



# The Royal Society of Tasmania – Northern Branch

## 2024 LAUNCESTON LECTURE SERIES

LECTURES COMMENCE AT **1.30\* PM** – AT QVMAG @ INVERESK (RECORDINGS OF MOST LECTURES ARE ADDED TO THE SOCIETY'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL)

**\*START TIME VARIES AS SHOWN BELOW**

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAM – UPDATE WILL BE ISSUED LATER**

<b>February 25</b>	Professor Tim McCormack	<b>“The International Criminal Court: Ukraine and Gaza”</b> The role of the ICC in investigating war crimes in Ukraine and Gaza will be discussed, together with the prospects for Vladimir Putin being brought to trial in The Hague.
<b>** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1.15 pm, March 24th **</b>		
<b>March 24</b>	Professor Russell G Smith	<b>“Pandemics and Fraud”</b> This talk identifies the fraud risks created by pandemics throughout history and considers how successful we’ve been in preventing the economic harms arising from them.
<b>April 28</b> <i>Elvin Fist Lecture</i>	Professor Dom Geraghty	<b>“The University of Tasmania Northern Transformation Project ... Eight Years on”</b> The Northern Transformation of the University of Tasmania in Launceston is now becoming a reality with three new buildings and one refurbishment
<b>May 26</b>	Dr Anna Wrobel-Tobiszewka and Dr Valeryia Komyakova	<b>“Microplastics in Tasmania”</b> How present is microplastic in Tasmanian waters, soils and food, and what can we do about it?
<b>June 23</b>	Dr Hannah Fair	<b>“Modifying health and lifestyle factors to reduce dementia risk”</b> There is strong evidence that a series of modifiable health and lifestyle factors contribute to dementia risk. The presentation will discuss these risk factors, and outline Tasmania’s world-leading dementia risk reduction research, including the Preventing Dementia Massive Open Online Course and the ISLAND project.
<b>July 28</b> <i>Annual QVMAG Staff Lecture</i>	Ashley Bird	<b>“Bush Carpentry and the Jimmy Possum Tradition”</b> The history of this tradition is a narrative of chairs made within a small area of Northern Tasmania that is a story of mystery, unique craftsmanship and family connection.
<b>August 25</b>	John Dent OAM	<b>“York Town; then (1804 to 1806) and now”</b> This talk will outline the history of York Town, the site of the first European settlement in Northern Tasmania from 1804 to 1808 and its history in recent times.



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### September 22

**“Breaking New Ground”**: Two PhD candidates at the University of Tasmania will talk about their research.

### October 6

Dr Nick Robert

*Joint meeting with  
the Geological  
Society of Australia*

**“Tasmania’s geologically recent glacial records”** Tasmanian landforms and sediments provide the only direct records of repeated glaciation from a tectonically stable landmass in the southern mid-latitudes. Consequently, they afford key opportunities to understand Earth’s most recent ice ages. New sites and evolving techniques are expanding the understanding of Tasmania’s last few million years of cryosphere fluctuations.

### October 27

Dr Ivan James AO

**“How Can You Belong in Launceston?”** The varied experiences of refugees who have settled in Launceston and the development of the sociological concept of belonging.

### November 24

TBA