



### A Message from the President

Dear Members,

More-or-less by accident, recent deliberations by the **RST Foundation** uncovered small inconsistencies and weaknesses in the text of the guidelines for the operation of the Foundation (Rule 64, and Schedule 2 of the *Rules*). The Foundation Committee, chaired by Neil MacKinnon, has corrected the text which is now under review by Honorary Solicitor James Crotty.

Members will be asked to ratify the changes at the next Annual General Meeting (Monday 6 March 2023).

The **RST Library Collections** are managed by the University of Tasmania Library. University Librarian Janette Burke, an RST member and member of the RST Council, has responsibility for the RST Library Collections, assisted by Caine Chennatt (Associate Director, Cultural Collections), and new appointee, Katrina Ross (Historical Collections Coordinator). Katrina attended the December Council meeting as an observer and outlined her expectations of her role as Historical Collections Coordinator specifically as it relates to the RST Library Collections.

Three RST members have been in the news recently. **Professor Trevor McDougall AC** has been awarded the 2022 Prime Minister's Prize for Science. PhD student **Mars Buttfield-Addison** and **Dr Indrani Mukherjee** have been chosen to join the 2023 cohort of Superstars of Stem (- see p. 3).

Also in the last month, the RST has been awarded **two grants** that will support the conservation, preservation and exhibition of the RST Art Collection. Congratulations and thanks to Mary Koolhof, Dr Anita Hansen, Marley Large and Prof Ross Large AO for their efforts in submitting the two applications (- see p. 4).

Dr Zhen Zhou of the Menzies Institute for Medical Research, University of Tasmania, won the **RST Doctoral Award for 2022**. A short article introducing Dr Zhou follows in this Newsletter (- see p. 2).

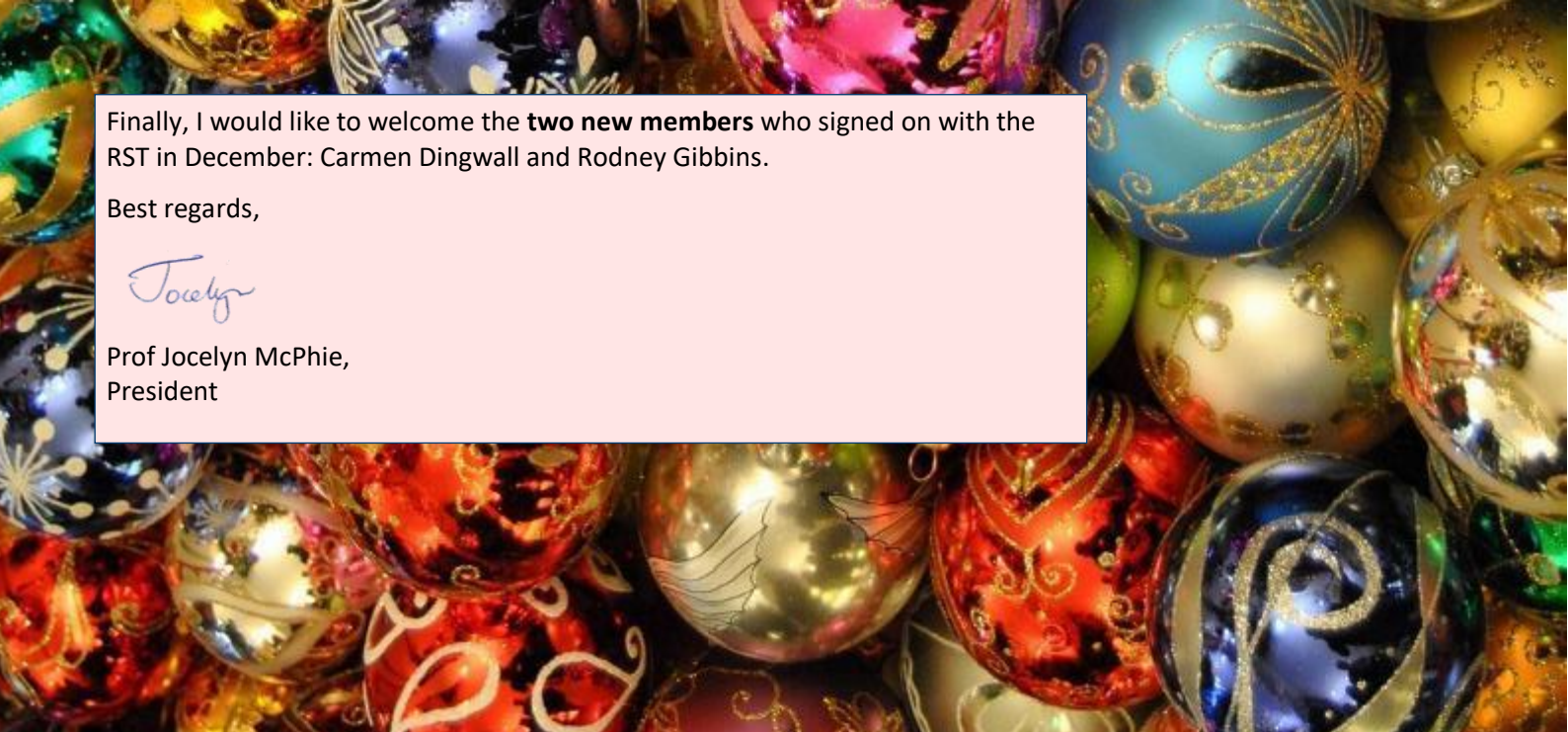
Plans for 2023 are well underway. Elections of Executive and Council members will take place at the **Annual General Meeting on Monday 6 March 2023** at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. The guest speaker will be Professor Stefan Petrow, winner of the 2022 Clive Lord Memorial Medal.

**Council resolved** to have fewer Council meetings and Hobart lectures in 2023, primarily to reduce the workload of the Executive which has become excessive and acts as a deterrent to members taking on these positions. Honorary Secretary Marley Large and Honorary Treasurer David Wilson will both be stepping down at the next AGM. Nominees for these positions are being sought – please contact me if you are interested.

This Newsletter is my last chance to **thank 2022 Council and Committee members** for their efforts to ensure that the RST continues to meet the goal of advancing knowledge. Thanks also to Society members who participated in events and lectures and supported the RST in other ways.

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Finally, I would like to welcome the **two new members** who signed on with the RST in December: Carmen Dingwall and Rodney Gibbins.

Best regards,



Prof Jocelyn McPhie,  
President

### RST Office: Christmas – New Year Operations

The RST Office will be open as usual on Thursday mornings up to and including Thursday 22 December 2022.

The RST Office will be closed over Christmas, New Year and during January 2023. The Office will be open again beginning on Thursday 2 February 2023. During the break, email and phone messages will be intermittently monitored.

### Royal Society of Tasmania 2022 Doctoral Award

The RST Honours Committee recently assessed nominations for the 2022 Doctoral Award. This award is intended to recognise recent PhD graduates who have made significant advances in the course of their doctoral research. The value of the award is \$1,000 (AUD).

**Dr Zhen Zhou** was selected as the winner of the 2022 RST Doctoral Award. Dr Zhou is a medical scientist and completed her PhD at the Menzies Institute of Medical Research, University of Tasmania in 2021. The focus of her PhD research was primary prevention of cardio-vascular disease and the use of lipid-lowering medications (known as statins) for elderly people.



Cardio-vascular disease is the top killer at the state, national and global levels. Tasmania has scored poorly in heart health, and the risk factors for developing heart problems are among the highest in Australia.

Dr Zhou's PhD results supported widespread use of statins for the primary prevention of cardio-vascular disease in older adults, given that this treatment is relatively safe and widely tolerated. However, statin use does not have a mortality benefit and many questions remain. Large, randomised trials over several years are required to fully understand the role of statins. In the meantime, Dr Zhou's research will inform clinicians making judgments on the appropriateness of prescribing statins to their older patients.

Since graduating, Dr Zhou has taken up a National Heart Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Menzies Institute of Medical Research.





## Prime Minister's Prize for Science, 2022 won by RST member Professor Trevor McDougall AC

Congratulations to longstanding Royal Society of Tasmania member, Professor Trevor McDougall AC on winning the Prime Minister's Prize for Science 2022 for his research into the ocean's role in climate and climate change. This prize recognises outstanding achievements in scientific research and is awarded annually by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources. The Prime Minister's Prize for Science is regarded as the most prestigious national award

### THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRIZES FOR SCIENCE

for the advancement of knowledge through science.

Professor McDougall, a global leader in oceanography, is recognised for his discoveries of new ocean mixing processes and his work to redefine the thermodynamic definition of seawater. He has developed a specific temperature variable to track heat transference that has now been adopted internationally by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission as the new standard for representing heat in marine science.

Professor McDougall has been a Scientia Professor in the School of Mathematics and Statistics at UNSW in Sydney since 2012. His undergraduate degree at the University of Adelaide was followed by a PhD at the University of Cambridge.

He held an appointment as a physical oceanographer with CSIRO in Hobart for almost 30 years before joining UNSW in 2012. During that period in Hobart, Professor McDougall became a member of The Royal Society of Tasmania. He has previously been awarded both the **M.R. Banks Medal** (1998), being an outstanding mid-career researcher, and **The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal** (2013), being an outstanding scholar who was also an active member of the Society.



## Two Superstars of STEM in the RST

Congratulations to Royal Society of Tasmania members, **Dr Indrani Mukherjee** (pictured right) and **Mars Buttfield-Addison** (pictured below left) for being named in the "Superstars of STEM" listing for 2022.



The Superstars of STEM program is intended to raise the profiles of young women and non-binary people in all areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The program is an initiative of Science and Technology Australia which is Australia's peak body in science and technology.

Both Indrani and Mars have recently presented well-received lectures for the RST, and the Society wishes them every success with their ongoing research.





## Successful Community Heritage Grants – RST Art Collection

Members and supporters will be very pleased to hear that the RST Art Fundraising Committee has been successful in gaining funding through the National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grants (CHG) program. The CHG program is an Australia-wide plan helping community organisations preserve locally owned, but nationally significant, Australian cultural heritage collections. The application involved a significant amount of work from the RST Art Fundraising Committee, Honorary Curator and Art Committee.

Gaining a grant from the CHG of \$6500 represents an acknowledgment that our Collection is of national significance. The grant will be specifically used for a significance assessment, preservation needs assessment, and the purchase of cataloguing software, to help in the management of the Collection.

The services of qualified experts in the fields of significance assessment and art conservation have so far been successfully secured, and we look forward to pursuing further opportunities to advance the preservation of the Collection using the CHG grant.

The Art Fundraising Committee has also been successful in gaining a \$2000 grant from the Community Underwriting Small Grants Program, a yearly initiative of Community Underwriting, an Australian insurance provider for not-for-profit organisations. The grant will provide further contribution to the restoration of the RST Art Collection. Honorary Curator Dr Anita Hansen will work alongside the recently appointed Art Conservator, Amy Bartlett, to identify appropriate works for restoration. Warm appreciation is expressed to both the CHG program and Community Underwriting, for their support.

Newer RST members will be interested to know that the bulk of the Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection was assembled from the 1890s, through donation, purchase and exchange, in a deliberate effort by the Society to acquire important Tasmanian cultural items. A recent valuation confirmed the unique nature and importance of many works in the collection. Find out more at <https://rst.org.au/about-the-rst-art-collection/>.

See top left for an example of an artwork needing conservation assessment: *A Cool Debate*, Louisa Anne Meredith (original watercolour for *Some of My Bush Friends in Tasmania*, 1890). At some time, the card mount was pasted to the artwork.

**Mary Koolhof (Chair, Art Fundraising Committee), Anita Hansen (Honorary Curator) and Chel Bardell (Events and Publicity Committee)**

## 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:

- Please note the email address for making appointments to visit the library and for email queries about The Royal Society of Tasmania's Library Collection has been changed to **[RSTLibrary.Collections@utas.edu.au](mailto:RSTLibrary.Collections@utas.edu.au)**
- Opening hours are 10:00 am to 5:00 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.

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 appointments or queries, please contact **[RSTLibrary.Collections@utas.edu.au](mailto:RSTLibrary.Collections@utas.edu.au)**

**Janette Burke**, University Librarian, Collections,  
Library Services | Academic Division, University of Tasmania

## Rodney Gibbins: RST Lecture, December 2022

### “Truth-telling and Treaty as it relates to Tasmania now”

On Sunday 4 December, The RST presented a public lecture in the Stanley Burbury Theatre at the University of Tasmania by Tasmanian Aboriginal leader, Rodney Gibbins. The event began with a Welcome to Country – partly spoken and partly sung - by Tasmanian Aboriginal singer and song-writer, Cheryl Mundy.

**Right:** Cheryl Munday singing her Welcome to Country.



Rodney reviewed the disastrous impacts on the Tasmanian Aboriginal people of invasion by British soldiers, convicts and settlers at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was not until the 1970s that the Tasmanian Aboriginal people, the Palawa, moved to regain recognition, acceptance, autonomy and land. Major advances took place over the next forty years, including the return and cremation of Truganini's remains, the repatriation of the Crowther collection, the 1995 Aboriginal Lands Act, and compensation for victims of the “stolen generation”.



However, Rodney felt strongly that changes in state government policy beginning in 2016 have undermined these advances. In 2016, Premier Will Hodgman announced a ‘reset’ of the government's relationship with the Palawa community. Among other changes, a Preamble was inserted into Tasmania's Constitution Act 1934. The Preamble recognises the Palawa as the traditional and original owners of Tasmanian lands and waters but was not developed in consultation with the Palawa community and lacks legal power. An ‘inclusive eligibility policy’ was adopted to confirm Aboriginality, resulting in inflation of the number of Tasmanians claiming the government benefits available to Aboriginal people.

**Left:** Rodney Gibbins delivering his speech.

Among other contemporary challenges discussed by Rodney is the impending referendum on a First Nations Voice to Parliament. A First Nations Voice is the first of three reforms identified in the 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart, the second being development of a Treaty and the third being comprehensive Truth-Telling. Rodney argued that a referendum is unnecessary and that if it goes ahead without careful consultation and definitions in place, the result could be negative, slowing the progress of First Nations peoples towards recognition.

Recently in Tasmania, discussion of the other two reforms, Truth-Telling and Treaty, has been stimulated by the release of the *Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty Report*. This report was commissioned by the state government and prepared by Professor Kate Warner and Professor Tim McCormack. The report outlined 24 recommendations underpinned by the precept that Truth-Telling and the process of developing a Treaty must be Palawa-led.

In December this year, the state government announced formation of an Aboriginal advisory committee to develop a way forward for Treaty and Truth-Telling. The members of this committee were selected from organisations registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations. Rodney contends that this committee does not have the support or respect of the Palawa community because it has been government chosen and not community elected. In response, a Tasmanian Aboriginal community group named *tuylupa tunapri* – meaning to light the fire of understanding – has been created to directly represent the interests of the Palawa community in the Treaty and Truth-Telling process.

Rodney went on to discuss the essential elements of a Treaty between the state government and the Palawa community. Those essential elements include recognition of the Palawa people as the traditional and original owners of Tasmanian lands and waters, sovereignty, power sharing by means of designated Aboriginal parliamentary seats, ownership of Aboriginal heritage and culture, meaningful land returns such as all Crown Lands being returned to Aboriginal title, and reparation in the order of 3% of GDP.

With regard to Truth-Telling, Rodney advocated for a Palawa-led, and appropriately structured and resourced Truth-Telling commission charged with the task of creating a permanent and official historical record.

Rodney concluded with his vision of the way forward, including the imperative of reform being Palawa-led, preservation of the Aboriginal Lands Act as it now stands, creation of a new Aboriginal Heritage Act to protect Aboriginal heritage and culture, and telling of the true history of colonisation.



**Above:** Professor Kate Warner AC offering a Vote of Thanks to Rodney Gibbins.

Questions from the audience explored the role envisaged for *tuylupa tunapri* in the dialogue between the state government and the Palawa community, the implications of ‘meaningful land returns’, definitions of Aboriginality, the significance of the Preamble to the Constitution, and management of land returned to the Palawa.

Professor Kate Warner AC offered a Vote of Thanks to Rodney, not just for his speech but for his ongoing leadership of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community and activism during past and current discussions of Treaty and Truth-Telling.

[A video recording of Rodney’s lecture](#) and the [full transcript](#) are available on the RST website.

**Jocelyn McPhie and John Williamson**

## Tax-deductible Donations to the Royal Society

### The RST Library

The Royal Society of Tasmania collected and maintained a Library since its formation in 1844. Today it is a rich collection of early scientific and natural history books and journals, together with a diverse range of early Tasmanian families’ documents including letters, photographs, drawings, diaries and maps.

### The RST Art Collection

The Royal Society of Tasmania has acquired – through donation, purchase, and exchange – a valuable collection of over nine hundred paintings and sketches, including works from many famous colonial and convict artists such as WC Piguenit, John Skinner Prout, Louisa Anne Meredith, Simpkinson de Wesselow, Benjamin Duterrau and Owen Stanley. The RST Art Collection is currently housed at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery on loan.

In the coming months and years, The Royal Society of Tasmania will be forging a new path, as we work on the care and management of our Art Collection. This unique Collection is of great historical and artistic importance as a record of the colonial era in Tasmania.

The RST Library and Art Fund allows members and the general public to financially support the Society in the management and conservation of the RST Art Collection.

Recent discussions regarding The Royal Society of Tasmania Foundation prompted us to clarify the Society’s Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status with respect to receiving tax deductible gifts from members and others.

The Society was granted DGR endorsement in November 2006 on the basis that the RST has a Library and Art Collection. Gifts and donations made to the RST Library and Art Fund are tax-deductible. All donations received for the fund can only be used for expenditures associated with either the RST Library or RST Art Collection.

If you wish to make a general donation to The Royal Society of Tasmania, and not specifically to the Library and Art Fund, then that donation is not tax-deductible.

All receipts issued for donations to the Library and Art Fund will be identified as such, and we keep careful records of all donations and expenditures associated with the Library and Art Collection so that we comply with the provisions of the DGR endorsement and Australian taxation law.

Donors should also note that if a minor benefit is received for any donation, for example, purchase of an item at a fundraising auction, then a tax deduction can only be made if the minor value of the item is less than \$150 and is less than 20% of the donation made. Our RST donation receipt will always indicate if there is a minor value for any item associated with a donation.

**David Wilson**

Honorary Treasurer





## The Royal Society Christmas Dinner Lecture

**“Fifty years in the law: A few chocolate frogs amongst the jelly” – Magistrate Chris Webster**

The Royal Society Christmas Dinner and Lecture were held at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Thursday 8 December. Our guest speaker this year was Magistrate Chris Webster AM who gave us an instructive, informative and humorous lecture on his many years in the justice system as both a lawyer and a magistrate.

He began by discussing the 1979 Tasmanian election in which Michael Aird (ALP) was elected but sitting member Bill McKinnon (ALP) contested the result by claiming that Aird had overspent on the election. Mr Webster led a Supreme Court petition for McKinnon who was eventually elected on a recount after another Labor member resigned.

Then Magistrate Webster examined the turbulent years of the late 1980s and early 1990s in Tasmanian politics. The Premier, Michael Field, and his minority Labor Government were set back by the arrest of his chief adviser, Mr Alan Evans, charged with bargaining for public office. The alleged offence related to an agreement struck in August 1989 with former Labor leader, Mr Neil Batt, who was rejected by the party in late 1988 in favour of Mr Field.

On 22 September 2007, the Myer Liverpool St store was destroyed by a massive fire. Magistrate Webster investigated the fire and made significant findings and recommendations. Some of his findings related to the actions of the Tasmanian Fire Service on that day and Mr Webster identified major shortcomings in attempts to deal with the fire, concluding that much of the damage could have been avoided.

More recently Mr Webster has also been involved in other high-profile cases including the 2014 case involving a tragic and fatal traffic accident and the Director of Public Prosecutions, Tim Ellis.

The long and successful legal career of Chris Webster was summed up elegantly by Barrister James Crotty who warmly described the importance to the magistracy of Mr Webster’s focus on “correct procedure”, his composure and vast knowledge.

This entertaining lecture reminded us of the many political and legal issues that have been fought in Tasmania during the last five decades. The lecture was followed by our Christmas dinner and a successful raffle to raise additional money for the Society’s Library and Art Collection.

**John Williamson**

**Right:** President Jocelyn McPhie introduces guest speaker Magistrate Chris Webster AM at the 2022 Christmas Dinner.



**Above:** Magistrate Chris Webster AM delivering his amusing presentation.



**Left:** Prof Ross Large AO encouraged members to purchase raffle tickets at the Dinner to support the Society’s Library and Art Fund.



## RST Publications Make Great Christmas Gifts

These publications will enhance anyone's holiday reading shelf:

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



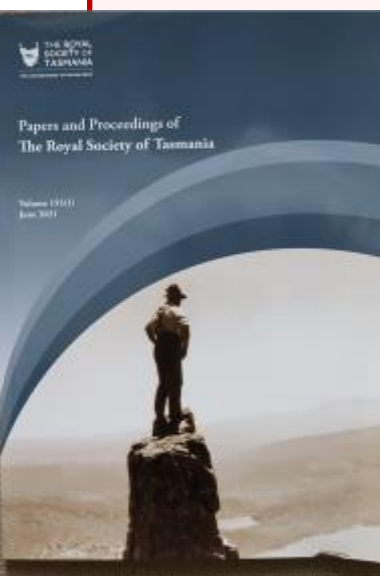
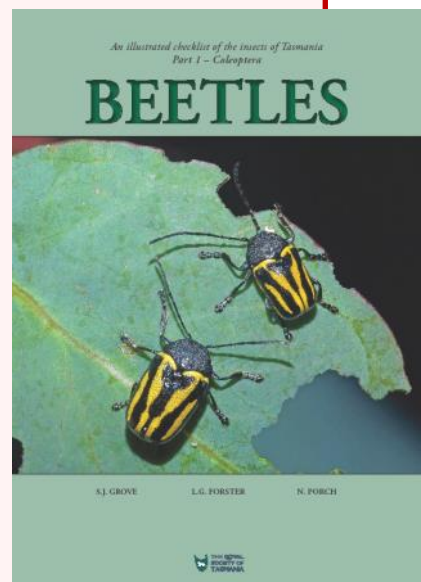
**RST Notebooks** featuring a choice of three cover images from the Society's Art Collection and the Special and Rare Book Collection are available (- see left). Beautifully bound and presented, these prestigious notebooks are ideal for meeting notes or creative writing, so why not buy yourself a couple or as gifts for others? \$25 each or \$22.50 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.](#)

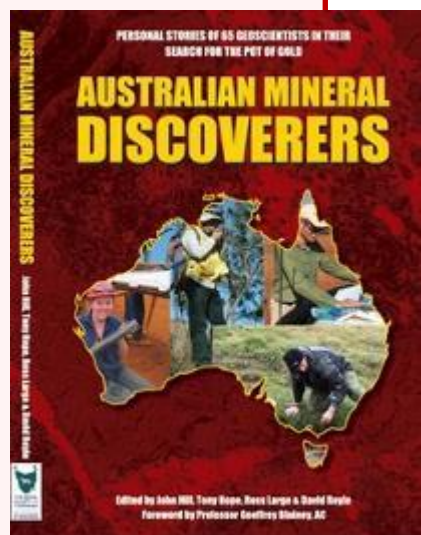


Following Volume 155(1) celebrating the RST Northern Branch centenary in June 2021, the RST Journal **Papers and Proceedings Volume 155(2)** (- see cover at left) features the transcripts of speakers at the historic *Apology to Tasmanian Aboriginal people*, as well as a diverse range of scientific and 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** (pictured right). 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 non-member

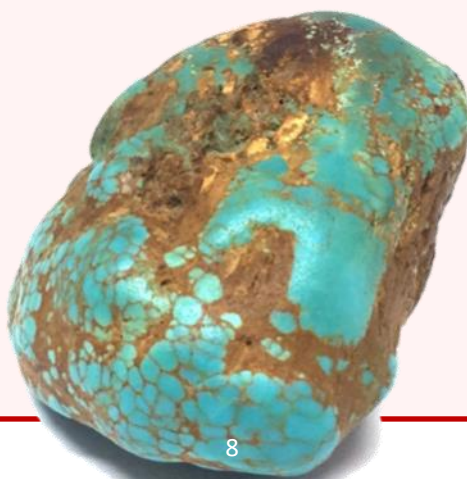
**RST members' discount on this item @ \$50.00**

[Purchase now.](#)



**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)**



## The Royal Society of Tasmania Office

The 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 Society contact:

GPO Box 1166

Hobart TAS 7001

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

### Northern Branch contact:

Christine Beswick, Secretary:

0417 330 118

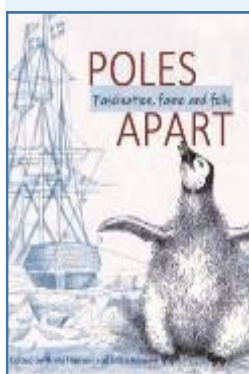
PO Box 47 Perth TAS 7300

Membership forms and renewals can either be posted to the post box (see above) clearly marked 'The 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.

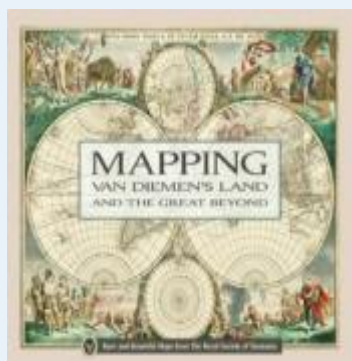
## 10% discount for Members on these books.

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



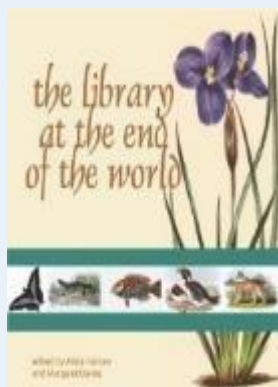
#### Poles Apart: Fascination, Fame and Folly

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



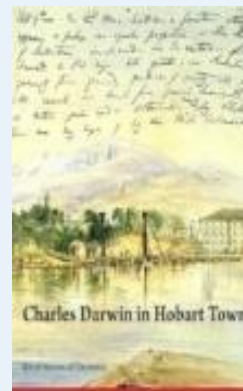
#### Mapping Van Diemen's Land and the Great Beyond

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



#### The Library at the End of the World

Hardcover (\$60) and Softcover (\$36)



#### Charles Darwin in Hobart Town

Softcover (\$32 member or \$35 non-member)

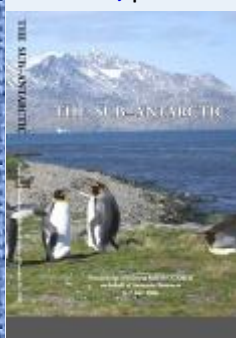


#### **Papers and Proceedings**

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.

## RST Art Collection

RST 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)

### John Skinner Prout (1805 – 1876)

#### *Tasmania Illustrated, Vol. 1 – Part 2*

This month's article is the second piece about John Skinner Prout's *Tasmania Illustrated, Vol 1*. (the remaining lithographs).

Last month I looked at five lithographs and covers from John Skinner Prout's *Tasmania Illustrated, Vol 1*, featuring Hobart and surrounds. I will continue to explore his lithographs in this month's article.

This month we venture further afield, looking at some of the rugged coastline around the south of the island, before heading back to Hobart.



**Above:** John Skinner Prout (1805–1876), unknown photographer, c 1860.



**Left:** Cape Raoul V.D.L. 1844.



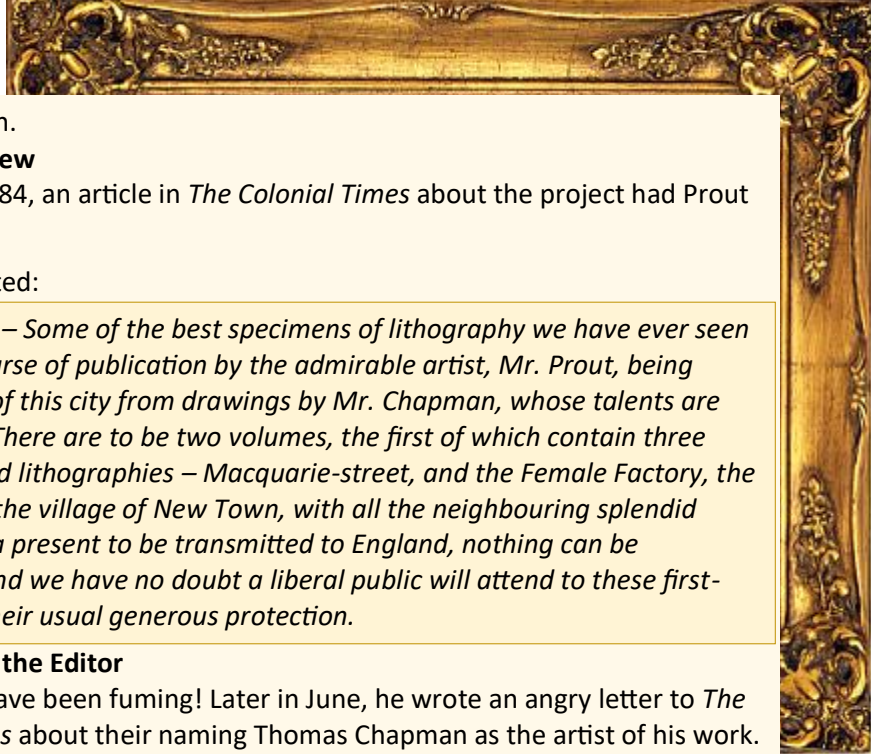
**Above:** W.A. and Tasmania by S.D.U.K., c.1844. Steel engraving.



**Below:** Cape Pillar and Tasman's Island, V.D.L. 1844.

As can be seen from the map (at left) from about the same time as Prout drew these pictures, there were very few roads in the area. One might assume then that the sailing ships in the lithographs were his transport to the area, and the rowboat was used to get closer to the rugged cliffs so that he could sketch them. Quite an adventure.

Prout continued his sketching of Hobart and the surrounding area for *Tasmania Illustrated* and a further six were included in



LITHOGRAPHY.—Some of the best specimens of lithography we have ever seen are in the course of publication by that admirable artist Mr. Prout, being street views of this city from drawings by Mr. Chapman, whose talents are well known. There are to be two volumes, the first of which contains three highly finished lithographies—Macquarie-street, and the Female Factory, the Wharfs, and the village of New Town, with all the neighbouring splendid scenery. For a present to be transmitted to England, nothing can be preferable, and we have no doubt a liberal public will extend to these first-rate artists their usual generous protection.

Above: *The Colonial Times*, 19 June, 1844.

Below: *The Colonial Times*, 24 June, 1844.

the publication.

#### Incorrect Review

On 19 June 1844, an article in *The Colonial Times* about the project had Prout up in arms.

The article noted:

*Lithography.*—Some of the best specimens of lithography we have ever seen are in the course of publication by the admirable artist, Mr. Prout, being street views of this city from drawings by Mr. Chapman, whose talents are well known. There are to be two volumes, the first of which contain three highly finished lithographies—Macquarie-street, and the Female Factory, the Wharfs, and the village of New Town, with all the neighbouring splendid scenery. For a present to be transmitted to England, nothing can be preferable, and we have no doubt a liberal public will attend to these first-rate artists their usual generous protection.

#### The Letter to the Editor

Prout must have been fuming! Later in June, he wrote an angry letter to *The Colonial Times* about their naming Thomas Chapman as the artist of his work. He wrote:

*Sir, In an article in your last week's publication headed "Lithography," and referring my work illustrative of Hobart Town, I perceive that, by some unaccountable mistake, you have stated that the drawings were made by Mr. Chapman. As each of the drawings bears my signature, and in other respects affords evidence of being my own production, it would seem unnecessary for me to request the favour of your correcting this error; this I should not have done, had you not, in your remarks stated the drawings to be "street views of this city," connecting with MY drawings, a recently issued print, sent authorless into the world, and said to be a view of St Joseph's Church and Macquarie-street.*

One can imagine his horror on opening the paper and finding his work being attributed to someone else, someone who would have been his rival at that

time. Prout goes on to write:

*I am anxious to have this mistake corrected, as the series of street scenes in Hobart Town, which I have made arrangements to bring out, will form quite a distinct work to that which I am now publishing, and which are principally general views of the town and neighbourhood ...*

Sadly, there seems not to have been an apology from the paper. I could find no mention of it in the following couple of months.

Left: Hobart Town from the New Town Road.





**Left:** *Rest Down / on the Derwent V.D.L.*

**Right:** *Hobart Town from Kangaroo Bay.*



**Left:** *Hobart Town etc. from Mount Nelson.*

**Right:** *The Queens Orphan Schools, New Town etc. from the Risdon Road.*





**Left:** Hobart Town / from the Government Paddock.

### Heading North

The second volume of *Tasmania Illustrated* appeared in 1846 and this included images from Prout's tour of northern Tasmania. These will be in the next Newsletter.

Anita Hansen



## RST Membership Renewal

It is that time of year again: time to renew your Royal Society of Tasmania membership for 2023. 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 at <https://rst.org.au/membership/rst-code-of-conduct/>*

A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on request from [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au)



## Suggestion Box

Members are an important part of the Royal Society, and we are always keen to hear suggestions about speakers or subjects for monthly lectures, ideas for social events, or thoughts about ways we can progress our current projects, such as the Art Fund initiative.

Members can share their ideas or general comments by talking directly with any Council member at Society events, by emailing the Society at [admin@rst.org.au](mailto:admin@rst.org.au), or by directing your email to any Council member.

The **RST Council** is this month's focus. The RST Council is a voluntary group, responsible for the administration of all RST events, publications and member services. Much of the Council's work is conducted by committees ([Committees-rst.org.au](https://rst.org.au/committees-rst.org.au)). If you would like to support the Council by being part of one of the smaller committees which undertake the day-to-day tasks of the RST, then please contact us.



# Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

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



## Tours

Free tours for small groups are available on Fridays, 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](#).

## Ways of Seeing Tour

11:00 am

Selected dates throughout December:

- Saturday 17 December
- Sunday 18 December
- Friday 23 December
- Saturday 30 December
- Sunday 31 December



## Long-term Exhibitions

**Left: *ningina tunapri***, TMAG's Tasmanian Aboriginal culture gallery will provide you with a rich, enlightening and inspiring experience. *ningina tunapri* means 'to give knowledge and understanding'.

The exhibition explores the journey of Tasmanian Aboriginal people and is a celebration of all Tasmanian Aboriginal generations.

**Right:** Tasmania has a unique geological history and hosts an unusual complement of plants and animals, each with its own story to tell. This exhibition explores these fascinating species and environments through the objects found in the State Collection.



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