foundation in 2021. The Foundation welcomed Tony Culberg OAM to its ranks in 2021 to boost our financial and taxation expertise. Two senior and long serving members departed and the Foundation wishes to sincerely thank Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM for the service he has provided over the years to the Foundation. Dr Ratcliff's place has been filled by Neil MacKinnon, also from the Northern Branch of the Society. Professor Jim Reid resigned in August and his position as Chair has been filled on a temporary basis until the next AGM by Professor Ross Large AO. The Foundation wishes to thank Professor Reid for the sterling support he has provided to the Council and for his contribution in steering the Foundation on a very solid financial course over a number of years.

With the excellent news that an agreement has been reached with regard to the Society's Art Collection, some initial arrangements have been made in order to support the cost of maintaining and preserving the Collection. Council recommended that an amount of \$50,000 be set aside from Foundation funds to be used if necessary to support the Collection. When the Agreement between RST and TMAG has been drawn up and signed, the way forward financially will become clearer. A separate RST committee is planned to raise funds for continued support, including the cost of insurance, conservation, exhibitions, and in the future perhaps additions to the Collection.

Two new brochures, one seeking Foundation contributions and the other concerning sponsorship and donations directly to the Art Collection are planned. This is new territory for the Society generally and the Foundation in particular and will require close liaison between different arms of the Society particularly in the early planning stage.

The Foundation now holds over \$540,700 in diversified, well-invested funds and term deposits. These investments are regularly reviewed and adjusted if-and-when required.

The investment conditions for term deposits have again substantially reduced over the last 12 months and this has had a significant impact on the returns achieved, even though the conservative investment approach has resulted in a substantial level of funds on hand (see financial statement).

The Foundation would welcome further bequests or donations, confident that they will be wisely used to further the aims of the Society and to the benefit of the wider Tasmanian community through the advancement of knowledge about the natural and cultural histories of Tasmania.

The financial position of the Foundation is provided.

**Prof Ross Large AO (Interim Chair)**  
**Foundation Committee**



THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA FOUNDATION FUNDS  
AS AT DECEMBER 31ST, 2021

	Institution	Current \$	Term	Current Performance	2021 Interest
<b>Fund 1 - Select Mortgage Fund</b>	TPT Wealth		ongoing	0.9%	<b>Earned</b>
Previous Holding		27,748.40			
Interest earned Q1		43.61			
Interest earned Q2		68.88			
Interest earned Q3		74.19			
Interest earned Q4		47.09			
Current Holding		<b>27,982.17</b>			<b>233.77</b>
<b>Fund 2 - Long Term Fund</b>	TPT Wealth		ongoing	1.4%	
Previous Holding		192,504.76			
Interest earned Q1		451.48			
Interest earned Q2		680.78			
Interest earned Q3		884.06			
Interest earned Q4		441.74			
Current Holding		<b>194,962.82</b>			<b>2,458.06</b>
<b>Fund 3 - Fixed Term - ANZAAS</b>	TPT Wealth		ongoing	1.3%	
Previous Holding		30,947.59			
Interest earned Q1		67.54			
Interest earned Q2		95.89			
Interest earned Q3		160.15			
Interest earned Q4		82.60			
Current Holding		<b>31,353.77</b>			<b>406.18</b>
Perpetual Trustees Totals		<b>254,298.76</b>			<b>3,098.01</b>
<b>Fund 3 - Term Deposits</b>	MyState Bank	<b>41,069.72</b>	10/04/2022	0.65%	745.99
<b>Fund 4 - Term Deposit</b>	MyState Bank	<b>141,278.72</b>	2/04/2022	0.65%	2,566.18
<b>Fund 5 - Term Deposit</b>	CBA	<b>42,365.20</b>	15/01/2022	0.55%	1.22
<b>Fund 6 - Term Deposit</b>	CBA	<b>61,708.07</b>	11/01/1900	0.55%	1.23
Term Deposit Totals		<b>286,421.71</b>			<b>3,314.62</b>
<b>Foundation Fund Totals</b>		<b>540,720.47</b>			<b>6,412.63</b>

## MEMBERSHIP

Our top priority for this year was to retain current members while increasing the number of new member applications. Membership numbers as at the end of 2021 were as follows:

South .....	252
North .....	79
Australia (outside Tasmania) .....	28
Overseas.....	3

By July the number of renewals for 2021 were similar to 2020 but there was an increase in new applications with a total of 60 for 2021.

Council determined the membership fees for 2022 would stay the same as for 2021:

Full member with <i>Papers and Proceedings</i> .....	\$90
Full member without <i>Papers and Proceedings</i> .....	\$65
Student member with <i>Papers and Proceedings</i> .....	\$50
Student member without <i>Papers and Proceedings</i> .....	\$25

Early in the year members were given the opportunity to participate in a Polar Walk around Salamanca led by historian John Williamson, and to promote its goals and encourage membership, the Society had a presence at the CONSTAT Conference, the GCA Southern Tasmania Zone Plant Fair at 'Valleyfield' in New Norfolk, and the Beer Aquatic joint event.



RST volunteer Grady Koolhof and Assoc. Prof Julie Rimes (right) managing the RST stall at Valleyfield, New Norfolk.

With the new logo confirmed midyear, all membership correspondence templates were updated, and the Society membership card was redesigned and printed ready for 2022 members.

In a new strategy, members who had not renewed by mid-year received hard copy communication from the Membership Secretary and the President encouraging them to renew. This resulted in approximately 80 members renewing, an excellent response.

Members gave an enthusiastic response to an email and newsletter reminder for membership renewal for 2022. By the end of December 146 members had completed the renewal process. The option of the automatic renewal for members was very successful with those who had indicated they would like this option having their renewal processed early December. Both renewing and new members continue to request this option resulting in a steady increase in numbers to 31 by the end of the year.

Finally, I want to thank the Membership Committee and other Council members for their support and commitment to maintaining and increasing membership of the Society.

#### **NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED IN 2021:**

Dr Adam Abersteiner, Dr Andrew Alexander, Elizabeth Archer, Priya Bindal, Professor Nathan Bindoff, Ralph Bottrill, Professor David Bowman, Professor Timothy Brodribb, Dianne Bye, Dr Bruce Cameron, Suzanne Cameron, Jill Cassidy, Professor John Church, Mary Collins, Dr Clive Crossley, Angela de Reus, Anthony Philip Dickinson, Anne Donaghue, Dr Paul Donaghue, Jenny Dudgeon, David Dyson, Professor Harriet Edquist, Associate Professor Rajaraman Eri, Dr Jessica Ericson, Susannah Fullerton OAM, Penny Garnsworthy, Craig Geappen, Andrea Gerrard OAM, Danny Gillespie, Dr Christine Hansen, Gina Harvey, Susan Henn, Dr Jan Herrmann, Dr Will Hobbs, Dr Helen Howarth, Peter Lelong, Sarah Lloyd, Gina Loewen, Joyce Mackey, Brett Maryniak, Rebecca Mitchell, Michael Monaghan, Kim Munyard, Terry Munyard, Dr Susan Owen, Blake Riley, Deborah Sadler, Curtis Salter, Maryanne Simpson, Stewart Simpson, David Skegg, Suzanne Skira, Vonda Smith, Lynne Uptin, Di Vertigan, Professor Kate Warner AC, Richard Warner AM, Dr Imogen Wegman, Dr John Whittington, John Williamson.



#### **Polar Pathways Walking Tour**

Recently a dozen RST members and others met John Williamson at the **Tasman monument** in Salamanca Place ready to commence the Polar Pathways Walk.

After preliminaries and introductions, we moved to the city end of Princes Wharf No. 1 where John told us of the cut-throat, sometimes literally, business of the watermen of **Waterman's Dock**. They were the water taxis of their day without which people and goods could not efficiently move between land and ships in harbour.

The popular RST Polar Pathways tour led by historian John Williamson around Salamanca ending in St David's Park.

**Roxanne Steenbergen**  
**Membership Secretary**

## LIBRARY

The Royal Society of Tasmania Library materials (special and rare books, maps and extensive member deposits) are housed in the University of Tasmania Library and managed by the University's Special & Rare Collections staff. The Special & Rare Collections are open Monday to Wednesday by appointment inclusive from 10 am to 5 pm, closed for lunch between 12:30 and 1:30. The Collection is accessible to members and the public, and a reference service is provided by phone, email and in person. To access the Collection: <https://www.utas.edu.au/library/research/special-and-rare-collections>

In 2021 the Special and Rare Library was staffed by Wendy Rimon, Heather Excell and Juliet Beale. Wendy Rimon left the University Library at end of 2021. A big thank you for the huge contribution that Wendy has made to the care and promotion of the Library Collection and the time and thoroughness spent in assisting researchers. She will be missed. Wendy and Heather's contribution to assisting with the research for the Art Committee is acknowledge and appreciated.



(Left to Right) RST Library Officer Heather Excell, Librarian Wendy Rimon and Librarian for the Collection Juliet Beale.

### DEED OF AGREEMENT

Signed by the RST and UTAS on 10 November 2021 and will be in place for 3 years.

### COVID-19 2021

The service model adopted in June 2020 was continued through 2021. Visits by appointment continues to be the modus operandi and has been a successful transition.

### SOUTHERN TRANSFORMATION FOR UTAS, AND RST LIBRARY COLLECTION

An initial discussion was held between UTAS University Librarian, RST President and The Society Librarian to flag planned move of Sandy Bay Campus libraries to new CBD site in 3 – 4 years.

## COLLECTIONS: MANAGEMENT

The Library team continues to work on uploading indexes from the RST collection into the AtoM online archival management system. 22 more indexes were added this year taking the total to 185.

<https://sparc.utas.edu.au/index.php/the-royal-society-of-tasmania-collection>

After some consideration the selection of digitised maps available through UTAS Open Access Repository has become open access.

COLLECTIONS USAGE	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Royal Society Members visits	24	7	72	67	34	46
Royal Society rare books viewed	67	60	221	475	272	813
Royal Society Deposits viewed	350	129	347	351	735	352
<i>Papers &amp; Proceedings</i> downloads (2016 anomalous)	86,402	67,059	83,225	41,624	74,209	158,430
Visitors (including tour groups)	213	90	412	404	379	411
Research enquiries (in person, phone, email)	219	342	414	441	328	412
Physical items viewed from all collections, includes rare books & deposit boxes	811	1011	1114	1842	1612	1795

## JOURNAL PAPERS & PROCEEDINGS

680 DOIs have been created for the *Papers and Proceedings*, dating back to 1976 issues. 123 DOIs were created in 2021.

### *Papers and Proceedings* most downloaded articles for 2021:

Article Title	Downloads
Political science as a science	3315*
Notes on some Tasmanian Aborigines and on portraits of them	743
Meteorological observations from November 1 to 15, 1878	579
An account of food and drink in Tasmania, 1800-1900	570
Meteorological observations for October 1879	502

\*most likely an anomaly

### Citations for *Papers and Proceedings* from 2019 – 2020

Cites	Authors	Title	Year
3	PA Magni, JD North, M Zwerver...	Insect succession pattern on decomposing swine carcasses in Tasmania: A summer study	2019
3	M Baker, S Grove, M de Salis, C Byrne	Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery's Expedition of Discovery I–The flora and fauna of Wind Song, Little Swanport, Tasmania.	2019
2	P Turner, M Wapstra, A Woolley...	Long-term monitoring of the threatened lesser guineaflower <i>Hibbertia calycina</i> (DC.) NA Wakef. (Dilleniaceae) in Tasmania	2020
1	S. Robinson	Black rats eradicated from Big Green Island in Bass Strait, Tasmania	2020
1	EC Nichols, JB Kirkpatrick	Patterns and causes of marsupial paths in subalpine Tasmania	2019
1	JG Aalders, P McQuillan...	Vegetation communities and edaphic relationships along a typical coastal saltmarsh to woodland gradient in eastern Tasmania	2019

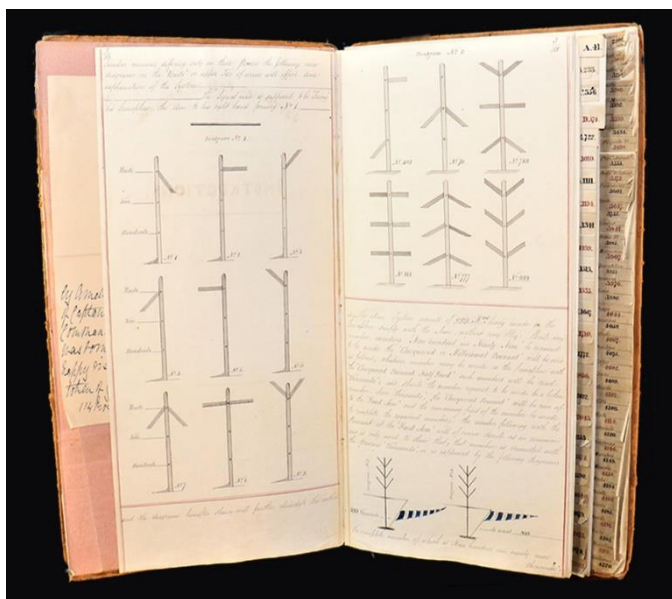


## EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Material from the Library collection was used in the following exhibitions, displays and publications:

- RS99-James Kelly Papers reused in paintings by Neil Haddon
- RS6-Hortin Collection-Lucy Benson composition Local author Anne Blythe-Cooper is writing a biography of Lucy Benson
- RS32-Sarah Mitchell Scrap Book Local artist Jane Giblin will commence her PhD in 2022 investigating the scrap book and creating a series of artworks and other outputs.

A series of highlights from the collection was researched and created by Wendy Rimon and published in the RST Newsletters, including items on snakes, Parkinson's Herbal, Captain O'Hara Booth and the signal code.



(Left) RS31/2 Tasmanian Code of Signals. Compiled by Captain O'Hara Booth for the Penal Settlement of Tasmans Peninsula, including instructions and diagrammatic examples. (Right) Mikado program printed on rice paper, from the Hobart Operatic Society production, 1899, from the Hortin Collection RS6.

## LIBRARY TOURS

Six tours were held throughout the year for Council members, new members and interested students.

Juliet Beale

RST Honorary Librarian

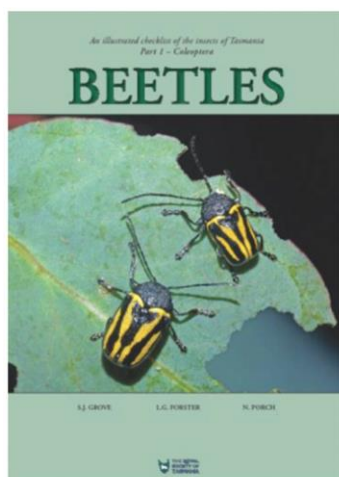


## PUBLICATIONS

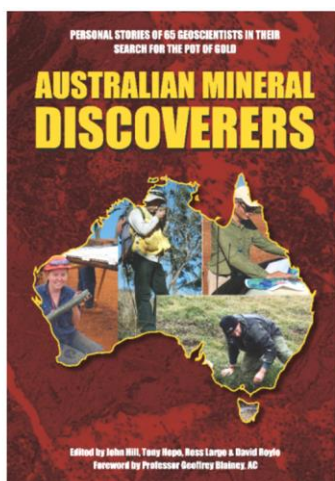
It's been a busy year for the Publications Committee who have managed a wide range of publication duties and delivered several exciting new projects.

Due to dwindling sales the decision to pause production of the RST annual calendar in 2022 has enabled us to trial a new product, while leaving open the possibility of resuming calendar production in the future. This opportunity threw a challenge to Chel Bardell to investigate a new notebook series and select cover designs featuring three RST artworks (Francis Guillemard Simpkinson de Wesselow's *From the old Wharf, Hobart Town*, Henry Constantine Richter's *Thylacinus cynocephalus* and Louisa Anne Meredith's *Kangaroo Apple* and *Shining Tea-tree*). Chel has overseen development of the notebook series working with Becski Design and Franklin Direct for their production. Despite best efforts, unfortunately due to Covid-19 freight delays the notebooks did not arrive in time for pre-Christmas sales but they promise to be a strong seller in 2022 and beyond.

However, another new RST product *Checklist of Tasmanian Beetles* was finalised in time with books delivered to the Hobart office in late November for pre-Christmas sales which have already exceeded our expectations. This beautifully presented checklist co-authored by Dr Simon Grove, Lynne Forster and Dr Nick Porch, is an updated catalogue of all the described species of Coleoptera (beetles) from Tasmania, including Macquarie Island. Indexed to 110 pages, it provides a meticulous up-to-date list of over 2,800 species including over 600 endemics and features a series of beautiful colour plates and thumbnail images for easy referencing. The checklist was officially launched at the RST Christmas Dinner on 9 December, attended by representatives of the Friends of TMAG, who generously donated towards its production, and lead author Dr Simon Grove who gave a brief presentation. Sincere thanks to Ruth Mollison for managing its production, Dr Margaret Davies for proof reading and June Pongratz for the beautiful layout.



**An illustrated checklist of the insects of Tasmania – Part 1 – Coleoptera (Beetles)**



**Australian Mineral Discoverers: 1950-2010 Reprinted 2021**



**2021 Calendar**

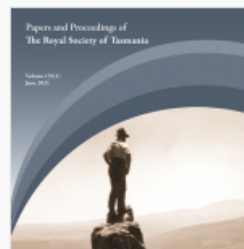
In 2020 the RST was pleased to support the publication of a new book *Australian Mineral Discoverers 1950–2010* featuring the biographies of 65 exploration geologists relevant to Tasmania and Australia,

edited by John Hill, Tony Hope, Ross Large and David Royle. Such was the success of the first print-run, an updated second edition with new cover design was reprinted in 2021 and has continued to sell very well. Many thanks to Prof Ross Large AO for overseeing the management of this important publication for the Society.

Volume 155 of the Journal *Papers and Proceedings* was produced in 2021 in two parts. Planning for Vol 155(1) began in mid-2019 to showcase the Northern Branch centenary and was successfully launched in June 2021 at a special event held at QVMAG Inveresk. The volume opened with a reflections article by current Northern Branch President Dr Eric Ratcliff and a complete list of Northern Branch Presidents beginning in 1921 and 11 diverse papers showcasing notable programs and achievements in the north of the State. The cover featured the historic long-serving Northern President Fred Smithies with his indomitable gaze over Cradle Mountain in 1936. Volume 155(2) was published in December 2021 commencing with an article on the historic RST Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people and transcripts from speakers at the event. This was followed by 11 high quality refereed papers from 30 contributing authors, including one on the report to the RST to inform the Aboriginal Apology.

## Launch of the Northern Branch Centenary Edition of the RST Papers and Proceedings

A special edition of the RST Papers and Proceedings was launched by President Mary Koolhof at the Centenary celebrations of the Northern Branch on Sunday 27 July. Open this post to read the speech by President, Mary Koolhof.



Vol 155(2) spanned 162 pages in total, signifying a bumper edition for the year, its quality and content aided by the expert assistance of copy-editor Caroline Mordaunt and typesetter June Pongratz. Papers from both parts have now been promoted on the UTAS Open Access website and several new submissions have already been received for Vol 156.

<https://eprints.utas.edu.au/view/collections/PapersProceedingsRoyalSociety.html>

Once again sincere thanks to all those involved in a very successful publication year.

**Dr Sally Bryant**  
**Publications Committee**

## EVENTS

### 2021 LECTURES – SOUTH

#### 7th March

Speaker: Dr Jess Melbourne-Thomas

Title: Engagement, Diversity and Interdisciplinarity to Tackle Future Challenges

Venue: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, University of Tasmania

Recording:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxcqxDJJgk&list=PLzn2N4MvUU\\_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA\\_J0y&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxcqxDJJgk&list=PLzn2N4MvUU_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA_J0y&index=2)

#### 16th March

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

Title: Improving literacy standards and education in Tasmania

Venue: Government House, Hobart

Medal presentations on this occasion: 2019 Clive Lord Medal to Prof Jamie Kirkpatrick; 2019 co-award of M.R. Banks Medal to Prof Arko Lucieer. (These 2019 awards could not be presented in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic restrictions.)

Live: <https://rst.org.au/past-southern-lectures/> - pdf available of transcript

#### 11<sup>th</sup> April

Speaker: Peter Smith Medal Recipient 2020 - Dr Frances Sussmilch

Title: Tales of Evolution from the Mouths of Plants

Venue: In person at RST Lecture Room, TMAG and via Zoom webinar

Recording:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VKCO7L8v4U&list=PLzn2N4MvUU\\_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA\\_J0y&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VKCO7L8v4U&list=PLzn2N4MvUU_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA_J0y&index=1)



The Royal Society of Tasmania

4 April 2021 · 🌐

"Tales of Evolution from the Mouths of Plants" - The 2020 Peter Smith Medal Lecture, by medal winner Dr Frances Sussmilch

Sunday, 11th April, 3pm, at the Royal Society of Tasmania lecture room, TMAG, Davey Street, Hobart, and also available as a live Zoom Webinar.

Ticketing for the TMAG event is via eventbrite:.... See more



Royal Society of Tasmania @RoyalSocTas · Jul 19, 2021

Kimberlites – Volcanic insights into Earth's deep interior: an online lecture from @RoyalSocTas Doctoral Award recipient Dr Adam Abersteiner from @UTAS\_ (now at @helsinkiuni). Sunday 1 August at 5pm AEST. Register at [bit.ly/RoyalSocTas-Au...](https://bit.ly/RoyalSocTas-Au...) #geoscience #minerals #geochemistry



## **2<sup>nd</sup> May**

Speaker: Dr Imogen Wegman

Title: The Messiness of Colonial Exploration and Cartography

Venue: In person at RST Lecture Room, TMAG and via Zoom webinar

Recording:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGkde2PLDW0&list=PLzn2N4MvUU\\_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA\\_J0y&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGkde2PLDW0&list=PLzn2N4MvUU_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA_J0y&index=3)

## **23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Event: A Hybrid Event – Royal Society of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Division of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering

Speakers: Professor Nathan Bindoff, Professor Mary O’Kane FTSE, and Andrew Catchpole

Title: Climate Challenges and the Path to Mitigation

Venue: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, University of Tasmania

Recording:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYulZ7yRcpY&list=PLzn2N4MvUU\\_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA\\_J0y&index=4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYulZ7yRcpY&list=PLzn2N4MvUU_eGkhSJlqC2uzm4sjpA_J0y&index=4)

## **12 July 2021**

Speaker: Susannah Fullerton OAM FRSN

Title: *The importance of being Oscar: the life and works of Oscar Wilde.*

Venue: RST Midwinter Dinner, Royal Yacht Club Tasmania.

Live Zoom presentation

## **1<sup>st</sup> August**

Speaker: RST Doctoral Award Recipient 2020 - Dr Adam Abstersteiner

Title: Kimberlites – Volcanic Insights into Earth’s Deep Interior

Venue: Zoom webinar

Recording: <https://rst.org.au/view-recording-of-the-lecture-by-dr-adam-abersteiner-august-2021/>

## **26<sup>th</sup> August**

Event: The Royal Society of Tasmania – Beer Aquatic Event to celebrate National Science Week

Speaker: Professor Pete Strutton

Title: Dusty with a Chance of Phytoplankton

Venue: Hobart Brewing Company (live event, not recorded)

## **5<sup>th</sup> September**

Speaker: RST Doctoral Award Recipient 2020 - Dr Alessandro Silvano

Title: The Global Influence of Ice-Ocean Interaction in Antarctica

Venue: Zoom webinar

Recording: <https://rst.org.au/view-recording-of-the-lecture-by-dr-alessandro-silvano-on-september-5-2021/>



### 3rd October

Speaker: Associate Professor Rebecca Carey

Title: Volcanic Eruptions in the Deep Submarine Environment: Are the Dynamics and Products the same as on Land?

Venue: In person at RST Lecture Room, TMAG and via Zoom webinar

Recording: <https://rst.org.au/view-recording-of-the-lecture-by-associate-professor-rebecca-carey-october-2021/>

### 7<sup>th</sup> November

Speaker: Dr Lila Landowski

Title: Brain Hack: Sharing the Secrets to Productive Learning, Backed by Neuroscience

Venue: In person at RST Lecture Room, TMAG and via Zoom webinar

Recording: <https://rst.org.au/view-recording-of-the-lecture-by-dr-lila-landowski-november-2021/>

### 9<sup>th</sup> December

Speaker: Christmas Lecture, Professor Greg Lehman

Title: Terra Nullius in Tasmanian Colonial Art

Venue: In-person lecture at the RYCT and recorded for YouTube

Recording: <https://rst.org.au/view-recording-of-the-lecture-by-professor-greg-lehman-december-2021/>



Assoc Professor Julie Rimes  
Events Committee



## MEDIA & PUBLICITY

2021 saw the continuation of the delivery of RST monthly lectures, State-wide, on Sunday afternoons, with most presentations utilising both in-person presentations, and online lecture broadcasts using Zoom. Lectures continued to be recorded and uploaded to the RST YouTube channel.

Online broadcasts of RST lectures were widely promoted by the Publicity Committee on social media outlets, attracting audiences from outside of the RST, including both Australia-wide and overseas.

While RST Facebook and Twitter accounts continue to provide the most prominent, and increasingly important means of publicising RST events and activities, local promotion via the RST website, ABC Radio interviews, flyer distribution through established email networks, and online event listings maintained by QVMAG and the UTAS Event Calendar ensure a wide distribution of information.

The RST Facebook page ([facebook.com/RoyalSocietyTas](https://facebook.com/RoyalSocietyTas)) is managed by Chel Bardell from the Publicity Committee. As of the end of 2021, the Facebook page had 845 followers (an increase of 154 from 2020) and published over 94 posts, and 22 events listings during the calendar year. The posts alone attracted over 15,000 engagements and resulted in the total number of page 'likes' reaching 771. In June of 2021, the first paid advertising was initiated on the RST Facebook account to advertise a joint symposium with The Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering. This resulted in 3,486 engagements, and an encouraging audience participation figure.

The Twitter account ([twitter.com/RoyalSocTas](https://twitter.com/RoyalSocTas)) was managed during 2021 by Publicity Officer, Dr Adele Wilson, posting updates on lectures, awards, events, and other relevant information, yielding increased impressions, profile views, and new followers. Mentions of RST activities in tweets from other accounts also increased.



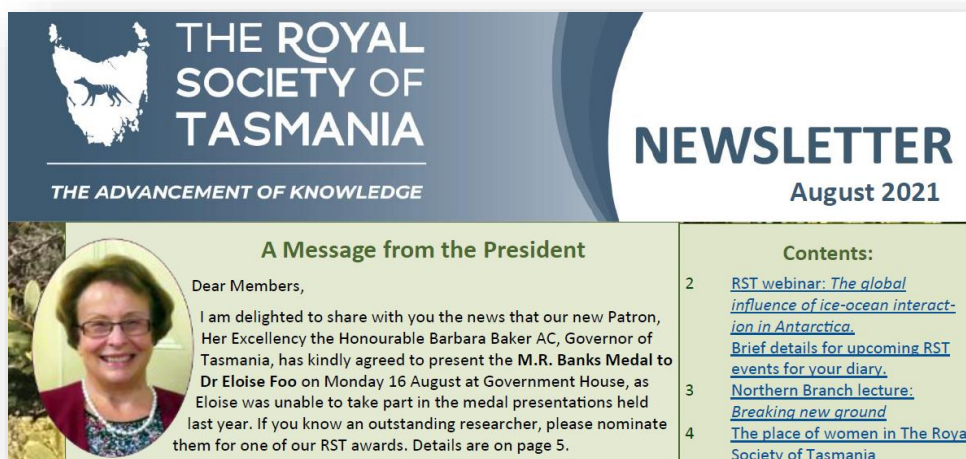
Dr Adele Wilson and Chel Bardell's work on social media, on behalf of the Society, requires many hours of input and planning in maintaining this important online presence. Chel's work in the preparation of event listings opens a wide promotional avenue, as it allows other interested people and groups to distribute the RST event information throughout their own networks.

Dr Adele Wilson's Publicity Officer role further includes the distributed RST information of Southern lectures and events through email networks to interest groups and organisations such as 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 Australian Antarctic Division, von Humboldt Fellows, Friends of TMAG, and to any groups with an interest in lecture topics. Christine Beswick, Northern Branch Secretary, promoted Northern lectures via similar email networks involving schools, Northern organisations and institutions, and other interested groups.



In addition to RST events, the Publicity Committee utilised all relevant publicity channels to announce and invite nominations for all Royal Society of Tasmania Medals and Awards, as well as distributing news items of interest to Society members.

Publicity and promotion of RST events and activities is not limited to the Publicity Committee alone. Both the Royal Society's monthly newsletter, and the Royal Society's website, are important means of communicating with members, and sincere thanks go to our Newsletter Editor, Bernard Pryor, and to our Website manager, Prof. Jocelyn McPhie and website master, Eddy Steenbergen for their hard work in compilation and distribution. Their time and efforts are greatly appreciated.



Sincere thanks must go to our hard-working President, Mary Koolhof, for her ongoing work with the local media, and in her continual identification of new opportunities for promotion. Thank you also to Council and other RST members who have helped to publicise events, shared newsletters, flyers and social media posts, and who have invited friends and colleagues to events, ensuring ongoing interest in the Society's activities.

Thanks must also go to morning ABC Local Radio hosts, including Ryk Goddard and Leon Compton, and to ABC Local radio producers Rachel Edwards and Penny McLeod for their support in enabling our guest lecturers and RST Award and Medal winners to be interviewed on air. Thank you to the UTAS Events team, including Jeanette Farnell and Belinda Brock, for inclusion of our lecture information on the UTAS public events calendar and associated email newsletter.

Thank you to Dipon Sarkar, Communications and Events Manager for National Science Week 2021, for inclusion of RST National Science Week events through the National Science Week websites and related social media accounts. The promotion of RST National Science Week events state-wide is significant, ongoing, and greatly appreciated.

Thanks also to Chel Bardell for stepping into the Publicity Officer role during 2021 while Adele Wilson was unavailable. Her work promoting lectures in both the North and the South through Facebook and other media channels is a time-consuming task, but 2021 has yet again seen the broadening of the RST audience as a significant result.

**Chel Bardell**  
**Acting Publicity Officer**

## HONOURS & AWARDS

The Royal Society of Tasmania medals and awards recognise outstanding scholars at PhD, early, mid and senior stages of their careers. The 2021 Honours and Awards Committee comprised Dr Margaret Davies OAM, Professor Jocelyn McPhie (Chair), Dr Eva Meidl, Professor Jim Reid and Dr Steve Rintoul. The committee has the responsibility of seeking and assessing nominations for the Royal Society of Tasmania medals and awards.

In June 2021, the Royal Society of Tasmania offered three medals: The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal, reserved for a distinguished scholar who is also an active member of the Society; the MR Banks Medal, awarded to an outstanding mid-career scholar; and the RM Johnston Medal, intended to acknowledge a scholar of great distinction in any field within the Society's purview.



The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal was awarded to Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM, a distinguished scholar in the fields of architectural history and conservation and in psychiatry, as well as a long-term and active member of the Society, serving currently as President of the Northern Branch and on three previous occasions (1974-1975, 1990, 2014).

The MR Banks Medal was awarded to Assoc Prof Rebecca Carey for her outstanding contributions to volcanology. Dr Carey is an Associate Professor at the University of Tasmania and has established an international profile in research on volcanic eruption mechanisms and eruption products in less than seven years, full-time equivalent since graduation.

The RM Johnston Medal was not awarded in 2021. This medal is normally awarded every five years, but given that it was not awarded in 2021, it will be offered again in 2023.

The annual Doctoral Awards were advertised in October 2021, one award being reserved for nominations in non-Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) disciplines, and the other award being open. Twenty-six nominations were received - 20 in the STEMM category and six in the non-

STEMM category. The nominee cohort in both categories was exceptionally strong and covered diverse fields of research.

The two successful nominees were Dr Pratiksha Srivastava in the STEMM category, and Dr Rhondda Waterworth in the non-STEMM category. Dr Srivastava is an engineer who has developed a new bioelectrical method of treating wastewater. Dr Srivastava currently holds a postgraduate position at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain. Dr Waterworth is a psychologist and lawyer. Her PhD thesis focused on procedures followed by magistrates and her recommendations have been incorporated in the Handbook for Judicial Officers in NSW. She is currently in Lyon, France, where she is a lecturer at the Catholic University as well as operating in private practice as a psychologist.

Two medals (Peter Smith Medal, Clive Lord Medal) and the Doctoral Awards are scheduled for 2022.



**The Royal Society of Tasmania**

2 October 2021 • 🌐

Tomorrow, Sunday 3rd October, 3pm - "Volcanic eruptions in the deep submarine environment: Are the dynamics and products the same as on land?" - a public lecture by Associate Professor Rebecca Carey.

The Royal Society of Tasmania lecture room, TMAG, Hobart. The lecture will be presented in person, and via Zoom webinar.

To attend in person, register via Eventbrite before Saturday 2nd October using this link... [See more](#)



(Left) 2021 MR Banks Medal winner Assoc Prof Rebecca Carey (Right) 2020 Peter Smith Medal winner Dr Frances Sussmilch with RST President Mary Koolhof at the RST Lecture Room in April 2021.

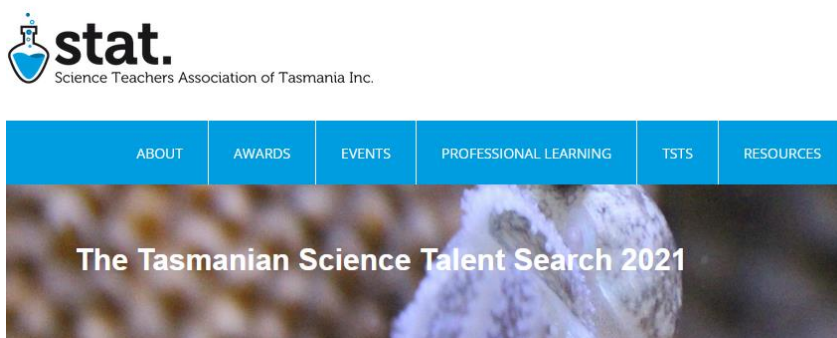
**Prof Jocelyn McPhie**  
**Honours & Awards Committee**

## BURSARIES

In 2021, the Royal Society offered bursaries to Tasmanian secondary/senior secondary students to represent Australia at an overseas/international event. The bursaries were offered in the fields of science, mathematics, engineering, arts, humanities, and social sciences, in keeping with the aim of the society of 'advancing knowledge' in a wide variety of ways. These bursaries and the application process were advertised to government, independent and Catholic schools, subject associations, curriculum leaders, and on the RST website.

Unfortunately, this part of the Royal Society's activities was once again impacted upon by the COVID-19 pandemic.

It had been anticipated that it would probably not be until 2022, and possibly 2023, that bursary applications and thus financial commitment by the Royal Society would be required to any significant degree. Funds in the Bursary account are accumulating ready for future use.



The Society again supported the Tasmanian Science Talent Search (TSTS), conducted by the Tasmanian Science Teachers Association (STAT), sponsoring sections of the competition, which incorporates a range of learning disciplines. Marley Large presented some of these awards on behalf of The Royal Society, at an Awards Presentation Ceremony held at the University of Tasmania in November. This event additionally provided a means of publicising the Royal Society.

**Dr Deborah Beswick**  
**Bursary Committee**



## ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

The Royal Society of Tasmania Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people was delivered on 15 February 2021, in person at the Courtyard, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart and via livestream. This was an important step for the Society, marking responsibility for past actions and a commitment to building a better relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal people. The Apology followed a great deal of work by committee members and consultation with relevant people and groups. A framed copy hangs in the Society's lecture room at TMAG and a digital copy is available on the RST website.

In March, Prof Matt King stepped down as Chair while remaining on the Committee and President Mary Koolhof took up the chairing of the committee. During the year Mary met with several key members of the Aboriginal community to share perspectives.

On 4 November fourteen RST Council members and Office Manager Ruth Mollison participated in a Cultural Awareness Training Day conducted by Dewayne Everett-Smith from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre as an important step in re-setting the relationship of the RST with Tasmanian Aboriginal people. The training, held at piyura kitina Aboriginal Centre at Risdon Cove, focused on Aboriginal life before colonisation; impacts of colonisation and the community today; Aboriginal heritage; cultural appropriateness, respect and acknowledgment; traditional and contemporary cultural practices.



**RST members participating in Cultural Awareness Training conducted by Dewayne Everett-Smith from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre and Certificate of Completion awarded to RST participants.**

It is now the usual practice of the Society to begin all events and Council meetings with an Acknowledgement of Country, intended to show respect for Tasmanian Aboriginal people and their history and knowledge. Similar wording now appears in all the Society's publications. These are important landmarks for a changed way of relating with, and recognition of, Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

Discussions were held during the year regarding a possible symposium to share Aboriginal knowledge and perspectives. It was decided not to hold the symposium in 2021 but to work towards a future event. The Council resolved to aim for at least one Aboriginal speaker each year in the Society's lecture program.

I would like to thank all the Aboriginal Engagement Committee Members for their commitment to this important aspect of the Society's work.

**Mary Koolhof**  
**Aboriginal Engagement Committee**

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

As Student Councillor in 2021 I have played a small role on the Events Committee, assisting with the on-ground delivery of several public events, attended the Launceston centenary lecture, and supported the RST table at the CONSTAT (Science Teachers Association of Tasmania) Conference. The first joint Royal Society of Tasmania-Beer Aquatic event held on Thursday 26 August was a resounding success. To a packed house at the Hobart Brewing Company, Professor Pete Strutton gave a great talk, 'Dusty with a chance of phytoplankton', on the link between land and ocean ecosystems.



Beer Aquatic – RST joint event Thursday 26 August 2021. L-R: Speaker Prof Peter Strutton, co-organiser and MC Dr Will Hobbs, RST Council member Shasta Henry

I have also continued with UTAS student tours of the RST Library (initiated in 2020) and begun collaborations with the broader special collections team about a joint RST/Utas public event to be developed and delivered in 2022.

### CONSTAT Conference

The RST staffed a booth at the Science Teachers Association of Tasmania Conference in March. We sold several publications to enthusiastic teachers. We also attempted to increase membership engagement with a special offer of one classroom visit by a RST member/subject specialist as a collegial exchange for new teacher memberships. We attracted several new members but have had no call to deliver a specialist classroom visit.

**RECOMMENDATION:** There were concerns on unmitigated demands on members who volunteered for this program. I believe no demand can put those fears to bed and encourage us to further develop this initiative for rewarding engagement in 2022.



## RST Library Tours

Library tours, designed as the Student Councillor initiative in 2020 were continued in 2021. With the idea to bridge the gap between the UTAS student body and the RST. Eight students attended this year; four from the Young Tassie Scientists program, three by word of mouth and one from posted flyers. Interests that students hoped to engage during their visits included: historical maps of Aboriginal habitation, overseas immigrant habitation, historical architecture and urban planning; a familiarity of old books after inheriting some from a grandparent; and information about the Hobart Zoo.

**RECOMMENDATION:** As with last year, a shortfall of the activity is that no way was identified to tie the RST Library tours to improved student recruitment/membership with the Royal Society. I will propose free access for students to the RST lectures for tour attendees at the beginning of business 2022.

A video version of the tour is still intended and still outstanding. The perils of employing a PhD student.

## Tasmanian Aboriginal community and the RST

I was pleased to attend the RST official apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal People in February and Cultural Awareness Training which was provided to Council members in November. As part of this momentum within the society I also contributed an article to the Papers and Proceedings derived from one of my PhD chapters about the inclusion of *palawa kani* language in invertebrate taxonomy. That work is continuing for a collaborative treatment of Tasmanian Aboriginal language in species names, forecast for 2022.



Shasta Henry at CONSTAT convincing Costa Georgiadis from Gardening Australia that gnomes and insects do mix!

Shasta Henry  
Student Representative

## STYLE GUIDE & LOGO

After much discussion by Council it was resolved to establish a committee to investigate the possibility of defining a new logo and style guide for the RST. Although the RST logo had served us well, it was considered “old fashioned” and difficult to reproduce for modern uses such as the website and social media communications. Also, it became quickly illegible when reduced in size.

Consequently, a committee was established with membership of Professor Jocelyn McPhie, Shasta Henry, Dr Adele Wilson, Professor Ross Large AO (co-chair) and David Wilson (co-chair). The services of Bec Adamczewski (Becski Design) were employed to advise the committee and complete the required artwork for possible designs.

The Council requested that the basic elements of Tasmania and the thylacine be retained, and after several iterations the final agreed logo, subsequently approved by council, is shown below in vertical and horizontal format.



Subsequent designs were approved by Council for:

- The RST letterhead
- RST banners
- Masthead for *Papers and Proceedings*
- Masthead for RST web page, Twitter, YouTube and Face Book
- RST membership card
- Various certificates

Finally, a style guide was developed to provide instructions on the use of the logo and associated materials. The committee was disbanded in December 2021.

**Prof Ross Large AO and David Wilson**  
**Logo & Style Guide Committee**

## ROYAL SOCIETY ART COLLECTION

It has been an incredible year for the Art Works Committee, achieving what many thought impossible, in gaining recognition that RST is the rightful owner of 904 artworks, that were loaned to TMAG in 1965. This is a very important colonial art collection, comprising watercolours, sketches and lithographs by well known, and not so well known, Tasmanian artists. It will become known as the “Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection”.

Dr Anita Hansen and Marley Large were engaged in research on the issue of ownership for two years, starting in mid-2019 and completed a very detailed report on the provenance and ownership of the artwork in June 2021.

The RST-TMAG joint working committee set up in 2019 to resolve the ownership issue, could not come to a satisfactory agreement by the middle of 2021. In August 2021 the RST President wrote to the TMAG Board, detailing the RST position as follows:

### **The RST position:**

1. If TMAG can produce firm documentary evidence of ownership of any items on the 1965 Loans List, RST will acknowledge TMAG ownership of these items.
2. If both parties have partial evidence of ownership for any artwork, the RST is willing to enter into a joint ownership agreement for these items.
3. If there is no compelling evidence contrary to RST ownership of the remaining artworks on a without prejudice basis the RST will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to be negotiated with TMAG. That MOU would place this important body of colonial art, owned by the RST, on long-term loan with TMAG. The negotiated MOU would include the TMAG standard loan agreement and the other matters set out in the draft Memorandum of Understanding previously submitted by RST to TMAG.

TMAG did not respond to this request, which was repeated several times, and consequently RST had no choice but to request a mediation session with TMAG and Tasmanian Government representatives to finally resolve the ownership issue.

The mediation session was held on November 26<sup>th</sup>. RST was represented by our President Mary Koolhof, committee members Marley Large, Dr Anita Hansen, Professor Ross Large AO and solicitor James Crotty. TMAG representatives were Paul Turner Assistant Solicitor General for Tasmania, Dashini Elankovan Legal Practitioner, Jane Stewart TMAG Art Curator and Scott Baddiley TMAG Board member.

At the start of the mediation TMAG claimed ownership of 132 paintings on the 1965 Loans List, but at the end of the mediation they could only prove ownership of 18 of these paintings; RST had successfully demonstrated ownership of the other 114 artworks. In addition, RST demonstrated and won ownership of a further 21 artworks which were in the TMAG catalogue but not on the Loans List.

Overall, the agreement, to be signed early in 2022, shows that 904 artworks are owned by RST and a further 2 will be owned jointly by RST and TMAG. Famous Tasmanian artists including John Skinner Prout, Louisa Anne Meredith, Charles Piguenit, Simpkinson de Wesselow, Eugene Von Guerard and John Gould are amongst many others represented in our collection.

This is an incredible outcome and justifies all the hard work by the RST Artworks committee, especially Dr Anita Hansen and Marley Large, over several years, in their determination to search out all the evidence that enabled us to prove RST ownership. Mary Koolhof, who led our side of the mediation, did a

magnificent job, and without her contribution, and the valuable guidance of James Crotty, we would not have had such an overwhelming success. We also wish to thank the Joint RST-TMAG working committee, and particularly Jane Stewart and Paul Westbury, for their professionalism and assistance during the negotiations toward this outcome.

It is disappointing that we could not demonstrate ownership of four beautiful and very valuable landscape black and white oils by the famous Tasmanian artist WG Piguenit, however we did secure many of his water colours and sketches. Also 37 exquisite paintings of fishes by Louisa Anne Meredith were not resolved, under the condition that we reserve the right to challenge their ownership at a later date when we have sufficient firm evidence.

This successful outcome is only the beginning of a journey where RST will embark on a fund-raising campaign to commence a restoration programme for some of the most vulnerable artworks and design a schedule of regular exhibitions of the “Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection”. At the December meeting of Council Dr Anita Hansen was appointed Honorary Curator for the RST Art Collection.



Dr Anita Hansen (right) discussing the art collection with President Mary Koolhof (centre) with Librarian Juliet Beale (left) inspecting the works. Dr Hansen has now been appointed Honorary Curator of the RST Art Collection.

Prof Ross Large AO  
Artwork Committee

# NORTHERN BRANCH – 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

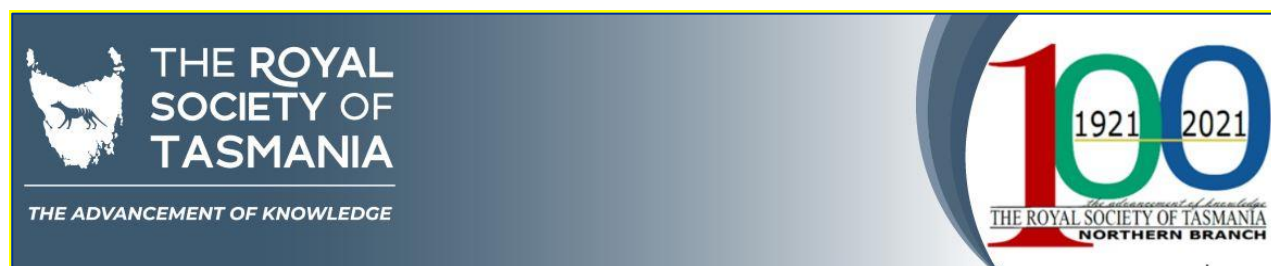
Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM was elected unopposed to the position of President at the March AGM. Mr Robin Walpole resigned from the position of Honorary Treasurer in July and was replaced by Mr Neil MacKinnon. The Management Committee met twelve times during the year, six times prior to lectures and otherwise via Zoom Meetings. Committee members communicated frequently on other occasions as necessary, by email and telephone.

## NORTHERN COLLECTION OF THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

Accessions, including donations, to the Northern Branch Library collection are administered under the experienced hand of Mr Andrew Parsons, who is an ex officio member of the Northern Branch Management Committee.

## WEBSITE

The Northern section of the Society's website is maintained from Hobart by the Society's Webmaster. Ms Chel Bardell has been assisting by publishing Northern material on the Royal Society's Facebook page and Twitter account. We are grateful to Dr Robert Johnson for facilitating the uploading of webinar recordings on the Society's YouTube channel.



## VENUE

The improving pandemic situation allowed the resumption of face-to-face meetings in 2021, with all lectures being simultaneously broadcast as Zoom webinars.

The Committee acknowledges the assistance extended to the Branch by the City of Launceston Council through our official Partnership with 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 are grateful to Mrs Tracy Puklowski, QVMAG Director and Mr Dan Ryan, Acting Director after her resignation, 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 Bent Eared Records have been used for face-to-face meetings and have also provided video recordings of lectures.

## NEWSLETTER

All Northern lectures and other activities were included in the monthly State newsletter for distribution to all members in 2021. Northern members were also kept up to date with the change to online program delivery via the Branch's own newsletter, kindly edited by Mrs Melanie Morris.



## LECTURE PROGRAM 2021

The Committee extends its thanks to all 2021 speakers for their generosity and for the excellence of their presentations. This year's program has again been notable for the quality of the speakers and for the healthy attendances at many of our lectures. Each guest speaker was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a book, as a token of thanks for their contribution.

Admission to Northern face-to-face lectures is free to all Royal Society members and to all children under 16 years of age. The admission price in 2021 remained as for 2020, viz. \$6 for the general public, with a discounted price of \$4 for members of the Launceston Historical Society, members of the Friends of QVMAG and TMAG, and secondary students and tertiary students who were half-time or greater.

DATE	2021	LECTURER	LECTURE TITLE	ATTENDANCE
28 Feb		Prof David Bowman	Pyrogeographic thinking	35 (27)
28 Mar		Dr Katie Flanagan	Global and Australian Perspectives for COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout	45 (23)
25 April	6th Annual QVMAG Staff lecture	Dr Christine Hansen	Telling the stories of kanamaluka	71 (21)
23 May		Dr Jennifer Lavers	Impact of Plastics on Marine Wildlife	57 (46)
27 June	Northern Branch Centenary Lecture	Mr Ralph Bottrill	What made Tasmania?	107 (30)
25 July		Prof John Whittington	Growing Australia's Blue Economy	42 (2*)
22 Aug	Science Week Forum: University of Tasmania PhD Candidates	Kate Edwards	Exercise induced gut damage and the microbiome	44 (15)
		Priya Bindal	Oral health related quality of life in the older population	
		Eric Gubesch	Electricity from waves	
12 Sep	Joint Meeting with Geological Society of Australia	A/Prof Sebastien Meffre	East Meet West	67 (25)
26 Sep		Sarah Lloyd	My Life in Slime	43 (24)
24 Oct		Tim Smallbon	Breathing New Life	44 (10)
28 Nov		Dr Greg Woods	A Double Devil Dilemma	40 (13)
			* Low online attendance rate in July was caused by technical problems.	(xx) indicates webinar participants.

## CENTENARY

The Branch was fortunate to be able to resume regular meetings with full capacity in the meeting room on 27 June 2021 in time to celebrate the official date of the centenary. Invited guests included the Mayor of Launceston, Mr Albert van Zetten, and Mrs Lyndle van Zetten, contributors to the special Northern edition of the *Papers and Proceedings*, and representatives of local organisations. The Governor of Tasmania, the Honourable Barbara Baker AC and her husband, distinguished Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO, attended what was their first engagement in Northern Tasmania. The Northern Branch President Dr Eric Ratcliff OAM welcomed the distinguished guests and invited Her Excellency to deliver a speech on 'The place of the Royal Society of Tasmania in current day Tasmania'. This was followed by the launch of the Special Edition Centenary Journal by Mary Koolhof who presented copies to those authors who were in attendance and to the daughter of the late Fred Smithies who kindly gave permission to use the photograph that appears on the cover. Contributors to the Journal were mostly northern authors writing about northern subjects ranging from geology, astronomy and faunal studies to more history-based subjects such as the European use of dolerite as a building material in Tasmania, the creation history of the Northern Branch, iodine deficiency, and the survival of aboriginal life and culture in the Bass Strait Islands. A valuable technical element has been added by Peter King from the Australian Maritime College with an article on robotic exploration using autonomous underwater vehicles in Antarctica. At the conclusion of the launch, Mary presented a specially bound edition of what she has described as one of the best *Papers and Proceedings* ever published by the Society, to the Branch for their Library.



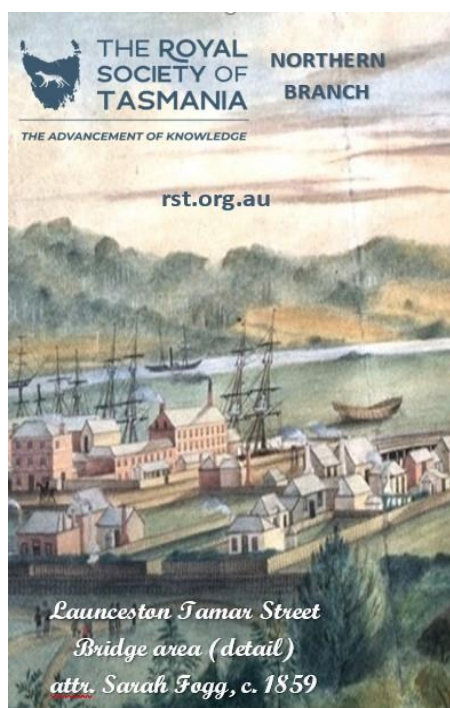
(Left) items on display at QVMAG for the Northern Centenary celebration. (Right) Dr Ian Knight working on the Lambkin-Knight butterfly collection shortly before he died aged 90.



As the guest speaker at the first lecture in 1921 was a geologist, the Branch thought it appropriate to invite another to give the Centenary lecture. Geologist, mineralogist, and petrologist at Mineral Resources Tasmania Ralph Bottrill delivered an extremely well received lecture titled 'What made Tasmania?' with great enthusiasm.

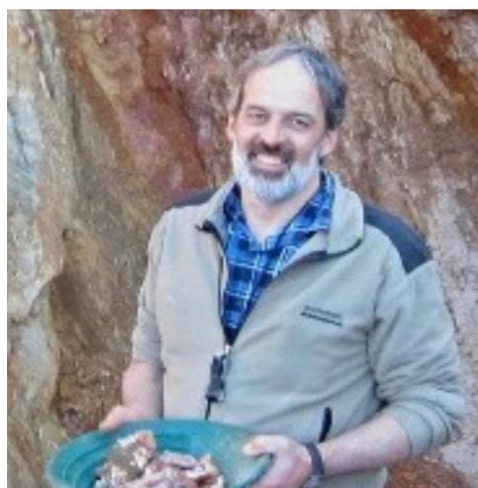
Management and Centenary Committee member Lynette Ross has been largely responsible for bringing to fruition the impressive list of centenary events:

- The 2021 calendar was dedicated to the Northern Branch.

- The publication of a special edition of the *Papers and Proceedings* of The Royal Society of Tasmania with subjects pertaining to the north. A specially bound copy was presented by President Mrs Mary Koolhof to Northern Branch President Dr Eric Ratcliff at the centenary lecture.
- An exhibition featuring the history of the Northern Branch was prepared by QVMAG for display in the foyer of the museum at Inveresk.
- Three new banners with sections of artwork depicting early Launceston attributed to Sarah Fogg.
- Bookmarks featuring two of the paintings from the 2021 calendar were designed and widely distributed.
- A Mayoral Reception was held at the Launceston Town Hall.
- The Branch raised funds to purchase a storage cabinet to assist in housing the Lambkin-Knight butterfly collection recently donated to QVMAG as their centenary gift to the museum.



 The Royal Society of Tasmania  
20 June 2021 •   
What made Tasmania? - A public lecture to celebrate the Centenary of the Royal Society of Tasmania, Northern Branch, by Ralph Bottrill  
Sunday, 27th June 2021, 1.30pm  
Meeting Room, QVMAG, Inveresk, Launceston.... [See more](#)



(Left) Newly designed Northern Branch banner  
(Above) Northern Centenary lecture presented by geologist Ralph Bottrill.

## EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

Dr Ratcliff OAM was compelled to take leave in the last couple of months of 2021 due to health problems and asked Immediate Past President Dr Frank Madill to take over the reins as Acting President until he can resume the position. It has been a successful year despite the necessary restrictions caused by the pandemic precautions, and we owe special thanks to our Honorary Secretary, Mrs Christine Beswick, for her hard work and dedication to a demanding job, to Ms Lynette Ross for her commitment to the Centenary program, and to Ms Chel Bardell for her work at State Publications Committee on behalf of the Branch. Thanks are due to Mrs Julie Walpole, for her continuing 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.

Dr Frank Madill, AM  
Acting President

Mrs Christine Beswick  
Honorary Secretary

# STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS, YEAR TO 31 DEC 2021 NORTHERN BRANCH

Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch)		
Year 2020	Financial Report - Year to 31 December 2021	
\$		\$
	<b>Receipts</b>	
106	Door Receipts from non-member patrons	1,300
2,000	Operating Grant from State Council	2,000
	RST Grant - Iodine Symposium Sponsorship	1,200
0	Revenue RST merchandise	883
1,025	Butterfly Collection Donations	
8	Other	
<u>3,139</u>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>5,383</u>
	<b>Payments</b>	
585	Audio-Visual Recording	2,480
	Laminating Speakers Certificates	
	Postage, Printing and Photocopying	61
68	Catering	
2	Bank Fees	39
	50% Share of Merchandise to RST Council	362
3,090	Butterfly Cabinet Cost	
	Sponsorship Iodine Symposium	1,200
1,417	Webinar Licensing costs	1,309
385	Centenary Costs	1,543
<u>5,547</u>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>6,994</u>
<u>-2,408</u>	<b>Net Receipts/Payments</b>	<u>-1,612</u>
	<b>Total Funds on Hand</b>	
	Bank Balance	2,269
	Cash Float	200
	<b>Current Funds</b>	<u>2,469</u>
	<b>Accounts Due Not Yet Paid</b>	
	50% of RST publications sales	79
	Audio/Visual Recording	240
	Catering Centenary	610
	Admin Expenses R/I Hon Secretary	200
	GSA 50% of door takings 12/9	103
		<u>1,232</u>
	<b>Available Funds</b>	<u>1,238</u>

# RST FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the society's activities this year. The procedures setup in 2020 continued to operate smoothly throughout this year and with a return to face to face lectures and events, including a midwinter dinner as well as the usual Christmas lecture and dinner.

Influences on the 2021 financial results included:

- The ongoing additional costs of live streaming lectures
- A decision to replace the annual RST calendar with a notebook for this year
- Two editions of the *Papers and Proceedings* were published this year
- Our apology to the Aboriginal People of Tasmania
- The refreshing of our logo and associated stationery

The AMD book continued to enjoy strong sales. Our international exposure continues through our live stream lectures via Zoom with lecture and other podcast available via YouTube continued.

The financial results for the year 2021 are pleasing, exceeding the deficit budget that was forecast. The ordinary income achieved was better than the previous period, also exceeding the budget projections.

Publication sales provide a considerable proportion of the society's income (see chart below).

For the financial period of 2021, revenues relied on the following main items:

• Book sales (inc. AMD Book)	\$19,375
• Calendar & card sales	\$ 4,897
• Donations	\$ 7,900
• Grants	\$ 6,000
• Membership dues	\$26,670
• <i>Papers &amp; Proceedings</i>	\$ 2,133

Membership revenue was up both on the budget and the previous year's results, largely due to the additional effort of our Membership Secretary. Members who take the *Papers & Proceedings* contribute about \$5,300 in additional revenue to the Society.

Interest earned on funds invested in various term deposits was reinvested and, as such is reflected, in the current balance sheet.

Expenses for the fiscal year were well below budget. No bursaries were made to students this year due to COVID-19 preventing interstate and international travel. Expenditure on Aboriginal engagement was less than expected and one invoice is still outstanding. The cost of office administration was kept well below budget due to a greater input from volunteer staff. A projected redesign of the website has been deferred until next year.



The major expense items were:

Post-Doctoral Awards

as per budget

#### Publications

Publication of AMD Book  
Publications, other

This book was reprinted as original stocks were sold out.  
Includes payment for two editions of *P&P*

#### Administration

Equipment

Is a major cost item for the Society

A new computer and printer were purchased for our office. The computer is now used for live streaming and recording RST lectures.

#### Programme Expenses

Christmas and Midwinter  
lectures and dinners

Both events are cost neutral as per budget

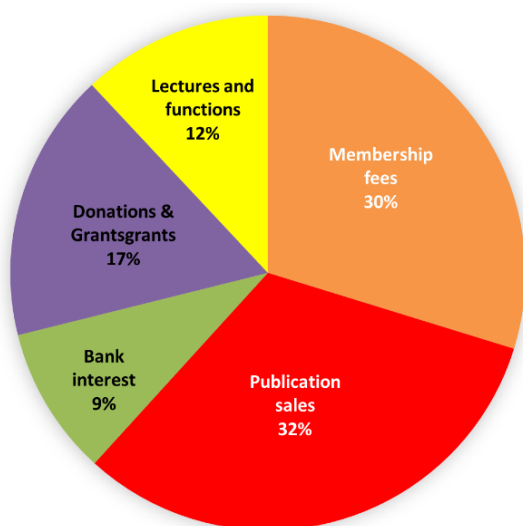
Lecture programs

Including purchase of equipment for live stream and cost of ZOOM

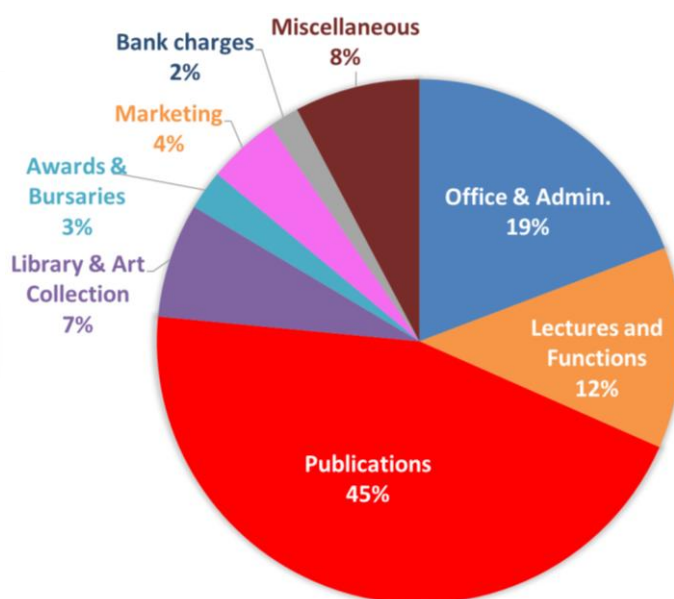
Transfer to Northern Branch

Additional this year for the sponsorship of the iodine symposium

A breakdown of income and expenditure is presented in the following two charts.



RST Income Breakdown



RST Expenditure Breakdown

The Society is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and maintains its Deductible Gift Recipient status. The Society is entitled to use the ACNC Charity Tick to indicate the legitimacy of the Society.

A budget for 2022 has been prepared for approval by the Council. This budget document will help to provide good operating guidelines and cash flow requirements for the coming year.

The Society's Current Credit Balances, Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2021 are provided.

Mr David Wilson  
Honorary Treasurer



ABN 65 889 598 100

RST FUNDS CURRENT CREDIT BALANCES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021					
CBA Current Account Balance	39,298.10				Interest
CBA VISA Account Balance	1,000.00				
My State Bank Term Deposit 1	35,319.69	maturing	02/04/2022	0.65%	641.55
My State Bank Term Deposit 2	34,997.38	maturing	30/06/2022	0.65%	1347.83
Total RST Transaction	<b>110,615.17</b>				
Foundation	<b>540,720.47</b>				
Total RST	<b>651,335.64</b>				

Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 31 December 2021				
	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019	
<b>Ordinary Income</b>				
Christmas Dinner	4,875	4,290	3,916	
Total Deductible	9,162	7,703	12,840	
Grants	6,000	9,500	6,000	
<b>Total Grants and Donations Income</b>	<b>15,162</b>	<b>17,203</b>	<b>18,840</b>	
Interest Earned	1,989	2,699	-	
Membership Dues				
Full – No Papers	13,715	12,215	10,725	
Full – with Papers	12,830	9,090	9,618	
Student – No Papers	75	100	205	
Student – With Papers	50	50	150	
<b>Total Membership Dues</b>	<b>26,670</b>	<b>21,455</b>	<b>20,698</b>	
Programme Income	5852	520	348	
Publications				
Aust Mineral Discoverers Income	19,375	48,949	18,335	
Calendar & Card Sales	4,897	7,250	9,550	
Papers & Proceedings	2,133	2,065	8,852	
Postage & Handling	2,254	2,154	-	
Total Publications	<b>28,658</b>	<b>60,418</b>	<b>36,737</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>83,206</b>	<b>106,585</b>	<b>80,539</b>	

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Bank Service Charges	1,579	1,035	1,250
Bursaries and Awards Expenses	2,045	2,900	7,505
Dues and Subscriptions	275	-	-
Marketing & Advertising	3,649	2,212	749
Aboriginal Engagement	4,537	-	-
Miscellaneous - Other	1,389	2,565	2,806
Office & Admin. Expenses			
Administration	6,913	7,583	6,279
Insurance	1,946	1,970	1,503
Internet & Software	1,900	1,453	600
Meeting Expenses	78	988	4,742
Office Printing and Postage	815	864	360
Office Supplies & Equipment	2,743	2,407	917
Parking Expense	1,655	1,283	1,226
<b>Total Office &amp; Admin. Expenses</b>	<b>16,049</b>	<b>16,548</b>	<b>15,627</b>
Professional Fees	250	200	1,390
Programme Expense			
Christmas Dinner	227	4,301	3,793
Lectures & Meetings	6,937	4,853	1,000
Transfer to Northern Branch	3,200	2,000	1,000
<b>Total Programme Expense</b>	<b>10,364</b>	<b>11,154</b>	<b>5,793</b>
Publication Expenses			
Books	16,186	22,891	79
Calendars / RST Notebook	5,863	6,337	6,227
Papers & Proceedings Production	13,781	17,882	0
Postage and Handling	1,664	1,328	1,777
<b>Total Publication Expenses</b>	<b>37,495</b>	<b>48,438</b>	<b>8,083</b>
RST Art Collection			
Legal Fees	5,750	-	-
<b>Total RST Art Collection</b>	<b>5,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
RST Library	150	5,550	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>83,532</b>	<b>90,602</b>	<b>43,203</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-325</b>	<b>15,983</b>	<b>37,336</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Dec 31, 2021	Dec 31, 2020	Dec 31, 2019
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
As at 1 January 2021/2020/2019	185,170	169,188	131,852
Surplus/Shortfall	-325	15,982	37,336
As at 31 Dec 2021/2020/2019	<b>184,845</b>	<b>185,170</b>	<b>169,188</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
CBA Current Account	44,958	44,796	32,016
CBA VISA Account	1,000	1,000	
My State Term Deposit 30020969 maturing April 2nd, 2022	35,320	34,678	33,764
My State Term Deposit 30024910 maturing June 29th, 2022	34,997	33,650	33,650
Sub-total	<b>116,275</b>	<b>114,124</b>	<b>99,429</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>			
Publications, Books, Calendars & Cards	68,569	71,046	69,758
Medals & Office Furniture etc. written-off	-	-	-
Sub-total	<b>68,569</b>	<b>71,046</b>	<b>69,758</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>184,845</b>	<b>185,170</b>	<b>169,188</b>

**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. Ownership of the bulk of the collection has recently been established with a very few 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, but is estimated to be worth about \$45,000.
6. Publications, books, cards and office equipment used and stored at the Society's office are estimated at \$68,569.
7. Other assets, such as office furniture and medals are fully written-down.
8. The Society is a registered entity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and will retain the Deductible Gift Recipient status.



David Wilson  
Honorary Treasurer  
10 January 2022

Email: [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au) Phone: +61 3 6165 7014 ABN: 65 889 598 100  
Mailing address: GPO Box 1166, Hobart TAS 7001 Street address: 19 Davey Street, Hobart TAS 7000





# **Richard H James**

ABN: 40 849 023 979

*Registered Tax Agent and Public Accountant*

*P O Box 501, Rosny Park 7018*

*21 Riawena Road, Montagu Bay, TAS 7018*

*Phone: (03)62445142      Mobile: 0418 135 808*

*Email: rjames@trump.net.au*



INSTITUTE OF  
PUBLIC  
ACCOUNTANTS\*

IPA#: 134606

---

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

### **1.      Scope**

I have audited the attached financial reports, of The Royal Society of Tasmania. for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. The Management Committee is responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the special purpose financial report and information contained therein. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement.

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting accounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Concepts and Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

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**

In my opinion, the special purpose financial report of The Royal Society of Tasmania. presents fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards the financial position of The Royal Society of Tasmania for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the periods then ended.

To the best of my belief and knowledge, all relevant information and explanations required have been obtained and rules relating to the administration of funds appear to have been observed.

  
Richard H James FIPA  
**AUDITOR**

24 January 2022