# ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA Annual Report for the Year 1997

The Council has the honour to present to members the following report on the activities of the Society during the year.

#### Council and Office Bearers

Patron Her Majesty the Queen

President His Excellency, the Honourable Sir Guy Green AC, KBE The Governor of Tasmania

Vice-Presidents

Dr John Thorne

Dr Shirley Jeffrey AM

Council

Mr Alan Blow OAM, QC Mrs Michelle de Quincey Professor Campbell Macknight Mr Ken Milton (resigned) Dr Andrew Rozefelds Dr Steven Smith (resigned) Mr Chris Tassell

Dr Brian Yates

Mr Ron Banks (Past Vice-President)

Honorary Secretary Dr Michael Readett

Honorary Treasurer Dr David Leaman

Honorary Auditor Mr W. Anning BEc, FCA

> Honorary Editor Dr Max Banks AM

Honorary Assistant Editor Dr Mick Brown

#### President

His Excellency, Sir Guy Green, took the Chair as President of the Society at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, and at that of the Northern Branch. He presented the R.M. Johnston Medal to Professor Peter Sculthorpe AO, OBE, on 28 November and, accompanied by Lady Green, attended the Society's Christmas Function, later the same day.

Sir Guy Green, as President, presented a Royal Society Bursary to Andrew Job of Rokeby on 8 May 1997. The Bursary was to help Andrew represent Australia at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Regina, Saskatchewan.

#### Bereavements

Mr Phil Andrews (a member since 1966) died 10 February. He was well known and well respected in his field as Curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. Several of his papers have appeared in the *Papers and Proceedings* of the Royal Society.

Mr J.R. Erp (a member since 1950) died in March 1977. Mr H.B. Fowler (a member since 1961) was a long-standing and active member of the Northern Branch. Mrs R. Millington (a member since 1974) died in March 1997.

Dr Jim Rogers (a member since 1959), a past Vice-President of the Society, died on 15 September. He had wide interests in biology and was Secretary of the Biological Club at the time of his death. Dr Rogers had a distinguished career in the army and followed his wartime experience with much voluntary work to help in the eradication of trachoma. He was also involved in astronomy, sport and education.

Miss J.C. Williams (a member since 1953) died in August 1997. Miss Williams regularly attended meetings of the Northern Branch.

#### Honours and Awards to Members

Professor Patrick Quilty was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1997 Queen's Birthday Honours List. The appointment was for service to geoscience, particularly Australian Antarctic scientific research, and its international promotion.

Mr George Brown was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1997 Australia Day Honours List.

The appointment was for service to the community particularly through the Winston Churchill Fellows Association of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Branch of the National Trust.

Ms Patricia Sabine was named Telstra Business Woman of the Year for 1997. Ms Sabine is Director of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, and has served on the Council of the Royal Society.

Dr Winifred Curtis was named as Hobart City Council's Australia Day Citizen of the Year for 1996. Dr Curtis has given a lifetime of service to Botany in Tasmania, has written many books, and (at 91 years of age) still works regularly at the Herbarium at the University of Tasmania.

Professor Terry Dwyer was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1998 Australia Day Honours List. The appointment was for services to medical research.

Mr Andrew Koo was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1998 Australia Day Honours List. The appointment was for service to the community. particularly through vocational education and training.

### Membership

The membership is 409, an increase of 6 relative to 1996 and is made up as follows:

President	1	
Honorary Members	6	(2)
Life Members	30	(9)
Ordinary Members		
receiving Papers & Proceedings	238	(37)
not receiving Papers & Proceedings	112	(33)
Associate Members	22	(7)
TOTAL	409	(88)

Figures in brackets represent Northern Branch members.

#### Staff

The Society would like to place on record their thanks to Ms Vicki Farmery and Ms Joanna Huxley for their help throughout the year.

#### **Council Meetings**

Four meetings of Council were held during the year. Many topics were discussed, particularly the Royal Society of Tasmania Foundation, the Royal Society Bursaries, new Royal Society Medals, and the assessment of the viability of a branch of the Society in northwestern Tasmania.

### The Royal Society of Tasmania Foundation

The Royal Society Foundation has continued to seek funds for the future development of the Society and invest those funds so that in future years the Society will have the capacity to undertake projects, thus enabling it to more appropriately meet its objectives.

In the past year, the Foundation has sought to raise

support from members and will aim to widen its appeal in 1998.

At December 1997, the Foundation had invested the sum of \$51 769.00.

Currently the Foundation is seeking ways and means of obtaining tax deductibility for donations.

#### Honours and Honours Committee

The Honours Committee, Dr S.W. Jeffrey, Chair (marine science), Professor J.B. Reid (plant science), Mr D.G. Hannan (geomorphology) and Professor M. Roe (history), formulated two new awards during 1997 which were accepted by the Royal Society Council and membership.

The first new award is a medal to recognise outstanding achievement by a scholar in mid-career. This medal, to be known as the M.R. Banks medal, honours Dr Max Banks for his contributions to science and the Royal Society in Tasmania.

The first recipient will be Dr Trevor McDougall, Chief Research Scientist (CSIRO Marine Research) and Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, awarded for outstanding contributions to knowledge of ocean mixing processes. Such information is critical to more accurate modelling of climate change. The inaugural award will be presented to Dr McDougall at the March 1998 Royal Society Meeting.

The second new award will honour a young postdoctoral academic who has made significant advances in his/her field at an early stage of his/her career. The award will be made not more than five years after the PhD graduation and may be in any field within the purview of the Society. The award carries a prize of not less than \$500. Calls for nominations will be made early in 1998.

The R.M. Johnston medal was awarded in November 1997 to Launceston composer, Professor Peter Sculthorpe, for outstanding contributions to the development of music in Australia. Peter Sculthorpe's use of innovative idioms from the Australian landscape and indigenous peoples, his deep interest in, and use of the special quality and sounds of Japanese and Balinese music enabled his work to reflect a new Australianism.

This was beautifully illustrated in his lecture immediately following the medal award presentation. Peter Sculthorpe's concern for the Tasmanian community was recently expressed in a requiem composed in memory of the Port Arthur Tragedy.



Peter Sculthorpe with his award. Photo courtesy of the Mercury.

# Grants to the Society

Council received support from the State Government in the form of a special grant of \$3000 towards the cost of the Society's publication programme and, through Arts Tasmania, a grant of \$2000 towards the administration and promotion of the Society.

The publication programme was also supported by a grant of \$3000 from the University of Tasmania.

The Society acknowledges receipt of these grants with thanks and appreciates the support implied by them.

# Library

This year has seen some disruption to Library processes and development due to the anticipated move of the collection to the SciTech Library building as part of the University's research and low-use collections. The cancellation of this move and the associated merger of Sandy Bay campus libraries resulted in a further review of the Morris Miller building and collection arrangements with a decision late in the year to move the Royal Society Collection (and other collections) to level one of the Morris Miller building.

As a result of this decision, which stemmed from the need to use some areas currently occupied by the Royal Society collection for office space, the whole collection was moved to an adjacent area on the same floor during the last weeks of 1997. This temporary location should not affect access and use of the collection for the time it remains there.

Volumes 130 (part 2) and 131 were despatched to exchange partners during the year, again using the updated address labelling system first used in 1996.

A significant increase in the amount of binding was possible and a total of 187 volumes (compare with 34 in 1996) were bound during the year. As in the past, Royal Society binding quotas form part of that allocated to the Morris Miller collection, but some fluctuations in preparation and requirements in other areas made it possible to increase the Royal Society output for the year. The state of binding for the collection remains good, and no significant backlogs of unbound material exists.

The slow, but systematic, cataloguing of library materials into the University Library database continued during the year, but the introduction of a new Library system inevitably slowed down the progress in this and, indeed, all areas. It is still planned to integrate all rare materials onto the database, prior to the reshelving of the rare books with the University's collection in the atmospherically controlled Archives store and the recataloguing of current serials remains a priority.

Although Graeme Rayner remains as the Society's Librarian, the long-term Library Assistant (Carol Freeman) resigned from the University in January this year and was replaced in part by Shane Roberts, who undertakes the day-to-day running of the Royal Society Library and the University Archives. Despite these combined tasks, he remains available in the Library and adjacent areas on a full-time basis. Emilia Ward continued to assist on a daily basis with Library routines and her help is greatly appreciated.

Both Shane and Emilia spent time preparing a Library booklet which should be available in 1998. This booklet outlines the resources of the Library and should prove a valuable guide for members and users until such time as the whole collection is listed on the database.

Statistics for the Library remain subject to the peculiarities associated with an honour system, and some users still forget to sign the register. Loans are always low, due to the photocopying facilities which determine that users copy articles rather than borrow a volume. Visitor/user numbers are, however, significantly higher this year and are as follows: visitors – 303, loans – 45, intercampus/interlibrary loans – 46.

#### **Publications**

Volume 131 of the *Papers and Proceedings* was published during August. In it were the Clive Lord Memorial Lecture on "Teresa Hamilton in Tasmania: first-wave feminism in action" by Dr Alison Alexander, together with the Annual Report for 1996 and nine refereed papers. The papers dealt with various aspects of Tasmania, including botany, particularly plant ecology, geology, speleology and zoology. Authors are affiliated with State and Federal departments, the University of Tasmania and the University of South Australia, and one is in private practice.

Mrs Alison Jones acted as sub-editor and Ms June Pongratz prepared the papers for publication. Their considerable assistance is acknowledged with many thanks.

#### Awards to Students

Two Royal Society Bursaries (financed by the Royal Society and associated Scientific Bodies) were awarded during the year.

The first was awarded to Andrew Job of Rokeby to help him attend the Canada Wide Science Fair in Regina, Saskatchewan. Andrew represented Australia at this event following rigorous testing and selection.

The second Bursary was awarded to Andrew Howell of Legana to attend, as a representative from Australia, the International Youth Science Forum in London.



Andrew Job receiving his bursary from the President of the Royal Society. Photo courtesy of M. de Quincey.

Certificates issued by the examining bodies were presented in December 1997 to Tasmanian students for outstanding performance in national qualifying examinations for admittance to the Rio Tinto Australian Science Olympiad selection processes in biology and chemistry and to the Australian Mathematical Olympic Committee's School of Excellence (see photograph below).



Certificate winners Elizabeth Murchison (left), Caroline Mobsby and William Moase with Deputy Premier Sue Napier and Royal Society of Tasmania Vice-President Dr John Thorne. Photo courtesy of Star Newspapers.

#### Events in 1997

March 11 — (Annual General Meeting) at Government House, Hobart; "Originally Tasmanian - a brief survey illustrating that Tasmanian creativity is not confined to the Arts" the President.

April 1 — "Jetties in southern Tasmania" Dr Eric Guiler, Sandy Bay.

May 6 — "Species, computing and evolution; ways of looking at marine communities" Professor Craig Johnson, University of Tasmania, Hobart.

June 3 — "Remembering Sir John Franklin" Ms Joan Woodberry, Mt Nelson.

July 1 — "How man-made satellites work, and how they work for mankind" Dr Ian Barton, CSIRO, Hobart.

August 5 — "An introduction to the diversity in form and habitat of Tasmanian ferns" Mr Michael Garrett, Bicheno.

September 2 — "Armillaria in the Botanical Gardens" Dr David Bedford, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, Hobart.

October 7 — "Marine Pests and their management in Australian waters" Dr Chad Hewitt, Dr Gustaaf Hallegraeff, Mr Craig Proctor, Mr Jeff Ross and Dr Louise Goggin, Dr Ron Thresher in the chair; CSIRO and University of Tasmania, Hobart.

November 4 — "Post-Colonial in contemporary cultural theory and art making" Mr David Hansen, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

November 28 — Presentation by the President of the R.M. Johnson Medal to Professor Peter Sculthorpe, Sydney; followed by Professor Sculthorpe speaking on the influences on his music. A Christmas dinner followed.

December 2 — Land of sorrow, land of honey - the life of Judah Solomon. Dr Hamish Maxwell-Stewart University of Tasmania.

#### Northern Branch

Branch Council

Chairman Professor Campbell Macknight Vice-Chairman Ms Judith Hollingworth

Past Chairman Honorary Secretary Honorary Treasurer Committee

Mr Elvin Fist Mr Chris Tassell Mrs Doreen Girvan Mrs Christine Beswick

Mrs Mary Cameron Mr Brian East Mr David Hannan

The Council met four times in 1997

Meetings and Lectures

February 7 — "When all is said & done, timber is timber" Professor John Webster, University of Tasmania, Newnham.

March 7 — Annual General Meeting chaired by the President, His Excellency Sir Guy Green, AC, KBE; "From disaster to display: 200 years of the Sydney Cove".

April 11 — "Acacias of Australia" Mr John Simmons May 2 — "Woolmers Estate" Mr Richard Archer.

June 6 — Meeting cancelled to allow members to attend the Dr Pugh Oration.

July 4 — "Air pollution environmental health and respiratory diseases. Launceston and Upper Tamar" Dr Lloyd Lyons.

August 1 — "Writing the history of the Launceston Church Grammar School" Dr Alison Alexander, Hobart.

September 5 — "From summit to the ice sheet to the Southern Ocean: examples of the role of Antarctica in global process from recent studies in the Lambert Glacier/Amery Ice Shelf/Prydz region" Dr Ian Allison, University of Tasmania, Hobart.

October 9 — Three students from the University of Tasmania, Newnham

> Mr Nial Stewart, Department of Aquaculture Mr Telis Dimitrakoppulos, Department of Physical Sciences

Ms Lucy Di Benedetta, Department of Physical Sciences

November 7 — "Tasmanian Earthworms" Dr Rob Blackmore, Queen Victoria Museum.

December 5 — Members night

"Some research revisited" Mr Stan Payne.

"Propagation of potatoes for Tasmanian industry" Mr Bruce Beattie

"Images of Europe" Mr Allan Orr.

May 3 — Excursion to Woolmers Estate, Longford

### Other Activities

July 2 — Presentation of Royal Society Bursary to Andrew Howell.

#### Nominees to other Bodies

#### Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Council elected Professor J. Reid and Dr A.V. Brown to serve on the Board of Trustees for 1997. These Trustees arranged for Ms P. Sabine, Director, to report on the year's activities as follows:

1997 was another eventful year for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery marked by both triumphs and tragedy.

#### Trustees

Chairman of Trustees Alan Blow OAM, QC concluded his period of appointment in April after almost seven years as a Trustee and Dr Tony Brown was elected Chairman in his place for the remainder of 1997. The Governor's reappointees to the Board to April 1999 were Professor Emeritus Coleman O'Flaherty, Mrs Jill Freeman and Mrs Jeannie Taranto; Mr Euan Hills was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Alan Blow's retirement. The Hobart City Council representative is Alderman Ian Malcolm and Royal Society of Tasmania Trustees are Dr Tony Brown and Professor Jim Reid.

The Trustees and staff of the TMAG would like to congratulate Alan Blow on his very successful Chairmanship ot the Board. He provided the timely guidance and encouragement needed for the TMAG to enter a new and ambitious era of change. The changes were often difficult and unsettling and included long-term strategic planning, staff restructuring, facilities redevelopment, computerisation of services and expansion in the arena of public programs, collections management, research and community profile.

It is, however, with great sadness that I must report the unexpected death of the Curator of Vertebrate Zoology, Phil Andrews, in early February after a short illness Phil had been a member of staff at the TMAG since 1965 and a long-term member of the Royal Society of Tasmania — the Society having published many of his scientific papers. His extensive knowledge of the vertebrate fauna of Tasmania and the Applied Sciences collections at the TMAG have been sadly missed.

# Staff

The Director, Patricia Sabine, was named Telstra Tasmanian Businesswoman of the Year 1997. This award gained further favourable publicity for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery through articles in *Business Review Weekly* and *The Australian*.

Curator–Invertebrate Zoology, Roger Buttermore, was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to continue his work on the introduced species *Bombus bombus*. He will be travelling overseas in 1998.

Curator-Phanerogamic Botany, Andrew Rozefelds, was awarded his Doctorate in Philosophy by the University of Melbourne and was elected to the Council of the Royal Society of Tasmania. He was also awarded a Savings and Loans Public Service Fellowship to establish contacts and review the scientific displays of several North American museums. In Canada he presented two papers to the 1997 American Botanical Society meeting

New appointments to the staff in 1997 include Tony Brown, Trainee Collections Management Officer, Indigenous Cultures Collection, appointed in October, Jodie Murray as Assistant Curator–Decorative Arts, and Dr David Pemberton, who will commence work in 1998 as Curator-Vertebrate Zoology.

The regular program of tours by volunteer guides to both the general areas of the TMAG and to special exhibitions has been very effective and well patronised. The value of volunteer assistance at the TMAG has been assessed at \$300 000 per annum.

Considerable financial support has been received in 1997 from the Hobart City Council, through subsidising the rent of the City Hall for "Whales" and through the provision of a one-off grant towards the cost of employing a Public relations/Fund raising/Development Officer, Peter West.

#### Facilities Management

The Customs House has been operating effectively with "Port Adventure" in the Children's Discovery Centre and with the Royal Society's Lecture Theatre in regular use. Progress towards the establishment of a cafe was curtailed in 1997 due to unexpected changes in circumstances and it is now proposed to open in autumn 1998.

Further work continued on the upgrading of the Moonah Store Workshops, the Private Secretary's residence and the security, fire detection system and computer network for the whole TMAG complex.

# Public Programmes

The 1997 exhibition program was notable for its variety with a strong emphasis in the latter half of the year on things maritime leading up to the International Year of the Ocean.

#### Audience Development

Record attendances peaked at 198 000 as a result of high profile exhibitions such as *Tom Roberts as you have never seen him before* and MIM presents *Whales: Giants of the Deep* (48 000), supported by the extensive in-kind sponsorship provided by *The Mercury* and the Southern Cross Television Network.

#### Exhibitions

Major exhibitions included the following: Mazda presents Tom Roberts as you've never seen him before, from Art Exhibitions Australia; Eyes on the Ball: Images of Australian Rules Football, City of Waverley; Apples from Oz: Marketing to the Empire and Beyond, TMAG; Two Sisters and other Stories: Phyllis and Joan Pitman, TMAG; Thar She Blows: Whales and Whaling in Tasmania, TMAG; Made of Glass, TMAG; Impressions: Australian in Vietnam, Australian War Memorial; Peter Rosson: Survey Exhibition 1975–95, TMAG; Sea: Maritime Treasures from the TMAG, TMAG; Sydney Harbour and David Moore 50 Years of Photography, Gavin Wilson & Associates; Surfabout, MWA

As well as showings from the collection, two small case shows, *Cannabis in Tasmania* and *Argonauts: Graceful sailors in boats of shell*, received well-deserved praise and will travel to other venues. *Argonauts* has been endorsed by SOCOG as an official Sydney Olympics exhibition.

School holiday programs and special events such as "Frog Week" continue to attract large numbers of participants.

#### Research

The research program continued with The Herbarium collecting flora specimens for the AMRAD contract.

Information Services Curator Alison Melrose has ensured a presence for the TMAG on the Internet through

DECCD's Cultural Web page. Computerisation of collection records continued with the assistance of volunteers and jobskills staff. The assistance of volunteers has been vital but the TMAG would see significant benefits with an increase in the hours of the professional staff, particularly in the area of Information Services, scientific preparation, conservation of works on paper and textiles, and assistant curatorships in Art, History and Applied Science.

Progress continues to be made with physical infrastructure, and public programme development. The next five years should see major attention turned to the collection especially in the area of long-term displays of the natural history collections, research and publications about the collection. Fund-raising has become a major issue, in order to ensure that collections can be adequately preserved and developed. The second stage of the ten-year redevelopment should begin in the 1998–99 financial year. The staff of the TMAG are to be commended for an excellent year's work.

# Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

Dr M. Brown was nominated to serve on the Board of Trustees for 1997. The Director, Dr Bedford, makes the following report:

#### **Objectives**

- To increase knowledge, awareness and understanding about the economic, social and ecological value of plants.
- To conduct research and conservation programs on the Tasmanian and allied floras.
- To manage, care for, document and further develop the Gardens sites and collections of living and preserved plants and ancillary materials.

#### Achievements

Visitation levels to the Gardens increased to 346 200 visits, an increase of 19 200 over the previous year.

The greatest challenge facing the Gardens has been through plant diseases. As well as discovering a number of additional areas affected by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, the significant increase in the area affected by *Armillaria luteobubalina* represents a major threat to the survival of the Gardens in its current form. The affected area covered over one and a half hectares and more than 80 trees have been lost.

An extremely successful public appeal for funding (*The Mercury* Save the Gardens Appeal) raised \$220 000. The Appeal was run by an independent committee chaired by Peter Cundall. Generous donors included the Hobart City Council (\$25 000) the State Government (\$22 500), The Trust Bank Foundation (\$20 000), ANM (\$5000), other local government bodies, corporations and members of the public. It was particularly pleasing to see the very high level of support from the public, who donated nearly two-thirds of the total raised in small donations. Support from *The Mercury* newspaper was critical to the success of the Appeal, and was assisted by support from other media including *WIN TV* and *ABC Radio 7ZR*.

The funds available from the Appeal have allowed considerable progress to be made in fighting the fungus. Funds were used for the very successful seven-week secondment of Dr Brett Summerell from the Royal Botanic

Gardens Sydney to recommend pest and disease management strategies within the Gardens. The appointment of Dr Frank Hay to the role of Plant Protection Officer was also an important step in the gardens disease management strategy. A large excavation from the main lawn area removed significant amounts of *Armillaria* infected wood. Work on prevention of the spread of *Phytophthora* also continued.

Slow progress has been made on further development of an Enterprise Development Agreement being developed co-operatively with all staff and unions. The strategic and action plans have led to the development of much closer liaison between sections of staff and to improved communications and planning. The relocation of horticultural management, community education and training and administration staff into the historic Superintendent's cottage has made a significant improvement in organisation.

In conjunction with scientists from Parks and Wildlife, the RTBG plays an important role in the collection, propagation and growing of Tasmania's rare and threatened flora. The RTBG has had an on going involvement in nine Rare and Threatened plant projects during the year, as well as supplying the facilities for two Parks and Wildlife research projects.

Horticultural advice and assistance and flora conservation work have been provided throughout the state, including a continuing involvement with plant conservation programs at the TEMCO site and the northern-based community group, the Understorey Network.

The collection of Macquarie Island plants has been considerably expanded through a co-operative program with the University of Queensland scientists studying vegetation ecology and climate change. In addition to the previous grants totalling \$88 000 from the Australian Antarctic Foundation, sponsorship of \$10 000 was committed by the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Inc., \$5000 from ComputerLand, \$1000 from J.B.Were and Sons, as well as amounts from private sponsors. The design brief for the Australian Antarctic Foundation Subantarctic Plant House and proposed landscape were finalised and architects Forward Viney Woollan and a team of consultants prepared plans and engineering specifications. Planning approval was obtained from Hobart City Council in June.

The Chinese plants section, generously sponsored by ComputerLand and the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Inc., neared completion during the year. The majority of the paths and hard landscaping have been completed, and about two-thirds of the area planted.

A detailed application was made for Tasmanian Government funding for a visitor interpretation centre. This included completing the Project Initiation Process with a value management study. Funds were applied for over 1997/98 and 1998/99.

Development of a master plan for the RTBG was slower than expected, owing to the demands of the public appeal and the disease management. However, basic maps of the Gardens were prepared with assistance from the Land Information Bureau and the University of Tasmania Department of Surveying and Spatial Information Science. In addition, the surveys of the state and needs of the gardens and initial discussion papers began the detailed planning process.

# Looking Ahead

Through the coming year the Gardens plan to

- maintain visitation levels at around 350 000;
- manage and attempt to control the fungal infestation;
- complete the Chinese Plants section and the Macquarie Island greenhouse prototype;
- further develop a master plan for the RTBG;
- proceed with development of a visitor interpretation centre if funding is available.

# Acknowledgements

The council is grateful for help generously given by many individuals and organisations. The referees, lecturers, the Government of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania, Arts Tasmania, the North West Centre of the University at Burnie, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery are particularly thanked for their support and co-operation. Thanks also are extended to the CSIRO for providing facilities for Council meetings, General Meetings and catering for the Christmas Function.

John Thorne Vice-President 12 February 1998

Michael Readett Hon. Secretary

# ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA - NORTHERN BRANCH

The statements for the Northern Branch were not examined by the Auditors but are included here for information.

# Statements of Receipts and Expenditure for Year ended 31 December 1997

Receipts			Expenditure	
Subscriptions		70.00	Subscriptions to RST (Hobart)	70.00
Suppers		0.00	Printing and stationery	232.80
Grant 1997		2500.00	Theatrette hire	0.00
Grant 1998		2500.00	Postage	346.50
Bank interest		3.08	Post box	44.00
			Secretarial	955.00
			Bank charges	6.94
			Suppers	57.90
			Travelling	0.00
			Miscellaneous	60.00
			Unknown charges	2.72
		5073.08	· ·	1775.86
Balance at Trust Bank 1.1.97 Less unpresented cheque (361)	114.65 30.00		Bank balance 31.12.97	3381.87
		84.65		
		5157.73		5157.73
			D.M. Girvan Hon. Treasurer (Northern Branch)	
			11on. Heasurer (Horner Blanch)	

#### Reconciliation Statement 1997

Credit balance as per Bank Statemen	t 31.12.97		3381.87
Credit Balance at 1.1.97 Less unpresented cheque (699361)	114.65 30.00		
Receipts for year		84.65 <u>5073.08</u> 5157.73	
Expenditure for year Plus unknowns/bank chgs	1773.14 2.72	<u>1775.86</u>	
Debit Balance			3381.87

# **ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA**

# Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year ending 31 December 1997

	1997	1996
Balance 1 January 1997 (as audited for 1996)	\$ 34 767.42	\$ 40 134.07
Add Receipts		
Subscriptions	11 170.00	11 998.00
Publications		
Regular sales	4 210.70	2 031.95
Rare Book sale	11 620.00	1 550.00
ANZAAS related	2 931.64	7 535.00
	18 762.34	11 116.95
Donations		
Per symposia		1 350.00
Foundation	1 057.00	1 673.00
	1 057.00	3 023.00
Interest	223.66	971.79
Government grant	8 000.00	5 000.00
Meeting funds		
Various functions	3 268.00	5 111.20
Sundry	343.22	628.80
	3 611.22	5 740.00
Student Bursary Collections	1 100.00	
Total Receipts	43 924.22	37 849.74
Deduct Payments		
Subscriptions	3 818.19	3 618.11
Printing & stationery	2 238.60	2 336.00
Postal costs	2 977.04	2 223.05
Meetings Attendants' fees	1 120.00	1 124.10
Functions	2 746.40	2 796.85
Bank charges	174.68	95.82
Publication costs	13 559.33	10 968.43
Northern Branch	5 000.00	1 910.00
Secretarial services	3 480.00	3 360.00
Administration/insurances	728.18	798.45
Sundry		
Repairs	126.55	100.00
ANZAAS	1 147.50	
Other	433.00	369.00
Student support	1 000.00	700.00
Foundation/society advertising/promotion	2 034.53	2 020.58
Funds transfer	13 668.00	8 410.00
Sundry	278.30	(44.00)
Total Expenditure	54 530.30	43 216.39
Cash at Bank Balance 31st December, 1997	24 161.34	<u>34 767.42</u>

# Statement for the Royal Society Foundation Trust Fund for the Year ending 31 December 1997

Foundation approved by membership and Council 1995. Officially opened November 1995.

The Royal Society Foundation Trust Fund replaces all previous Trust and Memorial Funds.

32 404.10
13 668.00
<u>46 072.10</u>
2 825.36
177.67
2 693.59
<u>51 768.72</u>
1 240.10
53 500.00

# Accumulation Account for the Period 1 January to 31 December 1997

Balance at 1 January 1997	\$57 022.65
Balance adjusted prev uncashed	
chqs (\$87+\$285)	57 394.65
Current outstanding (\$1147.50)	56 247.15
Cash items:	
Add increases at bank	-9 830.58
Sub total at 31 December 1997	46 416.57
Asset items:	
Add new assets as per statement of payments	0.00
New total for 1997	46 417.57

# Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1997

1996		1997
\$		\$
57 022.65	Accumulated Funds	46 416.57
35 097.69	Foundation Funds	51 768.72
7 004.77	Life Membership Fund	7 004.77
99 125.11		105 190.06
	Represented by	
34 767.42	General Account	24 161.34
35 097.69	Foundation Trust Perpetual Trust	51 768.72
15 000.00	Library (value for insure)	15 000.00
5 000.00	Publications (est. realisable value)	5 000.00
5 600.00	Medals (at sell prices)	5 600.00
<u>3 660.00</u>	New Assets	<u>3 660.00</u>
99 125.11		105 190.06

#### ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

# Notes To and Forming Part of the Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 1997

#### Note 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

This is not a general purpose financial report. It is a special purpose report prepared to meet the requirements of members of the Society.

The Society is of the type identified in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1 as a non-reporting entity. No regard has been paid to other Accounting Standards in the preparation of this report.

The accounts have been prepared on a cash basis from historical cost records, except where stated otherwise.

#### Income Tax

The Association is an exempt body for income tax purposes under Section 23(g)(iii) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

#### Note 2 - Valuation and Existence of Assets

The insurance valuation for the library is only for petty theft. The actual value (in terms of net realisable value, cost, or market value) is not determinable. Therefore, the insured value of the library is not an accurate depiction of its value to the Society.

A number of paintings of considerable value exist that are the property of the Society. There are also a number of paintings which may be the property of the Society. These assets have been omitted from the Balance Sheet as their value cannot be accurately determined.

# Independent Audit Report to the members of the Royal Society of Tasmania

#### Scope

We have audited the attached accounts of the Royal Society of Tasmania for the year ended 31st December, 1997. The Society's office bearers are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accounts and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these accounts in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Society.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the accounts are presented fairly.

As detailed in Note 1 to the Accounts, the Society is not a reporting entity because no users exist who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs, and these Accounts are therefore "Special Purpose Financial Reports" that have been prepared solely to meet the requirements of the members of the Society.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

# Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the accounts of the Royal Society of Tasmania are properly drawn up so as to present fairly the Society's state of affairs as at 31st December, 1997 and of its result for the year ended on that date.

# DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

L.T. COX Partner

Chartered Accountant

Hobart, 10th March 1998