

THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE

### **NEWSLETTER**

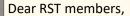
February/March 2024





#### **President's Message**

#### **President's Message**



I hope you have had a good start to 2024.

The 2024 AGM is now only a few weeks away (Thursday 7 March). The election of Office Bearers for this year will take place, and the Annual Report for 2023 and three Rule changes (see pp. 8-9) will be offered for approval. Following the AGM, Professor Cassandra Pybus will deliver a lecture entitled "Morton Allport: the resurrection man of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1862–1876" (see p. 4). I hope you will consider attending. The support of members is

central to the Society's operations.

It is my pleasure to inform you that long-term RST member, RST Council member, RST Publicity Officer and former Northern Branch Honorary Secretary, Chel Bardell has been nominated for Honorary Life Membership in recognition of her contribution to the Society sustained over some 12–13 years. The nomination will be ratified at the AGM.

Compiling and editing the RST Annual Report is a major achievement of the RST Honorary Editor, Dr Sally Bryant AM. Sally is also responsible for the RST *Papers and Proceedings*, the latest issue of which (Volume 157, December 2023) contains transcripts of recent RST lectures given by Tasmanian Aboriginal leaders, Rodney Gibbins, Michael Mansell and Kerry Sculthorpe, as well as seven other papers.

A long-running issue repeatedly mentioned in my messages is the dispute between the RST and the TMAG Board of Trustees over the ownership of the Louisa Anne Meredith artworks known as the "Fish Illustrations". Longanticipated formal mediation took place on 19 December 2023, but no agreement was reached. The next step will be decided by the RST Council in early 2024. In the meantime, on behalf of the Society, I thank RST Honorary Solicitor James Crotty for all the time and effort he has devoted to this matter.

We recently appointed new RST Office Manager, Eleanor Marshall (pictured at right). The Office Manager position is a critical one to get right, directly supporting the RST Executive, the RST Council and RST members. Eleanor brings a great deal of experience and knowledge to the role. If you have the opportunity, please make her welcome.

Since the last Newsletter, seven new members have joined the RST: Dr Annaliese Jacobs Claydon, Mr Richard Upton, Dr Peter Harris, Ms Sue Hickey, Mr Luke O'Connor, Dr Scott Bell, Ms Ros Skinner. I offer a collective "welcome" and hope you take advantage of all that the Society offers.

Best regards,

Jocelvn McPhie

President



#### **Upcoming Events**

#### The Royal Society of Tasmania Lecture - Professor Cassandra Pybus

Following the <u>AGM</u> at 4:30 pm on Thursday 7 March 2024 at the Royal Yacht of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay. (See pp. 5–7 below for information and details).

- All RST members and guests are welcome. Admission is free.
- Please register in advance. Click to register.

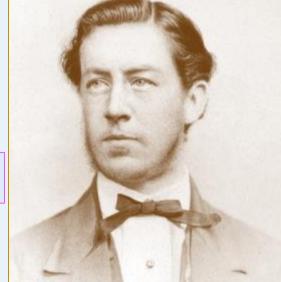
#### "Morton Allport: the resurrection man of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1862–1876".



**Above:** Self-portrait of Morton Allport, 1854. Photograph: silver albumen print, Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts, State Library of Tasmania. "Resurrection man" is the 19th century term for a person who secretly exhumes bodies from the grave to trade or sell for personal gain. In the 1860s and 1870s, stealing remains from graves from Oyster Cove and Flinders Island was an important sideline business for the prominent Hobart lawyer Morton Allport.

This illegal activity has not been publicly known in Tasmania despite having been well-documented in his business letter-books and accessible to researchers for many decades in the Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts, established in 1972.

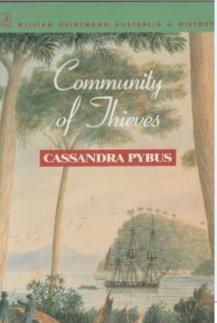
**Right:** *Morton Allport* (1830–1878). Source: www.9news.com.au



#### **Professor Cassandra Pybus**

Cassandra Pybus (pictured at right) is a distinguished historian, author of 13 books and Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

She has been the recipient of several Australia Council Fellowships and a Federation of Australia Centenary Medal for outstanding contribution to literature.



Between 2000 and 2013 Prof Pybus was an Australian Research Council Professorial Fellow at both the University of Tasmania and the University of Sydney and has been Fulbright Professor at Georgetown University in Washington DC, Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Texas, and

Leverhulme Visiting Professor at King's College, London.

Prof Pybus' current research interrogates the trade in First People's skeletal remains for her forthcoming book, *A Very Secret Trade*, which is the last of a trilogy that examines the destruction of the First People of Tasmania, beginning with *Community of Thieves*, published in 1991 (see left), followed by *Truganini* in 2020 which won the National Biography Award.



#### **Upcoming Events**

#### The RST Lecture Series 2024

Save the dates provided below and join us for an enriching year of knowledge, exploration, and celebration with The Royal Society of Tasmania.

#### Thursday 7 March 2024 AGM and Lecture

Speaker: Professor Cassandra Pybus (pictured right)

Title: Morton Allport: the resurrection man of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1862–1876.

Venue: The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania

Time: 4:30 pm

Professor Cassandra Pybus, distinguished historian and Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, explores the intriguing history of Morton Allport, a prominent Hobart lawyer engaged in the secret trade of exhuming bodies. Join us at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania for a captivating

journey into Tasmania's past.

#### Sunday 7 April 2024 Lecture

Speaker: Dr Keith Corbett OAM (pictured right)

Title: Gondwana's child – the geological making of Tasmania Venue: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus Time: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture refreshments, 4 pm for the lecture Dive into the geological wonders of Tasmania with Dr Keith Corbett.

A Tasmanian-born geologist, Dr Corbett brings over 60 years of expertise to unravel the unique geological makeup of the island. Join us at the Geology

Lecture Theatre for an enlightening exploration.

#### Monday 22 April 2024 – The Royal Society of Tasmania Medal Ceremony

Event: The Royal Society of Tasmania 2023 Medal Presentation

Venue: Government House, Hobart

Time: 5:30 pm

Join us at Government House as we acknowledge Associate Professor Alex Bissember with the M.R. Banks Medal and recognise Distinguished Emeritus Professor Paul Haddad

and Emeritus Professor John Church as recipients of the RM Johnston Memorial Medal. We will also present our

2023 Doctoral (PhD) Award to Dr Tobias Staal.

#### Sunday 5 May 2024 Lecture

Speaker: Emeritus Professor Gustaaf Hallegraeff (pictured right)

Title: Microbes That Shaped Our World

Venue: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus Time: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture refreshments, 4 pm for the lecture

Microbes are organisms that are too small to be seen by humans without using a microscope. This talk takes us on a voyage of discovery from the first cyanobacteria and algae that created an oxygen atmosphere, through protozoan malaria parasites that affected the human genome, to the fungi that delivered us antibiotics, beer and wine, and bacterial (cholera, pest) and viral diseases (smallpox, measles, influenza, COVID) that shaped human "civilisation". Most microbes (e.g.,

in human guts, forest soils) are beneficial to us. They never meant us any harm. They almost certainly will outlive us, and we need to rethink how, by using advanced molecular tools, we now better understand who they are and what they are doing, so that we can live in symbiosis with them rather than be at war.

Sunday 2 June 2024 Lecture

Speaker: Dr John Davidson

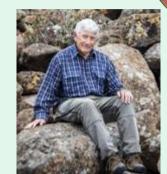
Title: Tasmania and Revival of Continental Drift

Venue: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus Time: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture refreshments, 4 pm for the lecture In the early 20th century, a scientific theory called Continental Drift was proposed about the migration of the continents through time. Recent research has uncovered the surprising fact that Continental Drift was first recognised over 20 centuries earlier by Eratosthenes (276 – 194 BC), a Greek polymath. Continental Drift, more recently termed plate tectonics,

Below: Continental Drift. Source: www.worldatlas.com











was debated ferociously in the mid nineteen hundreds. Professor Carey, Geologist at University of Tasmania and active member of The Royal Society of Tasmania, was one of the prime protagonists. Since 1950, scientists working in Tasmania have played a crucial role in providing the evidence to support the concept that continents had previously been in dramatically different locations and have moved periodically in response to the evolution of the Earth.

Thursday 4 July 2024 - Midwinter Dinner

Speaker: Susannah Fullerton, OAM, FRSN (pictured right)

Title: Ten Novels that Changed the World

Venue: The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay

Time: 6 pm for dinner and lecture

There are books that have changed attitudes to women like *The Women's Room*; and attitudes to animals like Anna Sewell's *Black Beauty* which argued for better treatment of working horses. There are books that have argued for change in the treatment of the poor, such as Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*. There are books that have made us think about violence, poverty, drugs, such as *Go Ask Alice*; about nature versus nurture, such as Goldings' *Lord of the Flies*.

Laurence Sterne's creative novel *Tristram Shandy* can be seen as leading a direct path to James Joyce's *Ulysses*, and Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*. Authors have given us new modes of writing and hence new modes of thinking. There is no doubt that fiction brings change by giving us the chance to walk in the shoes of another person, to emphasise with those who are different from us in some way. Reading novels can change us and change our world. Join Susannah Fullerton, one of Australia's renowned literary speakers, for an engaging exploration of ten novels that changed the world. Dinner and lecture at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.

#### **Sunday 4 August 2024 Lecture**

Speaker: Heather Sculthorpe (pictured right)

**Title**: To Be Confirmed **Venue**: To Be Confirmed

Time: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture refreshments, 4 pm for the lecture

Explore the distinguished career of Heather Sculthorpe, former CEO of the Tasmanian

Aboriginal Centre, as she shares insights into Aboriginal heritage and culture.

#### Thursday 29 August 2024 – Beer Aquatic – Celebrating National Science Week

**Speaker:** To Be Confirmed **Title:** To Be Confirmed

**Venue**: Hobart Brewing Company, Evans Street, Hobart **Time**: 5:30 pm for pre-lecture drinks, 6 pm for the lecture

Celebrate National Science Week with a special lecture at the Hobart Brewing Company, presented in partnership with the Beer Aquatic. An informative and entertaining evening

awaits!

#### Sunday 1 September 2024 Lecture

Speaker: Dr Matthew Cracknell (pictured right)

Title: Artificial Intelligence for Society and Science – why should you care?

**Venue**: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus **Time**: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture drinks, 4 pm for the lecture

As Artificial Intelligence continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, understanding its implications becomes increasingly crucial. This thought-provoking talk aims to shed light on the profound impact of AI on both society and the scientific community.

#### **Sunday 6 October 2024 Lecture**

**Speakers:** 2023 Doctoral Award winner, Tobias Staal (pictured right), will join with three emerging scholars, Ciara Smart (History), Patrick Flynn (Creative Writing), and Carla Baker (History) to discuss their current research projects.

Title: The PhD Showcase

Venue: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus







Time: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture drinks, 4 pm for the lecture

Discover cutting-edge research as these impressive young scholars present short talks on their current projects. We

honour and celebrate their academic achievement!

**Sunday 3 November 2024 Speaker** 

Speaker: Dr Mel Fitzpatrick

**Title**: Decades of Climate Disinformation: A scientist's story **Venue**: Geology Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Sandy Bay Campus **Time**: 3:30 pm for pre-lecture drinks, 4 pm for the lecture

Dr Mel Fitzpatrick is a climate scientist and educator, who over the last two decades has concentrated on effective communication of climate science to both policymakers and the general public. A specialist in polar and alpine research, Mel has worked for the Australian Antarctic Program, the US Antarctic Program, and in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle. Mel was an expert reviewer for the

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, contributing to the reports in both 2001 and 2007; and also worked for six years at the Union of Concerned Scientists as part of a small team developing a series of climate impact reports used for outreach and education in coastal and mountain areas. Mel now works in the education sector, contributes as a member of the City of Hobart's Climate Futures Portfolio Committee and continues to be passionate about bridging science and policy.

Thursday 5 December 2024 – The Annual Christmas Dinner and Lecture

Speaker: Dr Hanne Nielsen

Title: Antarctica and Popular Culture

Venue: The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay

Time: 6 pm for dinner and lecture

Dr Hanne Nielsen, Senior Lecturer in Antarctic Law and Governance, explores Antarctica's representation in popular culture. Join us for the annual Christmas Dinner and Lecture at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.

## The Royal Society of Tasmania – Northern Branch 2024 Launceston Lecture Series

Lectures commence at 1:30\* pm – at QVMAG @ Inveresk (recordings of most lectures will be available on the RST YouTube channel).

\*Start time varies as shown below.

Tobiszewka and Dr

Valeryia Komyakova

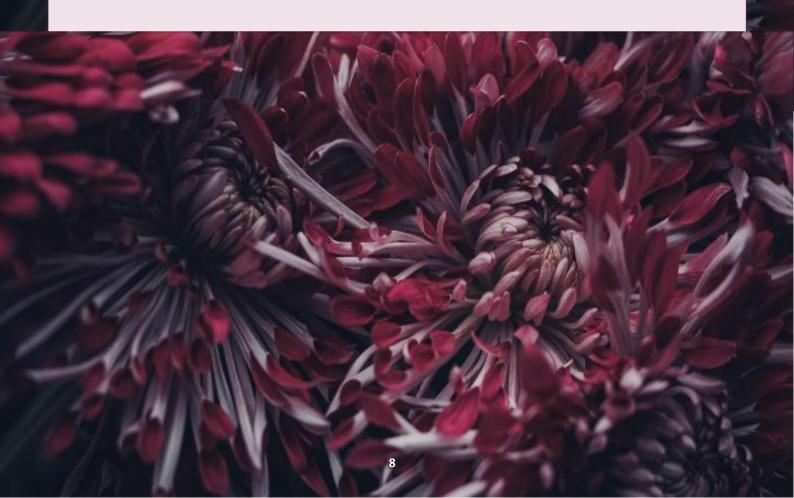
#### **Preliminary Program**

February 25	Professor Tim McCormack	"The International Criminal Court: Ukraine and Gaza" 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.
March 24		Annual General Meeting at 1:15 pm followed by the lecture below.
March 24	Professor Russell G Smith	"Pandemics and Fraud" 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.
April 28 The Elvin Fist Lecture	Professor Dom Geraghty	"The University of Tasmania Northern Transformation Project – Eight Years On" The Northern Transformation of the University of Tasmania in Launceston is now becoming a reality with three new buildings and one refurbishment.
May 26	Dr Anna Wrobel-	"Microplastics in Tasmania" How present is microplastic in Tasmanian

waters, soils and food, and what can we do about it?

June 23 Dr Hannah Fair "Modifying Health and Lifestyle Factors to Reduce Dementia Risk" 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. July 28 Ashley Bird "Bush Carpentry and the Jimmy Possum Tradition" The history of this tradition is a narrative of chairs made within a small area of Northern Annual Tasmania that is a story of mystery, unique craftsmanship and family **QVMAG Staff** connection. Lecture John Dent OAM "York Town: Then (1804 to 1806) and now" This talk will outline the August 25 history of York Town, the site of the first European settlement in Northern Tasmania from 1804 to 1808 and its history in recent times. September Two UTAS PhD "Breaking New Ground": Two PhD candidates at the University of 22 candidates Tasmania will talk about their research. October 6 Dr Nick Robert "Tasmania's Geologically Recent Glacial Records" Tasmanian landforms and sediments provide the only direct records of repeated glaciation of a Joint meeting tectonically stable landmass in the southern mid-latitudes. the Geologi-Consequently, they afford key opportunities to understand Earth's most cal Society of recent ice ages. New sites and evolving techniques are expanding the Australia understanding of Tasmania's last few million years of cryosphere fluctuations. October 27 "How Can You Belong in Launceston?" The varied experiences of Dr Ivan James AO refugees who have settled in Launceston and the development of the sociological concept of belonging.

November 24 TBA





THE ADVANCEMENT

## The Northern Branch of The Royal Society of Tasmania Invites You to a Public Lecture by

#### **Professor Tim McCormack**

The International Criminal Court: Ukraine and Gaza

Where: Meeting Room, QVMAG at Inveresk, Launceston.

When: 1:30 pm Sunday 25 February 2024.

Admission: Free for members of RST; \$6 general admission; \$4 for students, QVMAG or TMAG

OF KNOWLEDGE Friends and members of Launceston Historical Society.

#### Abstract:

The ICC has issued arrest warrants for Vladimir Putin and others in relation to alleged war crimes in Ukraine and is undertaking an ongoing investigation into the situation in Palestine, including in Gaza. Prof McCormack will explain how the ICC has jurisdiction in Ukraine despite the fact that neither Russia nor Ukraine are States Parties to the Rome Statute and in Palestine, despite the fact that Israel is now a State Party. He will discuss the likely role of the ICC in relation to the war in Ukraine and in Gaza including the prospects for bringing Vladimir Putin to trial in The Hague.



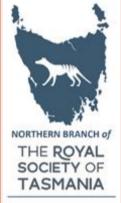


#### Biography:

Tim McCormack (pictured left) is Professor of International Law at the University of Tasmania and the Special Adviser on War Crimes to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague. He has held prestigious positions including as the Charles H Stockton Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at the US Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island (2015–16) and James Barr Ames Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School (2016 and 2020).

Generously supported by





THE ADVANCEMENT

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## The Northern Branch of The Royal Society of Tasmania Invites You to a Public Lecture by

#### **Professor Russell G Smith**

**Pandemics and Fraud** 

Where: Meeting Room, QVMAG at Inveresk, Launceston.

When: 1:30 pm Sunday 24 March 2024.

Admission: Free for members of RST; \$6 general admission; \$4 for students, QVMAG or TMAG

Friends and members of Launceston Historical Society.

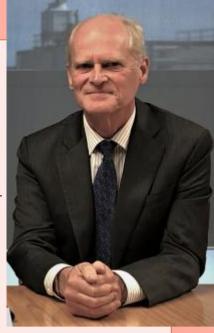
#### Abstract:

Frauds come in many forms, some of which may have a connection to pandemics and others which may not. This presentation considers whether health crises always generate opportunities for fraud, or whether these risks develop in response to the specific circumstances and initiatives created by pandemics. It also identifies the lessons that have been learned, or not learned, from previous pandemics, and how we can best prevent fraud from occurring in future pandemics and health crises.

#### **Biography:**

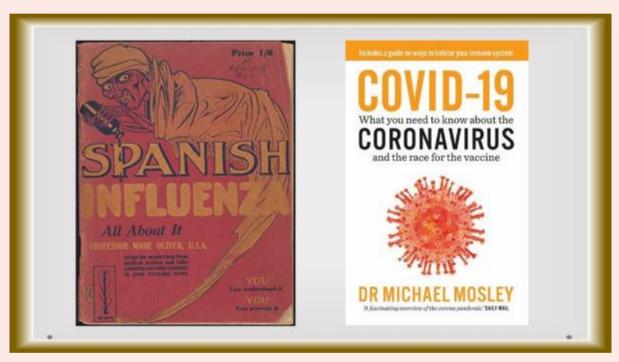
Professor Russell G Smith (pictured right) has qualifications in law, psychology and criminology from the University of Melbourne and a PhD from King's College London. He was Principal Criminologist at the Australian Institute of Criminology until 2020 and, following his retirement, is now an Honorary Fellow at the Institute and a Professor in the College of Business, Government and Law at Flinders University.

Prof Smith has published extensively, including histories of the General Medical Council in the UK, the Royal College of Nursing Australia and the Australian Institute of Criminology. In 2016, he was elected a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology and in 2023, he received the Gil Geis Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Criminology.



Generously supported by







#### NOTICE OF THE RST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **Thursday 7 March 2024**



The Annual General meeting of The Royal Society of Tasmania will be held on Thursday 7 March 2024, at 4:30 pm

at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay, Hobart.

OTE NOMINATE STAND

ELECT VOTE NOMINATE

All RST members and guests are welcome. Admission is free.

Please join us for a complimentary drink before the formalities

Following the AGM, Professor Cassandra Pybus will present a lecture titled: "Morton Allport: the resurrection man of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1862–1876" (see details on page 4).

#### **RST Annual General Meeting business summary**

- Approval of RST Rule changes
- Appointment of Auditor
- Presentation of the 2023 Annual Report
- Election of 2024 Office Bearers

Nominations for positions on The Royal Society of Tasmania Council are now open for election at the Annual General Meeting.

The following positions are open for nomination:

- Three Council members (for 1- and 3-year terms to be determined by ballot at the first Council meeting after
- Honorary Secretary (1 year; may be re-elected)
- Honorary Treasurer (1 year; may be re-elected)
- President (1 year; may be re-elected for 2 years maximum)
- Vice President (1 year; may be re-elected for 2 years maximum)
- Early Career Researcher (3 years)

Nominations must be received by the Returning Officer, Professor Ross Large, by midnight Thursday 29 February 2024.

The nomination form on the following two pages can be printed and can also be downloaded from the RST website. Copies may also be obtained from the RST Office which is open Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12 noon.

The completed and signed form may be returned by mail to:

- The Returning Officer c/- The Royal Society of Tasmania **GPO Box 1166** Hobart TAS 7001
- Or delivered to the RST office at 19 Davey Street
- Or a signed and scanned copy may be emailed to admin@rst.org.au
- For further information, please contact the Honorary Secretary at secretary@rst.org.au



# THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATION FORM ABN 65 889 598 100 Nominations for Election 2024

Office Bearer and Council Member Nomination Form for The Royal Society of Tasmania 2024 elections to be held Thursday 7 March 2024 at 4:30 pm at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay, Hobart.

The Royal Society of Tasmania would like to formally invite nominations for positions on the Society's Council and Executive.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE

Nominations close midnight Thursday 29 February 2024.

No self-nominations are accepted.

All nominees and nominators must be financial members at the time of nomination.

#### **About nominations**

Collections.

The Rules and By-laws stipulate that the office bearers (Rule 8) and ordinary members (Rules 21 and 22) of the Council be elected each year. Nominations will be received by the Returning Officer (Rule 10). The Immediate Past President is the Returning Officer. Rule 10 requires each nomination to be in writing. No person who is a candidate for any position can propose or second the nomination of any other person for any position.

candidate for any position can propose or second the nomination of any other person for any position.
*Indicates required information
*Do you (the nominator) accept and understand the above nominations rules and information?  Yes No
*Please indicate which position the nominee is proposed for:  Council member  Early Career Researcher  Honorary Secretary  Honorary Treasurer  President  Vice President
Please send this completed nomination form (2 pages) to:
The Returning Officer c/- The Royal Society of Tasmania GPO Box 1166 Hobart TAS 7001 or deliver it to the RST Office, 19 Davey Street Hobart TAS 7000
Signed and scanned copies can be emailed to: <a href="mailto:admin@rst.org.au">admin@rst.org.au</a>
Nominations must be received by midnight Thursday 29 February 2024.
The Royal Society of Tasmania is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) to maintain our entitlement to Deductible Gift Recipient status in respect of donations for the RST Library and Art

The RST is required to take reasonable steps to be satisfied that its Responsible Persons (its Council members) have not been disgualified from:

- managing a corporation under the Corporations Act 2001 (Commonwealth), or
- being a Responsible Person by the ACNC Commissioner within the previous 12 months.

#### Council Members are required to complete a Declaration for Responsible Persons form.

Nominees are asked to answer the following questions:

*Are you disqualified from managing a corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001 (Commonwealth)? That would occur if you:	
<ul> <li>have been convicted of certain offences, such as serious offences, dishonesty offences or other offences that can affect a corporation,</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>are an undischarged bankrupt or are subject to a 'personal insolvency agreement' you have not followed, or</li> </ul>	O Yes O No
<ul> <li>have been disqualified by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), the Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations (ORIC), or an Australian or New Zealand court.</li> </ul>	
*Have you been disqualified by the Australian Charities and Not-for- Profits Commissioner at any time during the previous year?	O Yes O No

If you answered YES to one of these questions, you are not permitted to be a Responsible Person (in this case, Council member of The Royal Society of Tasmania) to comply with the obligations under ACNC Governance Standard 4.

NOMINATION	
Proposed by	
(Proposer's full name)	
Signature of proposer	Date:
Seconded by	
(Seconder's full name)	
Signature of seconder	. Date:
I accept the nomination for the position of	and have answered the questions
Nominee	
(Full name of nominee)	
Signature of nominee	Date:
Returning Officer's use only	
o All persons are financial.	
o Not proposed or seconded by another candidate for election	
o Not excluded by Rules 12 or 21 (consecutive terms).	

#### NOTICE OF PROPOSED RST RULE CHANGES

#### **Proposed change to Rule 14 THE COUNCIL**

Rule 14 sets out the make-up of the Council. Currently there are four *ex officio* positions (TMAG Nominee, Honorary Editor, Honorary Solicitor, Honorary Librarian).

The RST Council recommends that another ex officio position on Council be created for the Honorary Art Curator.

The RST Art Collection is a major asset of the Society that requires expert management on an almost daily basis.

That management is provided by the RST Art Committee and the RST Honorary Art Curator. The position of

Honorary Art Curator is an ongoing one and best suited to being *ex officio* ensuring that communication with the RST Council is as efficient as possible.

Adding an *ex officio* position to Council requires changing Rule 14. Approval for this change will be sought at the RST AGM on 7 March 2024.

#### Current Rule 14

14. The Council shall consist of the Office-bearers and six Members, together with one Member who is an Early Career Researcher and one Student Member. All Council Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

- a) In addition there shall be two Members nominated by each of the Branches of the Society.
- b) A nominee of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery shall be ex officio, a member of the Council.
- c) The Honorary Editor, Honorary Solicitor and Honorary Librarian shall be ex officio members of the Council.
- d) All nominees shall be Honorary Life Members, Life Members, Ordinary Members or Student Members of the Society elected in accordance with these rules.

#### Recommended new Rule 14

14. The Council shall consist of the Office-bearers and six Members, together with one Member who is an Early Career Researcher and one Student Member. All Council Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

- a) In addition there shall be two Members nominated by each of the Branches of the Society.
- b) A nominee of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery shall be ex officio, a member of the Council.
- c) The Honorary Editor, Honorary Solicitor, Honorary Librarian and Honorary Art Curator shall be *ex officio* members of the Council.
- d) All nominees shall be Honorary Life Members, Life Members, Ordinary Members or Student Members of the Society elected in accordance with these rules.

## Proposed changes to Rule 26 (ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS) and Rule 39 (STUDENT MEMBERS)

At least since the 1911 Act to Incorporate The Royal Society of Tasmania, new members were nominated and elected by existing members of the RST.

For the past several years, the Membership Secretary who processes application forms and the Web Editor have signed most forms as nominator and seconder. Only very rarely do applicants organise their own nominators and seconders. In addition, most applicants are not known to existing members, so securing a nominator and seconder who knows the applicant is a time-consuming step. Finally, it is in the best interests of the Society to have an almost effortless and streamlined joining process.

Note that an application must be approved at a general meeting of the Society and/or Council meeting before membership is achieved.

The RST Council recommends changes to Rule 26 and Rule 39 so that nominators and seconders of potential new RST members are no longer required. Approval for the changes will be sought at the RST AGM on 7 March 2024.

#### Current Rule 26 and Rule 39

#### **ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS**

26. Any adult person may be nominated as an Ordinary Member of the Society. Such nomination shall be in writing and shall contain the full name, titles and address of the person nominated, and shall be signed by not fewer than two Honorary Life, Life, Ordinary, or Student Members and the person so nominated and shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary.

#### STUDENT MEMBERS

39. A person who is certified as bona fide as at least a half-time student by an officer of a recognised educational

institution may be nominated and elected as a Student Member. Such nomination shall be in writing and shall contain the full name, titles and address of the person nominated, and shall be signed by two Honorary Life, Life, Ordinary, or Student Members and the person so nominated, and shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary. A Student Member may elect to become an Ordinary Member at any time by paying the appropriate subscription.

#### Recommended new Rule 26 and Rule 39

#### **ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS**

26. Any adult person may apply for Society membership as an Ordinary Member of the Society. Such application shall be in writing and shall contain the full name, titles and address of the applicant, and shall be signed by the applicant, and shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary.

#### STUDENT MEMBERS

39. A person who is certified as bona fide as at least a half-time student by an officer of a recognised educational institution may apply for Society membership as a Student Member. Such application shall be in writing and shall contain the full name, titles and address of the applicant, and shall be signed by the applicant, and shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary. A student member may elect to become an ordinary member at any time by paying the appropriate subscription.

## Advance Notice RST Medal Presentation Ceremony, Government House, 22 April 2024

Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania will present three RST medals and one Doctoral Award to the 2023 winners at Government House on **Monday 22 April 2024. The event will begin at 5:30 pm.** 

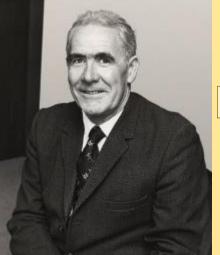
All RST members and guests are welcome. There is no admission charge. Registration on the Government House Trybooking site in advance is essential. The site will open a few weeks before the event.

Tasmanian Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science, the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering and the Australian Academy of Medical Sciences have been invited to join us for this landmark event.

The RM Johnston Memorial medals will be presented to **Professor Paul Haddad** and **Professor John Church**.

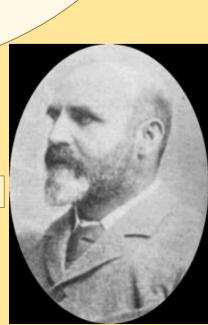
The MR Banks Medal will be presented to Associate Professor Alex Bissember.

The 2023 Doctoral Award will be presented to **Dr Tobias Staal**.

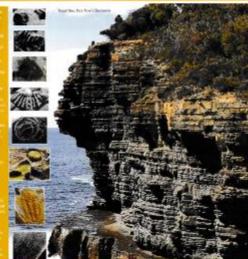


Left: Dr Maxwell R Banks AM.

Right: RM Johnston FLS.



# Peter Manchester's GUIDE TO TASMANIAN FOSSILS



How Tasmanian fossils guided aspects of the geological history of the formation of Tasmania

**Above:** The front cover of *Peter Manchester's Guide to Tasmanian Fossils*.

## How Did the Study of Fossils (Palaeontology) All Start?

Conceptually, the seeds were planted by Greek scholars in the first millennium before the Christian era. Around 600 BC, Xenophanes of Colophon noted that clam shells could be found on mountain peaks far removed from contemporary shorelines and that the sea formerly spread across parts of Malta. Two centuries later, Herodotus characterised shells of clams and snails similarly stranded far from any modern ocean, again concluding that ocean borders are not permanently fixed. Heraclitus claimed in the fifth century BC that the Earth's surface was constantly being modified by natural process. All these conclusions were based on meticulous observations.

In his codex *Leicester*, Leonardo da Vinci pondered and argued that invertebrate shells found high in the Apennines were the petrified remains of animals once living in a long-receded sea. In 1669 and later, men such as Nicolaus Steno, Carolus Linnaeus, and James Hutton, established the Principle of Superposition and the Principle of Methodological Uniformitarianism.

When ships set sail to explore the world – before the airplane was invented in 1903 – many seafaring expeditions included scientists. They documented the natural history of new-found places with meticulously kept journals and specimen collections. British biologist Charles Darwin, British biologist-geographer and social critic Alfred Russel Wallace and German biologist-physicist-artist Ernst Haeckel were among them. All three did their best to identify relationships between species and groups

of species as they changed through time – *Phylogeny*.

#### So how and why did I become involved in palaeontology?

It started when I was 13. Holidays were spent on the Huon pine 28-foot ketch 'Kathleen', moored at West Arm, Tamar River, opposite the "graffitied" rock cliffs. On a boat, fresh water at that time was sourced from what was known as the "dripping wells" about two miles along the beach towards Bowens Creek, near York Town, north of Beaconsfield. Armed with two buckets (no lids), sandals on feet, I set off. After four hours, I came back with 34 bucket of water and a bucket of shell-like impressions in rocks.

Little did I realise that I had collected a fossil (a fasciculate Spiriferid, *Trigonotreta stokesi*, Koenig 1825) the first described fossil taxon from Australia which is abundant and a characteristic index marker for the Tamarian Stage of the Permian.

Moving on to the year 2010, after 12 years of guiding 28 geological excursions along the North West and West coast of Tasmania, I wrote and published the book *Created from Chaos: a geological trail of 100 sites in Tasmania*. There are sections on fossils from Fossil Bluff, Wynyard, various brachiopods from Southern Tasmania and vertebrates from the Circular Head district.

My palaeontology study years at the Geology Department of the University of Tasmania were guided by Dr

Maxwell Banks and Professor Patrick Quilty. It was rumoured at the at the time, that both lecturers were in the process of producing a book on Tasmanian fossils. Unfortunately, it didn't eventuate.

Three and a half years ago at a meeting of geologists from the Department of Mineral Resources, I was asked if I would be interested in writing such a book on Tasmanian fossils. Reluctant at the time because of the task before me, I decided to take on the research in honour of my lecturers

Dr Maxwell Banks and Professor Patrick Quilty.

**Right:** Page 17 from *Peter Manchester's Guide to Tasmanian Fossils.* 



**Right:** Page 47 from *Peter Manchester's Guide to Tasmanian Fossils.* 

It required personally photo-

graphing fossils from museums, Department of Mines, private collections (including my own), printing negatives, cajoling overseas and mainland universities for photographs and being given personal photographs of field geologists. Then came the collection and digitising of over 182 academic papers from many organisations and universities.

Because it is my interpretation of my research, I have named the book/ catalogue *Peter Manchester's Guide to Tasmanian Fossils: How Tasmanian fossils guided aspects of the geological history of the formation of Tasmania*.

#### A few facts about this book/catalogue:

- The introduction has six sections: How Charles Darwin and Dr Maxwell Banks influenced fossil studies in Tasmania. A brief history of the study of Tasmanian fossils. A general summary of Tasmanian fossil distribution. How to use cladograms for identification. When and where did the first observable evidence of life occur in Tasmania. Trends in understanding fossils, good sites in Tasmania for viewing fossils. Included is the usual glossary, bibliography and acknowledgments and a section on Special Tasmanian Fossil finds.
- ♦ The bulk of the book/catalogue has 15 phyla. Each phylum has a theory section and a catalogue of most of that phylum found in Tasmania. Such phyla are the brachiopods, insects, petrified woods, trace fossils, sponges, trilobites, cnidarians, bivalves, pelecypods, bryozoans, graptolites, invertebrates, cephalopods, echinoids, and a detailed section on palaeobotany.
- This book/catalogue is the first ever produced for Tasmanian fossils.
- The book/catalogue has over 900 photographs and graphics.
- ♦ There are 390 pages in A4 layout size. All pages are sewn.
- Although the final price has not been established, it will be released at the end of February this year.

Further information can be obtained from Peter S Manchester, <a href="milingandi@vision.net.au">milingandi@vision.net.au</a> or Franklin Direct, Moonah, Hobart.

#### The late Tony Ronald Hope awarded Australia Day Honour, January 2024

The Royal Society of Tasmania is pleased to acknowledge that former RST member, the late Tony Hope, was awarded a posthumous OAM in the Australia Day Honours for service to the mining industry, and to Australia China relations.

The **late Anthony Ronald Hope** (1940 – 2023, pictured left) was a geologist and author, and until recently, a member of The Royal Society of Tasmania.

Tony was born in Hobart and graduated in Geology with a BSc from the University of Sydney in 1961, majoring in geology. Tony worked as an exploration geologist in Australia, New Zealand, PNG, Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines, China, Ghana, Ecuador, Peru and Chile and worked for CRA, BHP, Lepanto, Kennecott, Mount Morgan and Peko Wallsend also holding directorships with junior mining companies including consulting roles. He gained enormous experience in technical and managerial roles and mine feasibility studies.

He was also involved with the exploration and early feasibility of the Lihir gold mine in Papua New Guinea; exploration leading to the discovery of the Ginkgo heavy mineral deposit in the Murray Basin; and the exploration and development of bentonite mines in the Philippines and Australia.

Tony was a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and Fellow of the Society of Exploration Geochemists.

Tony published several books, including the highly successful, *A Quarry Speaks* in 2006 which provides an illustrative history of Sullivans Cove, Salamanca and Battery Point from 1804 to 2006; *The Hope Factor* on exploration and mining in Australasia in 2014; *Friends Across the Ocean* in 2017; and *Showcasing Tasmania and its* 





Connection to Fujian, China in 2017. Most recently, he published *The Remarkable Captain James Kelly of Van Diemen's Land* (who was a trader and explorer in Van Diemen's Land in the 1800s).

In 2005, Tony was awarded the Polish Gold Cross of Merit for recording the history of the Polish ex-servicemen who came to Tasmania following World War II.

Tony fully deserved his OAM and is well remembered for his achievements by his loving wife, Suzanne, and many friends and colleagues.

**Professor Ross Large AO** 

#### The RST Art Collection

The RST Art Collection is housed at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart. Any queries please contact the Honorary Art Curator, Dr Anita Hansen: anita.hansen@utas.edu.au

#### Simpkinson de Wesselow (1819-1906)

**Left:** *Simpkinson de Wesselow* (from a miniature in the possession of Countess Milesi-Ferretti Paulucci de Calboli).

One of the most featured, and one of my favourite, artists in the RST Art Collection is Simpkinson de Wesselow. There are over 200 of his works in the collection – watercolours and pencil sketches. These artworks were donated by de Wesselow himself in 1900.

For this article I'll concentrate on the sketches that he made around the Domain, while working at the Rossbank Observatory. This was, after all, the reason that he was in Van Diemen's Land.

On 5 October 1839, a British naval expedition set sail towards the Antarctic. The scientific expedition, comprising two ships, the *Erebus* and the *Terror*, under the command of James Clark Ross, was to conduct magnetic surveys and observations – they were also to attempt to reach the South Magnetic Pole. This survey was a part of a wider geo-

magnetic project known as the 'magnetic crusade', which continued from 1839 to 1854, and comprised a combination of observations at fixed magnetic and meteorological observatories. The ambitious project covered a large part of the globe, including Britain, Europe, South Africa and Australia (Hobart), and involved observation on a number of mobile surveys. As Matthew Goodman notes, "The magnetic crusade was the most extensive and ambitious project of the early nineteenth century."



**Left:** Rossbank Observatory – Hobart Town. Ross, J.C., A Voyage of Discovery and Research in the Southern Oceans during the years 1839–43. Vol.1, John Murray, London, 1847, p. 94.

Who was Simpkinson de Wesselow?

Born Francis Guillemard Simpkinson in London in 1819, he was the son of Sir John Augustus Francis Simpkinson, barrister and later QC, and his wife Mary, née Griffin, who was a sister of Lady Jane Franklin (wife of Sir John Franklin, Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land). His grandfather was the Rev John Simkinson, Rector of Cliffe, Kent.

He had been expected to follow in this line of profession, however, meeting his uncle, John Franklin, led to a fascination with travel and exploration of the world outside England.

So, in March 1832, at the age of only 13, he joined the British navy as a first-class volunteer on *HMS Britannia*, in which he served – apart

from 28 days in October 1833 on the *Rainbow* with his uncle, John Franklin – until February 1835, when he was transferred to the *Jupiter*.

Simpkinson later went on to spend 12 months at the Royal Naval College in the early 1840s. This stint at the Naval College is very interesting for it was here that he studied drawing and painting (more on this later).

#### Van Diemen's Land - 1845-1849

**Right:** From The Old Wharf, Hobart Town (Van Diemen's Land), June 22 1848, watercolour, 26.1 x 37.4, Simpkinson de Wesselow, RST Art Collection.

In September 1844, Simpkinson landed at Hobarton, Van Diemen's Land to be part of the team at the magnetic observatory at Rossbank, in the Domain. His duties there — although important to the worldwide network of magnetic observations — were extremely tedious and mechanical — readings took place every hour — day and night.

His interest in coming to Tasmania could also have had something to

do with the chance to meet with his aunt and her husband, John Franklin who was Lieutenant-Governor of **Van Diemen's Land** at the time. Unfortunately, they would not meet – Franklin had been ordered back to England and they missed meeting each other by a few weeks.



While Simpkinson was stationed in Tasmania, he joined a painting group run by the English artist John Skinner Prout. He needed something to do to occupy himself, both on his time off, but also while on duty recording the magnetic readings.

Simpkinson and Prout soon became close friends and often painted together, going on trips around Van Diemen's Land and even venturing off to Flinders Island and Victoria together for two months. I have written here previously about de Wesselow and Prout painting together (see the Prout articles).

Simpkinson's and Skinner Prout's work are often compared: Prout the professional artist and mentor; Simpkinson, the naval officer and student. Simpkinson is often regarded by art historians and critics as an amateur artist – just one more member of the countless band of enthusiasts devoted to outdoor sketching, so fashionable in Victorian times. But was Simpkinson really an amateur artist or an unskilled artist? – I would argue not.

We must look at the meaning of 'amateur' – a common acceptance of the word is that it means an unskilful person, somebody who does something without being paid for it, or without having had training or education for it. The opposite is a 'professional' – someone who has had formal training and will be paid for their work.

#### Simpkinson's Art Training

And this is where I return to Simpkinson's time at the Royal Naval College in the early 1840s shortly before arriving in Van Diemen's Land and, indeed, his entire life in the British navy in the years before that.

As early as the seventeenth century, drawing had been introduced to the curriculum at Naval schools. In 1696, the students were taught, 'The construction and use of right lined and circular Maps, the Practice of Drawing for laying down the appearance of lands; Moles and other objects worthy of notice', and 'the art of drawing topographical and scientific recording'.

This extensive training in the skills of drawing and the continued use of these skills has left many of the official reports and private journals, not only interesting reading, but also beautifully illustrated publications as well. Jim Burant, in writing about *The Military Artist and the Documentary Art Record* notes:

Many cultural institutions hold military documentary art ... these are found to be in three main forms: water-colours, drawings, and prints, all of which are designs executed on a paper support. Few documentary art records with military connotations exist in the form of oil paintings on canvas. Oil paintings were slow to execute, difficult to transport, very expensive to create and maintain, and generally would not have yielded major career benefits to a military officer.

Indeed, it was stated that 'Young seamen who aspired to a commission in Her Majesty's Navy were expected ... to become proficient in drawing as a matter of course.'



#### **Burant continues:**

On the other hand, a watercolour or pencil sketch could be quickly created, and was generally small and transportable, easily preserved, and inexpensive. The artistic training of most military men, particularly in the British armed forces, consisted essentially of the use of the watercolour medium in a paper format. Because loose paper was difficult to transport, notebooks or sketchbooks, generally of a small size and wrapped in waterproof oilskins, were the standard equipment of a military artist.

This ensured that most surviving "on the spot" watercolours and drawings are less than 19 x 25 centimetres in size, although many "finished" works, that is, works redrawn for presentation purposes, are larger, up to about 50 x 60 centimetres in size. Many sketchbooks still survive in bound formats, although countless others have been broken up due to age, neglect, or the desire on the part of owners and their descendants to frame and display particular sheets from them. Original watercolours and drawings were invariably the result of a specific official requirement to record some aspect of the country for navigation, colonisation, survey, construction, or purely military purposes.



During his career in the navy, Simpkinson would have been expected to be proficient in topographical drawing and painting. His skills as an artist were recognised by his Captain on board *HMS Harrier*, Edward Belcher, who confiscated his watercolour paintings and made them part of the ship's log. This may be an early illustration by Simpkinson. It appears in *H.M.S. Sulphur at California*, 1837 and 1839: being the accounts of Midshipman Francis Guillemard Simpkinson and Captain Edward Belcher.

**Left:** From H.M.S. Sulphur at California, 1837 and 1839: being the accounts of Midshipman Francis Guillemard Simpkinson and Captain Edward Belcher, perhaps an early watercolour by Simpkinson.

#### Watercolours from around the Domain

Simpkinson took part in the first major exhibition held in the colony in 1845. On 9 January 1845, *Hobart Town Courier* wrote of Simpkinson's work: *This drawing must assume a high rank in any collection. It is vigorously handled, and the distance and sky managed in a particularly effective and artistic manner.* 

**Right:** The Derwent from the Observatory, Van Diemen's Land, Simpkinson de Wesselow, May 1845, watercolour,  $26.9 \times 37$ , RST Art Collection.

Max Angus, in his book Simpkinson de Wesselow: Landscape Painter in Van Diemen's Land and the Port Phillip District 1844–1845, wrote about this painting, View from the Rossbank Observatory, the surviving buildings of which are now within the grounds of Government House on the Domain. Mt Direction shows prominently, with Gunner's Quoin to its right.





**Left:** The Derwent from the Observatory, Van Diemen's Land, Simpkinson de Wesselow, May 1848, watercolour, 26.9 x 37, RST Art Collection.

**Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, Hobart**The wall on the right-hand side of this painting is still in existence.

In 1829, Governor George Arthur ordered the construction of a heated wall to protect frost-tender



**Right:** *In the Domain, Hobarton, Van Diemen's Land, Sept 1847,* Simpkinson de Wesselow, watercolour, 25.4 x 36.9, RST Art Collection.

**Left:** In the Domain, Hobarton, Van Diemen's Land, Sept 1847, Simpkinson de Wesselow, watercolour, 25.4 x 36.5, RST Art Collection.

plants and extend growing periods of fruit trees on the boundary of the Colonial Gardens, similar to the style to the then popular heated walls in English kitchen gardens with internal channels built into the thick brickwork. In theory, coal-fired furnaces sent hot air through the channels, radiating heat through the wall's thick brick and stone surfaces. However, the convict-built wall was only heated on a few occasions over the years as it was soon realised that this functionality was no longer needed.



**Left:** *In the Domain, Hobarton, Van Diemen's Land, May 1848,* Simpkinson de Wesselow, watercolour, 25.4 x 36.9, RST Art Collection.

#### After Van Diemen's Land

In 1849, Simpkinson, after a four-year period, left Hobart in the *Calcutta* for England, where he returned to half-pay. He found that the years spent at the Rossbank Observatory now proved to be a drawback in trying to gain promotion – he had been away from the sea for quite an extended period, and important as the magnetic readings were, they did not give him naval experience needed for promotion. He was now back on half-pay and he moved to the Griffin's residence in London.

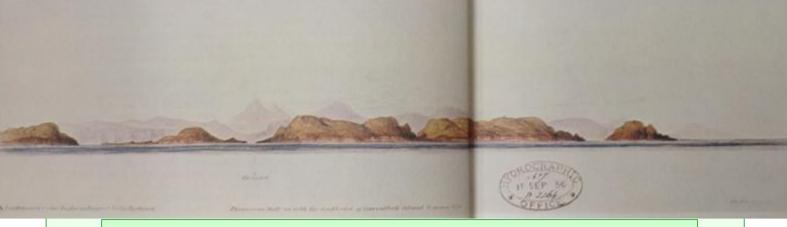
Lady Jane Franklin had also moved back there with her family while waiting to hear of the whereabouts of Sir John who was missing on his voyage to find the North-West Passage around the top of

Canada. Simpkinson was offered a position with Captain Austin early in 1850 on one of the expeditions to search for Franklin, however, he failed the medical. He was 31 at the time.

In 1850, he assumed the name de Wesselow after his great-grandfather, who was Ambassador of Peter the Great at the Court of Vienna, when he inherited some money from his estate. A condition of the inheritance was that he change his name.

His last commission was in the *Fishgard* from March 1854 to March 1855 on surveying duties. He retired from the navy as a lieutenant in April 1870 aged 51. He had inherited money from Jane Franklin's father – this caused a rift between Jane Franklin and Simpkinson, and also the inheritance from the de Wesselow family and was now a reasonably wealthy man.

De Wesselow continued his interest in painting for the remainder of his life. He married Emily Wagner in 1869 and built *Villa la Casa* on the French Riviera, where the couple spent a large part of their time. There de Wesselow built a studio so that he could continue to paint – still in watercolours – and became known locally as a good water-colour artist.



**Above:** Entrance to the Firth of Lorn, watercolour, 10 x 37.5 cm. Completed by Simpkinson c 1855.

He died suddenly of a heart attack at Villa la Casa in 1906 aged 88.

References for this article are too numerous to mention here. This article is primarily based on lectures and articles I have given or written on Simpkinson de Wesselow, and from a piece I wrote for *On Human Horizons: essays emerging from the Eighth WD Joske Interdisciplinary Colloquium – 2020, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, ed. Randall Lindstrom and Amanda Wojtowicz.* 

#### **Anita Hansen**



**Left:** Merely one section of the Arthur Wall today at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens showing the use of buttresses for strength and support.

Source: gardens.rtbg.tas.gov.au

Below: Views of Tasmania.



#### **Reports on Recent Events**



**Above:** Naren Ganesh Pillai outside the Research School of Social Sciences Auditorium at the ANU.

#### **RST Bursary Report**

This year I was sponsored to attend the 2023 Australasian Society for Philosophy and Psychology at the ANU in Canberra by The Royal Society of Tasmania. My studies at Elizabeth College, being in Year 11, as well as the University of Tasmania, through the High Achievers Program, were greatly enriched by this amazing opportunity. Going to this conference and conversing with world-renowned neuroscientists, philosophers and psychologists about my lifelong interest in the brain and the origins of consciousness gave me the realisation that this would definitely be the field I will spend my life investigating.

Our brain, with its extraordinary capability for consciousness, has puzzled philosophy and psychology for decades. As society is extremely interdisciplinary, this conference was especially enlightening to me as it provided content from many different perspectives, all of which were scientifically valid and rigorously researched. One particularly amazing keynote presentation by Professor Bayne

gave us a glimpse into the ongoing debate of the developmental point at which consciousness 'arises'.

Other than consciousness, there were many topics of interest but most interesting

for me was the public forum on the legal cognitive impairment defence. The forum gave overviews of cases where the cognitive impairment defence was argued to be a result of a traumatic brain injury or a tumour, highlighting when the defence was taken to be valid and when it was not. This forum really opened my mind to the justice implications of the philosophy and psychology of the brain, and how closely balanced ethics, morality and responsibility are regarding human brains.

Overall, this conference was one to remember. I thoroughly enjoyed the amazing opportunity to explore the limits of philosophy and psychology, and to broaden my perspective. As I embark on my new quest to completely devour the publications

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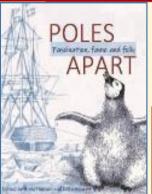
**Above:** Naren Ganesh Pillai wearing his conference name tag and his RST cap in front of the main entrance.

these leading Australasian scientists are publishing, I must extend my sincere gratitude to The Royal Society of Tasmania for supporting me to attend this enlightening experience and further enrich my knowledge. I am really grateful that The Royal Society of Tasmania was able to help me reach Canberra and attend this stepping stone to further exploration.

Naren Ganesh Pillai

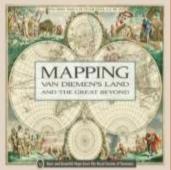


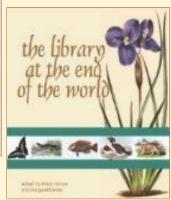
#### **RST Contact Information**

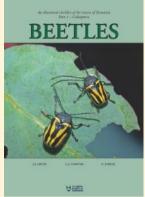


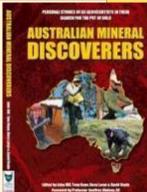
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#### The Society's Library



The RST Library Collection is held at UTAS in the Special and Rare Reading Room, Level 5, Morris Miller Library, Sandy Bay Campus.

The Reading Room is open by appointment on Mondays and Wednesdays only between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm; closed for lunch from 12:30 – 1:30 pm.

Please email **RSTLibrary.Collections@utas.edu.au** for appointments and enquiries about the collection.

Library Services | Academic Division, University of Tasmania

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