



### A Message from the President

Dear Members,

RST Council committees have been working hard over the past month, preparing for forthcoming lectures and other events, and attending to the day-to-day tasks involved in managing expenditure, memberships and publications. The Artworks Committee has a major role to play at the Midwinter Dinner in July, and a lot of effort has already gone

in to planning this event. The new Art Fundraising Committee has developed its plan for initiatives that will help offset the cost of conserving and exhibiting the RST Artworks.

Members of the RST Council were invited to a lunch hosted by the Reconciliation Collective on 28 April in Hobart. Sally Bryant, Julie Rimes and I represented the RST at the event. Guest speakers Fiona Hughes and Bill Lawson explained some of the issues faced by Tasmanian Aboriginal people when seeking employment and provided advice for potential employers. You can read a more detailed report in this Newsletter on p. 9.

We welcomed Mary Mulcahy, the new Director of TMAG, at the May Council meeting. Ms Mulcahy has just joined the RST and will take up her *ex officio* position on the Council beginning at our June meeting. A short introduction to Ms Mulcahy is provided in this Newsletter on p. 6.

We have two other new RST members: Dr Lisa Gershwin and Dr Jing Hong Fong. I invite you to join us for upcoming lectures and other events. RST Vice-President Dr Tony Webster will present a lecture on "Geology, landscape and European settlement" in Hobart (Sunday 15 May) - see p. 2. This event has been organised jointly with the Geological Society of Australia. A week later (Sunday 22 May), Andrew Bishop will present a lecture for the Northern Branch of the RST on "A brave new biosecurity system". Details are given in this Newsletter on p. 3.

Best regards,

Prof Jocelyn McPhie, President

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The Royal Society of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Division of the Geological Society of Australia invite all members and supporters to a lecture on **Sunday 15 May 2022** at 3:00 pm **by Dr Anthony Webster**.

## **Geology, landscape and European settlement: small things meant a lot**



**Above:** Dr Anthony Webster.

The lecture will be presented at the Geology Lecture Theatre (Geo.211.LT), Earth Sciences – Geography, Planning and Spatial Sciences Building, University of Tasmania, Sandy Bay (entrance off Earl Street, Hobart) and as a Zoom webinar.

**If you wish to attend in person:** [Register using Eventbrite](#) before 4 pm Saturday 14 May.

The password is **RST**.

Attendance at this joint event is free.

**If you wish to attend via ZOOM:** [Please register for the Zoom webinar](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

**Abstract:** Historical accounts of the first European responses to Australian landscapes rarely mention the ways that their decisions were influenced by the terrain. This talk is about the role that geology and landscape played in the places chosen for permanent European settlements in Australia, and in the earliest land-use choices made as they adapted to their new environments.

The most historically significant sites of first European settlement are now occupied by the modern central business districts of Australia's largest cities and are now intensely urbanised and modified landscapes.

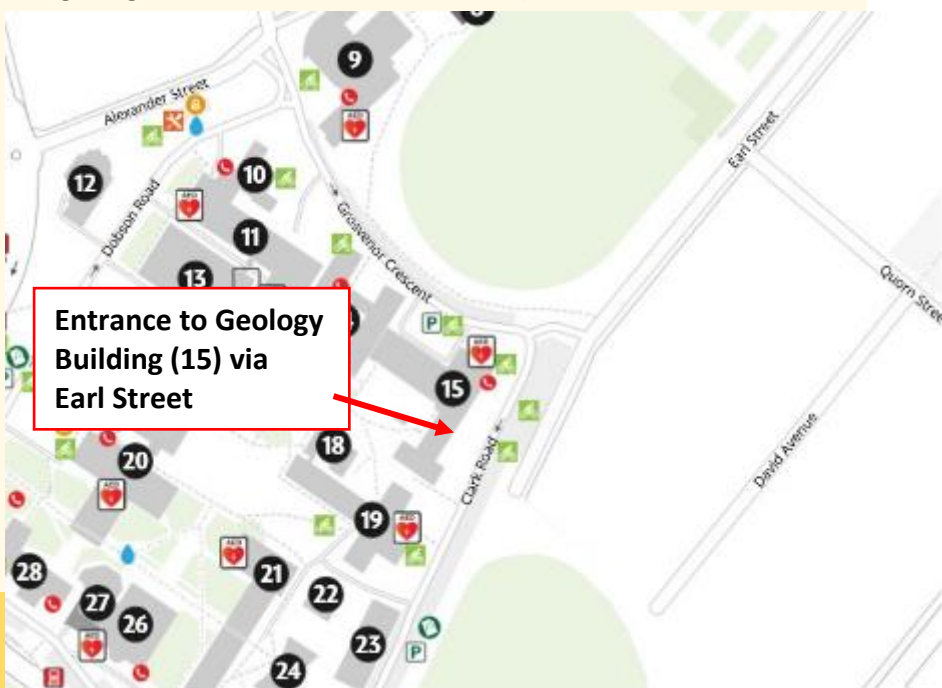
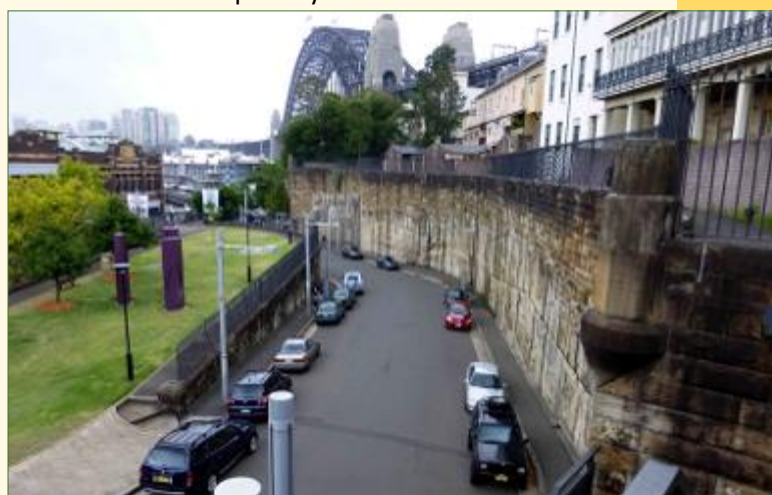
Using examples from Hobart, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth, it will be shown that despite the intensity of two centuries of urban development and landscape modification, the geology and pre-European landscapes of these places had a profound influence on their early development. It will also be shown that the effects of the original landforms remain deeply embedded in the modern urban landscapes.

### **Biography: Dr Anthony (Tony) Webster**

Tony is a Hobart-based consulting geologist working with GeoDiscovery Group Ltd. He has spent over 30 years in the mining industry, academia and government, working in and around several historically significant base metal and gold mines, including Broken Hill and Kalgoorlie, Zeehan, Mount Farrell, and Rosebery (Hercules).

Tony started his career as an underground mine geologist on the Golden Mile (Fimiston) but has since worked in a variety of roles, including mining heritage, environmental regulation and research roles in Tasmania and Queensland. Tony has particular skills in structural geology, historic data compilation and analysis, and the geological interpretation of complex mineralised systems.

Tony is currently Vice-President of The Royal Society of Tasmania. He also an Honorary Senior Fellow of both UTAS and the University of Queensland. He was formerly Chair of the Queensland Division, Geological Society of Australia and an Associate Editor of the Australian Journal of Earth Sciences.





**RST Northern Branch**  
**invites you to a public lecture by**

**Andrew Bishop**

## **A Brave New Plant Security System**

**Where:** Meeting Room, QVMAG at Inveresk

**When:** 1:30 pm Sunday 22 May 2022.

Full COVID vaccination and the wearing of face masks are highly desirable.

**Admission:** Free for RST members, \$6 general admission, \$4 students, QVMAG or TMAG Friends and members of Launceston Historical Society.

**Register** for Zoom webinar at [rst.org.au/](https://rst.org.au/)

### **Abstract:**

Technology and innovation are revolutionising how we manage the rapidly increasing threats from exotic pests and diseases to our agriculture, environment, and amenity. This ranges from powerful data gathering and big data analysis that generates advance warnings of impending threats, through to molecular and GPS based tracking systems and electronically connected smart surveillance systems.

### **Biography:**

Andrew (pictured above) is Tasmania's Chief Plant Protection Officer with Biosecurity Tasmania, having responsibility for decision making in the development and maintenance of the Tasmanian plant biosecurity system, including emergency responses and responsibility for representation (state and national). He has 33 years' experience working in government in Tasmania and Victoria.

*Generously supported by*



**Above:** Andrew Bishop in 2018 when a fruit fly larva was detected in imported nectarines. (Photo courtesy 'The Advocate' newspaper.)



**Above:** Queensland fruit fly. (Photo courtesy [www.bhg.com.au](http://www.bhg.com.au))

**Below:** Mediterranean fruit fly larvae. (Photo courtesy [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au))





## RST June Lecture

### Little bird of lutruwita: Saving Tasmania's forty-spotted pardalote

**Date:** Sunday 19 June 2022.

**Time:** 3:00 pm.

**Where:** Royal Society of Tasmania lecture room at Custom House, 19 Davey Street.

**Admission:** Free for RST members, \$6 general admission, \$4 students, QVMAG or TMAG Friends and members of Launceston Historical Society.



**Above:** Female Forty-spotted Pardalote. (Photo courtesy of [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com))

#### Talk Description

Once found on King Island and the eastern half of Tasmania, the forty-spotted pardalote is one of only 10 Australian bird species now extinct from over 90% of its former range. Listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List and Federal and State legislation, this tiny woodland specialist is intrinsically linked to one eucalypt type, making it highly vulnerable and often outcompeted as more aggressive species continue to spread.

Described as one of the world's most unique birds by being able to stimulate its own food resource, survival of the forty-spotted pardalote in a rapidly changing climate has never been more precarious.

#### Biography: Dr Sally Bryant

After graduating from UTAS in 1989, Dr Sally Bryant (pictured left and right) worked for 18 years as a wildlife scientist for the Tasmanian Government, seven as Manager of the Threatened Species Section. In 2009, she joined the Tasmanian Land Conservancy to develop their science and monitoring program and build their network of private reserves which now span over 30,000 ha.

Sally has travelled widely, researching island species especially threatened birds and has authored and co-authored several books, chapters and numerous scientific papers and technical reports on wildlife conservation. In 2020, she became an Honorary Research Fellow with the TLC, Editor of the journal *Papers and Proceedings* of The Royal Society of Tasmania and is perhaps best known through her popular ABC Radio wildlife talkback program delivered

fortnightly since 1999. She is a passionate advocate for Tasmania's wildlife and Chair of the Forty-spotted Pardalote National Recovery Team.

[Register for the talk at rst.org.au/](http://rst.org.au/)



**Above:** Male Forty-spotted Pardalote. (Photo courtesy of [ebird.org](http://ebird.org))



## RST Northern Branch invites you to a public lecture by

**Dr Charles Connor**

### Identifying the Source with Forensic Science

**Where:** Meeting Room, QVMAG at Inveresk

**When:** 1:30 pm Sunday 26 June 2022.

Full COVID vaccination and the wearing of face masks are highly desirable.

**Admission:** Free for RST members, \$6 general admission, \$4 students, QVMAG or TMAG Friends and members of Launceston Historical Society.

**Register** for Zoom webinar at [rst.org.au/](https://rst.org.au/)

#### Abstract:

DNA profiling is currently considered the gold standard in human identification. But just how reliable is DNA profiling, and Forensic Science in general, and should the public have any reason for concern about what is presented in Tasmanian courts? What techniques are used in criminal and coronial cases here in Tasmania? Is it just like what we see on television?

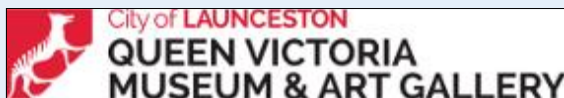
#### Biography:

Dr Connor (pictured right) is a Senior Forensic Scientist at Forensic Science Service Tasmania, specialising in the examination of crime scenes, biological testing and DNA profiling, and is an Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analyst. His duties include examining items pertaining to criminal and coronial matters in order to give evidence in Tasmanian courts.



**Above:** Senior forensic biologist at Forensic Science Service Tasmania Charles Connor.  
Picture: Stefano Flonta.

Generously supported by



**Left:** Although Dr Connor's work is generally lab-based, he also attends major crime scenes such as murders or sexual assaults.  
Picture: Stefano Flonta.



## Are you able to help us?



The RST Council is very keen for you to see some examples of the wonderful art in our Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection. Many members have told us they would like to help in some way. We're working towards future exhibitions of the original artworks in gallery-quality settings with appropriate light levels and atmospheric conditions. In the meantime, we'd like to show you some items from the collection in the form of high-quality reproductions that will allow you to see the artworks without exposing them to potential damage in daylight and heated meeting rooms.

We are planning to purchase suitable easels and frames for use at forthcoming RST events – can you help us? Your donation of \$50 will fund a tabletop easel (6 needed); \$170 a large movable easel (10 needed); \$500 a framed artwork (10 frames needed). All donors will be acknowledged with a small plaque on the easel or frame.

If you would like to contribute, you can use your debit, credit card or PayPal by going to our website [rst.org.au](http://rst.org.au) and clicking on the Donate button. Or you can call the office on Thursday mornings (+61 3 6165 7014) to make a payment.

Please mark your payment 'Art Equipment Donation' and email [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au) with your details and the name you would like on the plaque so that we can organise the acknowledgement of your kind donation.

All donations are tax deductible, so please give us the address to which you would like the receipt sent.

Thank you!

Mary Koolhof  
Chair, RST Art Fundraising Committee



## RST Date Changes

**Please note that two RST dates in October 2022 have changed.**

The October RST Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 11 October**.

The M.R. Banks Lecture by Associate Professor Rebecca Carey will be presented on **Sunday 16 October**.

## Introducing Mary Mulcahy, new Director of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Mary Mulcahy took up the position of Director of TMAG after Easter. Ms Mulcahy (pictured right) is Tasmanian and completed a degree in Geology at the University of Tasmania, attending lectures and field trips run by RST legends, Max Banks and Ross Large. She went on to complete an Honours degree in Zoology at UTAS, encountering Dr Sally Bryant, RST Honorary Editor, in the process.

Ms Mulcahy then undertook a post-graduate degree in Science Communication at the ANU, and that training became the foundation of her career. She has held senior positions in Federal Government departments, the CSIRO, University of Technology Sydney, Questacon and Petrosains, a science and technology museum in Malaysia.

Ms Mulcahy has particular skills in scientific research, strategic planning and cultural leadership, along with extensive experience in developing highly effective communication and education programs.

Ms Mulcahy has joined the RST and will take up an *ex officio* position on the RST Council beginning June (2022).

**Jocelyn McPhie**







**Above top:** A typical farm worker's cottage.

**Above:** Hop kiln alongside the eastern side of the Derwent River.

**Peter Manchester** (and his late wife, Margot) lived, worked and undertook detailed studies of the history, human geography and geology of the New Norfolk to Ouse area for over 40 years. He has been involved in writing several books on the area. On the tour, he will talk about the historical lives of the people and how the travelled region on the day has been of social and economic benefit to Hobart and Tasmania.

Peter has many stories to tell and will outline them to travelling members with humour and dignity. Initial comments from the art historian indicate that a few of the RST art collection historical paintings were from the areas that the trip will be travelling through. Further details will be given later. Peter will provide a few chattels of historical interest on the way as part of his talks and stories.

## Proposed coach trip in spring to the Derwent Valley region to increase knowledge of many aspects of the Geography, Human Geography and Geology of the Valley.

RST Councillor Peter Manchester will be conducting a day coach trip on **Sunday 18 September 2022** for RST members to the Derwent Valley. Approval in principle has been given by the Royal Society Council to organise the fine details which will be announced in forthcoming newsletters and on the RST website.

- A small coach carrying about 25 members will be the mode of transport.
- The coach will leave the Cenotaph parking space at the suggested time of 9:00 am.
- The coach will travel to Granton when the on-bus commentary will commence.
- The tour will travel from Granton to New Norfolk (morning tea); then travel along the River Derwent to Rosegarland, further to Gretna, onwards to Hamilton, then to Meadowbank Dam, onwards to Ellendale, then to Westerway, passing through Bushy Park, then to Salmon Ponds where members will dine in the grounds (own lunch); back to New Norfolk going along the western bank of the River Derwent. Return destination is the Cenotaph at the car park Hobart. A total of 180 km.

If members would like to express their interest in being part of the trip, please contact Peter on email:

[milingandi@vision.net.au](mailto:milingandi@vision.net.au)



**Above:** Historical outhouse on property near Ellendale.

**Below:** Enjoy the beauty of springtime in the Valley.





### **Early issues of The Royal Society of Tasmania's *Papers and Proceedings***

The Royal Society office has several early hard copy back-issues of our annual publication, *Papers and Proceedings*. These are surplus to requirements as there is already a full set in the RST office and another in our Library collection as well as digital copies. The oldest copy is dated 1890 and there are other years (not necessarily consecutive) up until the 1970s.

If you would like to complete your collection or if you would like to see and read what was being published in the earlier years of the Royal Society, please contact our Office Manager, Bronwyn Beechey, between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm any Thursday or at [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)



*'Aquilegia'* by David Kemp.





## Reconciliation Collective Lunch, 28 April, Hobart

The Reconciliation Collective was established by Reconciliation Tasmania in 2019 to facilitate reconciliation activities and promote communication with members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. Reconciliation Tasmania designs Reconciliation Action Plans (RAP) for organisations seeking to improve their relationships with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

The lunch began with a Welcome to Country by Auntie Ettie. The program included an address by Fiona Hughes on issues surrounding the provision of culturally safe workplaces in the context of employees being Tasmanian Aboriginal people. Fiona emphasised the diversity among Tasmanian Aboriginal people and that it is critically important for potential employers to show cultural respect and understanding of Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

In a second address, Bill Lawson described a project underway that aims to help young Tasmanian Aboriginal people enter the workforce – the Aboriginal Employment Pilot Project. The project brings together high school students, potential employers and organisations dedicated to assisting those entering the workforce for the first time, such as Anglicare. The project is on-track to achieve its primary goal of assisting young Tasmanian Aboriginal people to get and keep paying jobs.

**BE BRAVE. MAKE CHANGE.**  
**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022**

### National Reconciliation Week 2022

Reconciliation Tasmania will play a major role in organising and running events during National Reconciliation Week – 27 May to 3 June 2022. These events include a lunchtime forum in Hobart (27 May) and breakfasts in Hobart (1 June), Devonport (2 June) and Launceston (3 June). Uluru Statement Custodian, Thomas Mayor, and 2022 Tasmanian Young Australian of the Year, Kaytlyn Johnson, will be guest speakers at the breakfast events. [Click for more details and bookings.](#)

Jocelyn McPhie





## Recent RST Publications

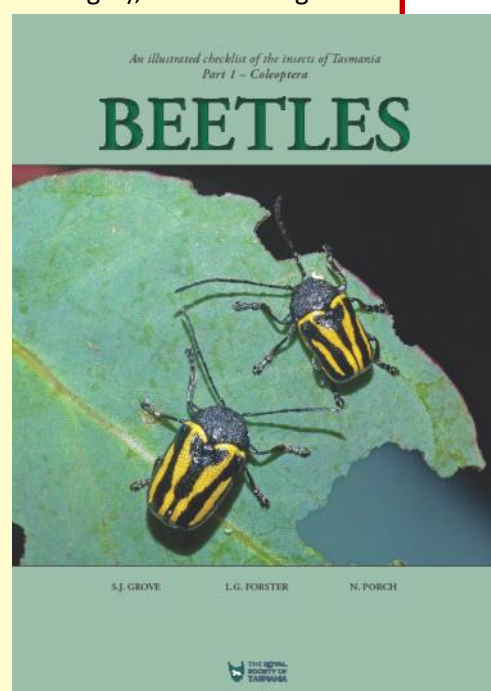
Three new publications are available to add to your reading list:

All items below are available for purchase online via the [RST Shop with some offering a membership discount](#).



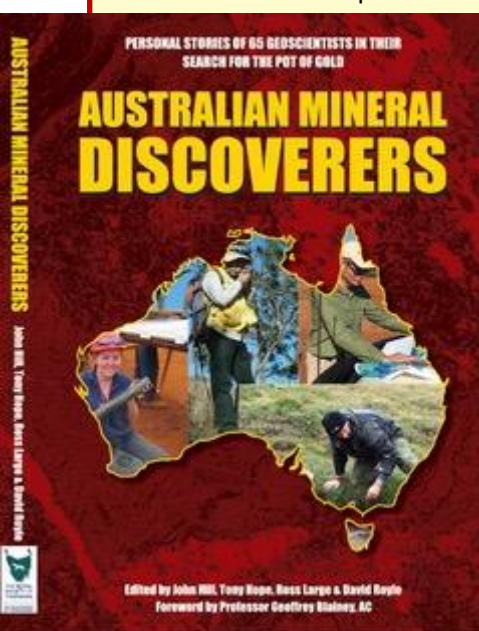
**RST Notebooks** featuring a choice of three cover images from the Society's Art Collection and the Special and Rare Book Collection are available (- see left). Beautifully bound and presented, these prestigious notebooks are ideal for meeting notes or creative writing, so why not buy yourself a couple or as gifts for others? \$28 each or \$25 member discount. [Purchase now](#).

**An Illustrated Checklist of Tasmanian Beetles**, prepared by experts Simon Grove, Lynne Forster and Nick Porch (- see cover at right), is an exciting new taxonomic guide to Tasmanian beetles with diagnostic information on



nearly 3000 species, including over 600 endemics and seven species found only on Macquarie Island. Featuring thumbnail images of every group and 16 full colour plates, this fantastic new resource will help you identify and learn more about Tasmania's enigmatic beetle fauna. \$46 [Purchase now](#).

Following Volume 155(1) celebrating the RST Northern Branch centenary in June 2021, the RST Journal **Papers and Proceedings Volume 155(2)** features the transcripts of speakers at the historic *Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people*, as well as a diverse range of scientific and review papers of wide interest. Contact the Office to purchase a copy [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)



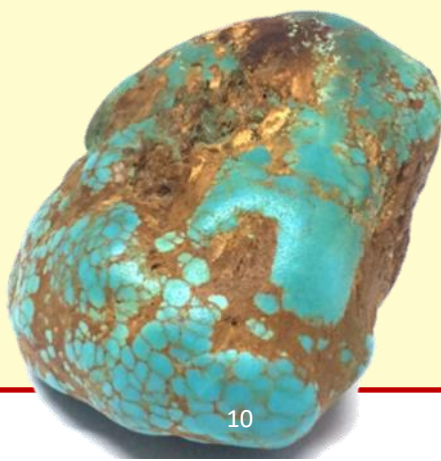
### **Australian Mineral Discoverers: 1950-2010**

first published in December 2020 has now been reprinted. Edited by John Hill, Tony Hope, Ross Large and David Royle, this book features the biographies of 65 Australian mineral explorers and educators. Their stories show that the discovery of buried minerals is an extremely complex science, requiring knowledge, innovation, disciplined application of geological principles, teamwork, persistence and luck. **\$60.00 full price**

**RST members' discount on this item @ \$50.00**

**For overseas orders, please contact the Society directly to calculate postage and place the order: [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)**

For orders of more than one copy, please contact the Society direct: [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)





## Royal Society Office

The Royal Society office is open on Thursday mornings 9:00 am to midday. Enter the Custom House building from the Davey Street entrance and register at the Visitors' Desk.

A phone call prior to your visit will help with more speedy arrangements.

Please phone between the hours of 9:00am – 12 noon on a THURSDAY morning on 03 6165 7014.

**Main Royal Society contact: Northern Branch contact:**

GPO Box 1166

Christine Beswick, Secretary:

Hobart TAS 7001

0417 330 118

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

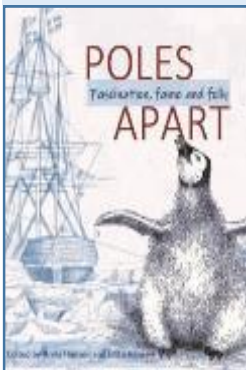
PO Box 47 Perth TAS 7300

Membership forms and renewals can either be posted to the Post Box (see above) clearly marked 'Royal Society of Tasmania' or completed and emailed to the address above.

Publications sales are available through the RST shop, on our [website](http://www.rst.org.au), by email or by phone through the office.

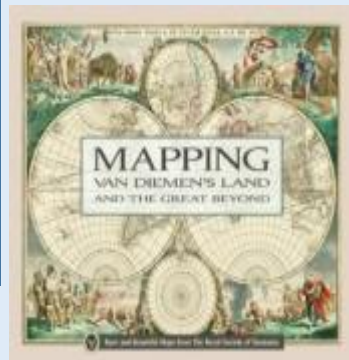
**10% discount for Members on these books.**

**Discounted prices for members are shown beside each book:**



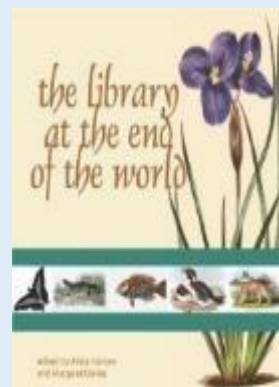
***Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly***

Hardcover (\$22.50) and Softcover (\$13.50)



***Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond***

Hardcover (\$54) and Softcover (\$36)



***The Library at the End of the World***

Hardcover (\$54) and Softcover (\$36)



***Charles Darwin in Hobart Town***

Softcover (\$32)



***Papers and Proceedings***

Since 1849, the Society has published annual volumes of refereed scholarly papers. The *Papers and Proceedings* publishes research that focuses on Tasmania or is particularly relevant to Tasmanians.

Personal subscription to the *Papers and Proceedings* are made through membership of The Royal Society of Tasmania. Prices for back editions of *Papers and Proceedings* range from \$10 – \$40 per volume. Members of the Society are eligible for a

**10% discount**, please contact the **Honorary Editor** at [editor@rst.org.au](mailto:editor@rst.org.au)



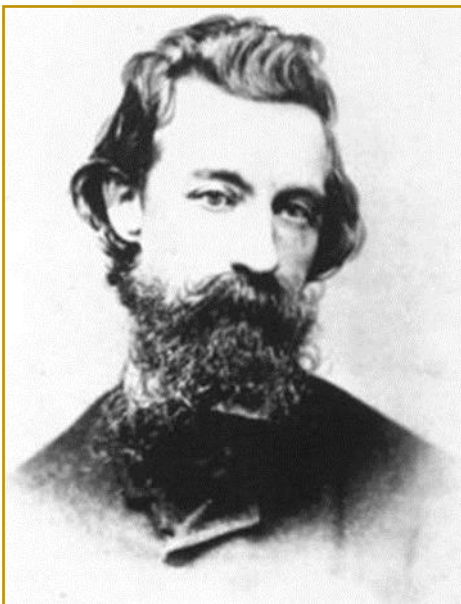
**Special publications still available:** *The Sub-Antarctic* (21 papers on various aspects of the Sub-Antarctic islands); *Aspects of Tasmanian Botany* (– a collection of botanical papers given at a symposium honouring the work of Dr Winifred Curtis AM); *Tasmanian Wilderness – World Heritage Values*.

Purchase direct from the Royal Society Office on Thursday mornings 9:00 to 12:00 noon or email [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au) or phone Thursday mornings on 03 6165 7014.



## The Royal Society of Tasmania's Art Collection

The Royal Society of Tasmania's Art collection is housed at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart. Any queries please contact the Honorary Curator, Dr Anita Hansen: [anita.hansen@utas.edu.au](mailto:anita.hansen@utas.edu.au)



**Above:** Edward La Trobe Bateman, unknown photographer, 1870s.

### An Interesting Collaboration

#### Edward La Trobe Bateman (1815?–1897)

There is only one sketch by Edward La Trobe Bateman: an exquisite pencil drawing with white highlights, in the art collection of The Royal Society of Tasmania. There is no record of how it came to be in the collection, only that it was on the Loans List in 1965. I have an idea about this which I will explain later.

Despite being represented by only one sketch, Bateman had a far greater impact on the collection than would be imagined from this one example.

The sketch is of Maria Island. On the drawing (below) he has inscribed, 'The ruined graveyard on Maria Island on the East Coast of Tasmania, where the prisoners and their keepers who died there were interred while it was a convict station.'



**Above:** Edward La Trobe Bateman. *The ruined graveyard on Maria Island on the East Coast of Tasmania, where the prisoners and their keepers who died there were interred while it was a convict station.*

'Maria Island operated as a penal station between 1825 and 1832 – The settlement, which was located at Darlington, was conceived as a half-way house between the extreme of hard labour at Macquarie Harbour and a stint in a road or chain gang. Convicts sent to Maria Island worked in a number of different industries including timber-cutting, tanning, shoe-making and cloth production. Plagued by frequent escape and other disciplinary problems, Maria Island was closed down and much of the remaining convict population relocated to Port Arthur in 1832.'

'After being abandoned for ten years, the site was reopened in 1842 as a probation station. A second station was constructed in 1845 at Point Lesueur. Convicts at both were primarily engaged in agricultural work. Overcrowding remained a constant problem, however, and both stations were closed down in 1850. Following its abandonment as a convict station, the island was used to run sheep.' – *Companion to Tasmanian History*, University of Tasmania.

The sketch was drawn sometime in 1859, so it is somewhat surprising to see the graveyard in such a state of disrepair considering that the convict stations had been closed for fewer than ten years at that time. The fence has collapsed leaving the graveyard open to the grazing sheep relaxing in the foreground. In other places, the graveyard has become overgrown with scrub.

The sketch shows the work of an accomplished artist. In England, Bateman had worked with Owen Jones, who according to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, 'produced from 1841 the first and finest chromolithographic books issued in England. Two at least of his 'illuminated' gift books, *Fruits from Garden and Field* (1850) and *Winged Thoughts* (1851), were chromolithographed by Bateman with flowers and birds to accompany poems by Mary Ann



Bacon.' This would prove to be noteworthy later when he came to Australia.

In 1852, Bateman joined a number of his friends when they set off for the gold fields in Victoria. At the goldfields, Bateman seemed more interested in sketching the scenery around him than in prospecting for gold. It was noted by one of his companions, William Howitt that, 'he will paint all the flowers'; at the Mclvor in 1854 he 'was besieged ... to sketch tents, huts or stores ... and netted a considerable sum at £5 per sketch, a small pencil one at that'. In truth, this was arguably more profitable for him than digging for gold.

### An Interesting Collaboration

In Victoria, Bateman stayed with a relative of his prospecting companion William Howitt – Dr Geoffrey Howitt – at Collins Street and at his house at Cape Schnack. It was here that he met Louisa Anne Meredith and her family when they visited Victoria in 1856. There is a delightful pencil sketch of Cape Schnack by Louisa Anne Meredith in the Society's collection.



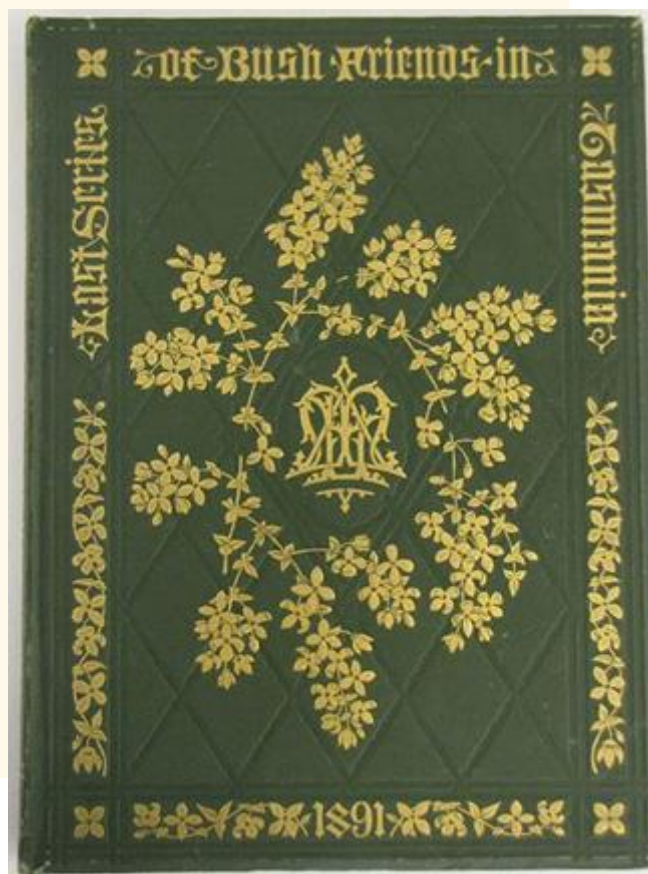
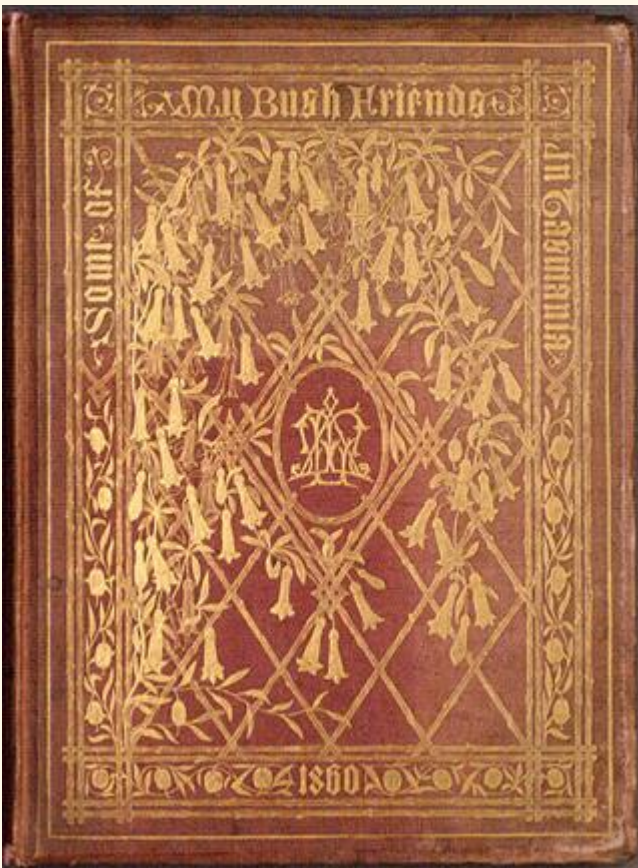
**Left:** Louisa Anne Meredith. *Cape Schnack, Victoria (1856).*

In 1859, Bateman came to Tasmania and stayed with Charles and Louisa Anne Meredith. It must have been at this time that he made the sketch at Maria Island. It was also at this time that he began collaborating with Louisa on her latest book *Some of My Bush Friends in Tasmania*. Bateman is best remembered for his contributions to book design. His initial headings, tail-pieces and titles engraved on wood by Samuel Calvert for several catalogues issued by the Melbourne Public Library from 1861 were the first instances of Australian flora being used for decorative motifs. The two volumes of Louisa Meredith, *Some of My Bush Friends in*

*Tasmania*, 1860 and 1891, which scarcely differ from the Owen Jones gift books, each contain Bateman's 'quaint lettering' in their poem-titles and display his designs on their embossed covers (*Australian Dictionary of Biography*).

This work has been described as an 'Impressive volume with stunning full page chromolithographic botanical plates of native Tasmanian flowers, in an embossed presentation leather binding. Natural history verse

**Left:** 1860 edition. **Below:** 1891 edition.





accompanied by illustrations, by an outstanding woman artist. The design of the book owes much to Owen Jones, the designer of the famed *Grammar of Ornament* and Edward La Trobe Bateman, who worked with Jones on various projects as illustrator and designer. Bateman collaborated with Meredith on both her books, providing lettering and edging details that are hallmarks of his work.'

As well as having the original watercolours for this book in its art collection, the Society has a copy of the 1860 volume in its library collection (- see right and plates at bottom).

**Right:** From the Royal Society of Tasmania's Art Collection.

When Louisa Anne Meredith travelled to England to oversee the printing of *Some of My Bush Friends in Tasmania* in 1890, she again sought the collaboration with Bateman in her work, and Louisa and her granddaughter stayed with Bateman in Scotland during this time.

While Louisa and Bateman worked together in the production of the volume, it is interesting to note that they had very different ideas on how to depict the plants in the book. Louisa's granddaughter reports, '... L. A. Meredith would in her flower drawings put a leaf with a hole in it, or one an insect had eaten; and Bateman said that was not right, as you should only paint or draw perfect things.'

To finish – earlier I commented that I had an idea how the drawing by Edward La Trobe Bateman came to be in the Society's art collection. I believe he must have given the sketch to Louisa when he stayed with the family in 1859, and it was most probably part of a folio of her work donated to the Society by D Meredith on 7 December 1945.

#### Aside

Chromolithography became the most successful of several methods of colour printing developed by the nineteenth century. Previously, a single outline was drawn onto a stone and after printing, each image was hand-coloured, very time-consuming and expensive.

In chromolithography, a number of stones are prepared, each bearing a different colour ink. The print would be carefully placed in the same position (or registered) on the stone so the ink would go where intended. Depending on the number of colours present, a chromolithograph could take months to produce, by very skilled workers. To make a reproduction print as what was once referred to as a chromo, a lithographer, with a finished painting in front of him, gradually created and corrected the many stones using proofs, to look as much as possible like the painting in front of him, sometimes using dozens of layers. Although this was time-consuming, once the stones were correct, the coloured prints could be mass produced.



**Above:** A few plates from *Some of My Bush Friends in Tasmania* by Louisa Anne Meredith.



## RST Office Contact Information

Please send relevant emails for attention of the Office Manager, Bronwyn Beechey to: [office@rst.org.au](mailto:office@rst.org.au)

Emails for The Royal Society of Tasmania, in general, should still be sent to: [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)

Matters relating to RST correspondence should be sent to: [secretary@rst.org.au](mailto:secretary@rst.org.au)



## 2022 Membership Renewal

It is that time of year again: time to renew your Royal Society of Tasmania membership for 2022. The RST membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. Click [here](#) to open the renewal form on our website which can be downloaded as a pdf for filling in electronically.

Take note: *Regardless of the method you use to renew, by renewing your membership and paying the required membership dues, you acknowledge that you have read and agree to abide by the RST Code of Conduct as displayed on the [RST website](#).*



## The Society's Library

Special & Rare Collections (5th floor, Morris Miller Library at UTAS Sandy Bay campus) including TRST Library asks that all visitors and researchers comply with the following COVID-safe practices:

- Please make appointments via [special.collections@utas.edu.au](mailto:special.collections@utas.edu.au) to assist with managing maximum occupancy requirements.
- Opening hours are 10:00 am to 5 pm, Monday to Wednesday, closed for lunch 12:30 – 1:30 pm.
- Maximum occupancy of two visitors at any one time and must be adhered to.
- You are required to maintain the recommended 1.5m physical distance.
- Make sure you have had your temperature checked before entering the Library.
- Temperature checks will be undertaken at the entrance to Morris Miller Library.
- If you are not a staff member or student at UTAS, you will need to sign in on entry to Morris Miller Library to enable contact tracing.
- If you are feeling unwell, please do **not** come to the Library.

Library staff will continue answering all email enquiries and can scan and email requests as needed, so if you don't wish to visit the Library in person, there is no need. We will also be quarantining material handled by researchers and other visitors for 72 hours, in line with UTAS Libraries' COVID-safe practice.

Any queries please contact [special.collections@utas.edu.au](mailto:special.collections@utas.edu.au)

Collections,  
Library Services | Academic Division, University of Tasmania



# Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm 1 April to 24 December 2022.



**Visiting TMAG:** It is no longer essential to book your visits to TMAG in advance.

**TMAG from Home** initiative is available from the TMAG website to go on some exciting virtual tours, hear more from our curators and find out what happens behind the scenes.

**TMAG  
from  
home**

**Free tours** for small groups are available on Saturdays and Sundays, and run for approximately 40 minutes. Tour times are subject to change and availability and can be checked by phoning (03) 6165 7000. For guided tours for clubs, tourist groups or other organisations, please [click here](#).

**TMAG Art Tour – 11:00 am on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays** Join the TMAG Art Guides for a tour of our current art exhibitions.

**TMAG Highlights Tour – 1:30 pm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays** Join the TMAG guides for a highlights tour of the treasures of the Central and Henry Hunter galleries and the historic Commissariat Complex and the Bond Store exhibitions.

**Event: Artist Gay Hawkes**, whose work is currently featured in TMAG's new exhibition, *Gay Hawkes: House of Longing*, will be giving a free public talk in Central Gallery on Saturday 14 May at 11:00 am.

Gay, in conversation with TMAG Art Educator Veronica Marshall, will expand on her practice by considering seven key images from the exhibition that speak to the diversity and longevity of her remarkable career.

Gay is an astute commentator on her own work and a fine storyteller. This is a unique opportunity for audiences to hear from one of Tasmania's most respected visual artists.

This is a FREE talk and bookings are not required. Seating capacities will apply. Viewing of the exhibition will be available from 10:00 am or following the talk.



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