

COUNCIL AND OFFICE BEARERS

Dr P.G. Ouilty

Dr J.S. Rogers
Mr R.D. Shepherd
Mr C.B. Tassell
Mr P.G. Webb

Honorary Editor
Dr M.R. Banks

Honorary Assistant Editor
Dr S.J. Smith

President

Sir James Plimsoll took the Chair, as President of the Society, at the Annual General Meeting and at the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Branch in March. He also took the Chair at the November General Meeting. He opened the Tasman Peninsula Symposium on 1 November.

Clifford Craig, CMG (1896-1986)

Dr Clifford Craig, CMG, MD, MS, FRACS, DDr, MRACR, died in Launceston on 5 September 1986, aged 90. Dr Craig joined the Society in 1939 and served on the Council of the Northern Branch almost continuously from 1946 to 1963. He was Chairman of the Northern Branch in 1950-51 and 1960-61. He was elected

an Honorary Life Member in 1975. The Council places on record its appreciation of his contributions both to the Society and to the history of Tasmania.

Eric Oswald Gale Scott (1899-1986)

Eric Scott died on 25 June 1986 after a road accident near his home in Launceston. Mr Scott joined the Society in 1931. He served the Northern Branch well, particularly during his terms as Honorary Secretary from 1931 to 1937 and from 1939 to 1943. He was a regular contributor to the Papers and Proceedings particularly on Tasmanian fish. The Council places on record its appreciation of his contributions both to the Society and to Tasmanian zoology.

Clive Lord Memorial Medal

At the General Meeting in November, the President presented the Clive Lord Memorial Medal to Mr R.G.H. Green in recognition of his distinguished research in zoology. Previous recipients have been:

1936 Professor	1960 Emeritus Prof.
L.F. Giblin	V.V. Hickman
1939 Professor	1966 Dr Winifred Curtis
J.B. Cleland	1973 Dr W. Bryden
1947 Dr H. Thompson	1977 Dr E.R. Guiler
1951 Professor J. Burke	1983 Mr N.J.B. Plomley
1958 Mr P.G. Law	

Honorary Life Members

Mr P.G. Webb, Dr M.R. Banks and Mr D.R. Gregg were elected Honorary Life Members in recognition of their service to the Society. Mr Webb has served on the Council of the Northern Branch since 1972. He was Honorary Secretary of the Branch from 1978 to 1983 and was Chairman for 1986. Dr Banks has served as Honorary Editor to the Society since 1973. In 1978 he was awarded the Royal Society of Tasmania Medal. He served on the Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, as an appointee of the Society, from 1974 to 1984. Mr Gregg has been Honorary Secretary of the Society since 1972.

Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting on 4 March, Mr I.D. Geard retired as Vice-President and Dr P.G. Quilty and Dr S.J. Smith as Members of the Council. The following were elected:

Vice-President	Dr P.G. Quilty
Members of Council	Dr J.S. Rogers Mr R.D. Shepherd
Honorary Secretary	Mr D.R. Gregg
Honorary Treasurer	Mr T.A.H. Knight
Honorary Auditor	Mr R.J. Dwyer

Membership

The Membership is 431, a decrease of 7, and is made up as follows:

	Northern Branch	Total
Honorary Life Members	3	8
Life Members	11	34
Ordinary Members receiving the Papers and Proceedings	60	260
Ordinary Members not receiving the Papers and Proceedings	57	110
Associate members	15	19
	146	431

Council Meetings

The Council met four times during the year with Mr P.G. Webb and Mr C.B. Tassell representing the Northern Branch on the Council.

Tasman Peninsula Symposium

A symposium was held at Port Arthur from Saturday, 1 November, to Monday, 3 November, on the theme of "Is history enough? Past, present and future uses of the resources of the Tasman Peninsula." Seventy-two people attended the opening session during which the guest speaker, Dr Lloyd Robson, University of Melbourne, delivered the keynote address. Other addresses dealt with geology, geomorphology, water resources, botany, zoology, shoreline and shallow marine ecology, archaeology, history, forestry, agriculture, fishing, pisciculture, landscape as a resource, tourism and future prospects. Excursions were conducted to the Saltwater River area, Eaglehawk Neck and Fortescue Bay area, Port Arthur, Standup Point and a fish farm at Nubeena. It is planned to publish the addresses during 1987. The symposium was run at a small financial profit. Those participating from both the Northern Branch and southern Tasmania expressed appreciation and the main profit to the Society was in terms of better communication between members. The publication of the Symposium should provide valuable publicity for the Society.

The Society is indebted to Dr M.R. Banks and the other members of the organising committee, Dr B. Egloff, Mr D.C. Hannan, Dr. S.J. Smith and Mr L.E. Wall.

Sir Joseph Banks Memorial Lecture

The Council continued to plan the 1988 lectures to be given in all Australian State capitals, Canberra and London. Sponsorship has been obtained for travel and the itinerary has been finalised. The project has been endorsed by the Australian Bicentennial Authority.

Library

The year was marked by a change in Librarian. Mrs G. Thavisin was transferred to another position within the University Library and her transfer marked the end of her very capable contribution to the Society's Library. In August, Mrs B. Chalmers was appointed to replace Mrs Thavisin. The maintenance of the previous level of part-time clerical assistance permitted the continued staffing of the library from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays. Reference staff of the University Library also assisted in staffing when required.

Visitors during the year totalled 428. The value of the collection is reflected in the use made by University staff and students and members of the Society. Queries continue to reflect the high regard researchers have for the collection. There were 151 requests for interlibrary loans, and 79 loans of periodicals were made to individual users.

As mentioned in the last report the large backlog of binding that had existed for many years was almost eliminated by the end of 1985 and consequently there was

some reduction in the level of binding in 1986. A total of 416 volumes was bound during the year.

Early in the year a check was made of the Closed Access room and the Rare Book collection. The check revealed a need for some re-arrangement of these areas, and the re-arrangement was subsequently put in hand.

Significant additions to the Library this year have included:

THE ROYAL TASMANIAN BOTANICAL GARDENS; by Marcus Hurburgh — donated by the author.

DIARIES AND LETTERS OF G.T.W.B. BOYES, VOL. 1; edited by P. Chapman — donated by Oxford University Press.

Both authors made use of the Royal Society library and Archives in compiling material for inclusion in these works.

Volume 120 of the Papers and Proceedings was published during the year, and in October copies were distributed to 302 exchange partners throughout the world. Later in the year the author/subject index (in card form) to this volume was completed and was distributed to eight Tasmanian libraries.

Royal Society Room

Renovations to the Royal Society Room at the Tasmanian Museum and Art gallery were carried out by the Trustees. The General Meetings in May, June and July were held in one of the art galleries.

Publications

Volume 120 of the Papers and Proceedings was published in September 1986. It contained 12 papers, involving 20 authors and covering botany, geochronology, geology, geomorphology, ichthyology, meteorology, ornithology and palaeontology. The papers occupied 98 pages. A whiter paper than usual was used and improved the readability and appearance of the volume. Regrettably some errors were made in collation of the volume resulting in some volumes being imperfect. Steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

The Society is once more indebted to Dr Banks and Dr Smith for their dedicated work as editors.

Lectures

The following lectures were given at General Meetings during the year:

March — "Charles Darwin in Hobart Town, 1836" Dr M.R. Banks, University of Tasmania

April — "Medieval Science and Modern Physics, the investigations of Duns Scotus" Rev. Dr J. Wall, University of Tasmania

May — The Biological Consequences of Isolation (Joint meeting with Tasmanian Branch of the Institute of Biology in Australia) "The Effects of Isolation

on Australia's Fauna" Professor D.M. Stoddart, University of Tasmania

"The Effects of Isolation on Human Disease in Australia" Dr J.M. Goldsmid, University of Tasmania

June — "Recent Studies on the Arboreal Marsupial Fauna of southeastern (mainland) Australia and their Application to Forest Management in Tasmania" Mr Tony Norton, Australian National University

July — "Two months on Heard Island, Seals, Sealers, Vegetation" Mr Harry Burton, Antarctic Division, and Miss Joscelyne Hughes, University of Tasmania

August — "Local Defence Mechanisms and Early Cancer" Professor H. Konrad Muller, University of Tasmania

September — "Could Fish use Inertial Navigation?" Dr Roy Harden Jones, CSIRO

October — "The Influence of Modern Surgical Treatment on the Outcome of Primary Intracranial Haemorrhage" Dr Graeme Duffy, Neurosurgeon

November — Clive Lord Memorial Lecture "Reactions of the Tasmanian Fauna to Foreign Invasion" Mr R.G.H. Green, Queen Victoria Museum

A visit was arranged to Mt Nelson on 13 April to observe Halley's Comet under the guidance of Mr Stefan Dieters of the Physics Department, University of Tasmania.

Northern Branch

Chairman	Mr P.G. Webb
Vice-Chairman	Mrs R.M. Cameron
Past Chairman	Mrs G.M. Morris
Honorary Secretary	Mr C.B. Tassell
Honorary Treasurer	Mr K.E.J. Robinson
Council Members	Dr J.C. Standard
	Mr D.G. Hannan
Branch Representatives on the Council	Mr P.G. Webb
	Mr C.B. Tassell

The Branch Council met four times during the year.

The following lectures were given at General Meetings:

March — "Whale Strandings in Tasmania" Mr B.L. Munday, Department of Agriculture

April — "Wine Production in Tasmania" Mr F. Peacock, Department of Agriculture "Pipers Brook

Vineyard and Winery" Mr Graham Wiltshire,
Heemskirk Wines

May — "History of the Cycle" Dr J.K. Cannell, Design
and Research Consulting Engineer

June — "Recent Studies on the Arboreal Marsupial
Fauna of southeastern (mainland) Australia,
and their Application to Forest Wildlife
Management in Tasmania" Mr Tony Norton,
Australian National University

July — "The Tasmanian Tertiary Flora" Mr Tony
Bigwood, Plomley Fellow at the Queen Victoria
Museum and Art Gallery

August — "Australian Research in Antarctica" Dr Patrick
Quilty, Antarctic Division, Department of
Science

September — "Arboreta and the Tasmanian Arboretum
at Eugenana" Dr Walter Barrows, International
Society of Arboretists

October — No meeting. Instead, Branch Council decided
to ask members to attend the Eldershaw Memorial
Lecture, delivered by Professor Enid Campbell
on 15 October

November — "Banking in the 1980s" Mr Ian Warwick,
Westpac

December — Members' Night
"The 900th Anniversary of the Doomsday Book"
Mrs G.M. Morris
"Reading of the *"Ballad of Father Riley's Horse"*
by A.B. Paterson" Mr R.E. Ward
"Surviving in Spain in the 60s" Mrs J. Sebbage
"Inns and Outs" Mr A.T. Orr

Excursions

Saturday, 5 April — Tour of Pipers Brook Winery, con-
ducted by the owner, Mr Graham Wiltshire,
producer of Heemskirk Wines

Saturday, 13 September — Excursion to the Tasmanian
Arboretum at Eugenana, hosted by the Arbore-
tum Society and tour of the site conducted by
visiting arboretist Dr Walter Barrows of the
International Society of Arboretists

Weekend, 1-3 November — Tasman Peninsula Sym-
posium. The Northern Branch co-operated in
organising the symposium; Mr D.G. Hannan
joined the organising committee and a number
of members from the north took part.

Nominees to Other Bodies

The Council re-elected Mr A.R. Neilson and Dr
P.G. Quilty to serve a further term on the Board of
Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.
They report on the year's activities:

The 1986 State Budget provided \$1 197 300 to the
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, an increase of 3.4%
over the allocation in the 1985 budget. This increase is
below that predicted for inflation. About 82% of the
allocation will be spent on salaries and related costs. The
Government grant is seen by the Trustees as substantially
less than the demonstrable need of the Museum and Art
Gallery.

By Government decision, the three Education
Officers based at the Museum and Art Gallery are to be
reduced to two in 1987.

The renovation of the Queens Warehouse and the
construction of the new entrance building in Macquarie
Street were virtually completed at the end of 1986. The
Royal Society room has been renovated.

Funds have been included in the 1986 Budget to
build a new building for the Tasmanian Herbarium on the
University of Tasmania Sandy Bay campus.

The Art Foundation of Tasmania continued to
encourage support from the private sector for acquisitions
for the collections of the Museum and Art Gallery. The
Foundation has provided funds to enable the following
purchases to be made:

The Artist and Geelong Memorial Figure by G.W.
Lambert, c.1924, oil on board

Julia Sorell by T. G. Wainwright, c.1846, watercolour

Lloyd Rees by Stephen Walker, 1984, bronze

Self portrait by Nora Heysen, 1933, oil on canvas.

The Friends of the Tasmanian Museum and Art
Gallery Inc. provided funds to assist with the purchase of
the portrait of Julia Sorell, and to purchase a Tasmanian
halfpenny token and a set of rings by Phill Mason. The
Friends also assisted with funds to publish the catalogue
for the Prout exhibition.

During the 1986 year, 132 682 people visited the
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, compared with
119 634 in 1985. The annual number of visitors to the
West Coast Pioneers' Memorial Museum, Zeehan is
estimated at 119 000.

A selection of watercolours by Simpkinson De
Wesselow (1819-1906), from the Royal Society collection,
was shown at the Geelong Art Gallery in May and June.

An active programme of temporary exhibitions
took place during the year, and this included *Sullivans
Cove, Birthplace of a Colony* (November 1985-April),
Selected British Art from the Collection (December
1985-February), *Lloyd Rees as Printmaker* (February-
April), *Robert Richmond Campbell, an Australian
Impressionist* (May), *Gladys Blaiberg, Wartime Cari-
caturist* (May-July), *Tasmanian Watercolours from the
Collection* (June-August), *Devils, Drugs and Doctors, a
Wellcome History of Medicine* (July-September), *Francis
Lymburner Drawings* (August-September), *Michael*

Shannon (October), *People of the Cedar* (October-November), *The Rome Connection*, *Prints from XVII Century Europe* (November), *Nature Prints* (November-January 1987) and *Skinner Prout in Australia 1840-48* (December-January 1987).

Devils, Drugs and Doctors was the first exhibition for which an entrance fee was charged. The money collected went to the International Cultural Corporation of Australia, organisers of the exhibition. During its 46 day showing, the exhibition was visited by 26 631 people. A total of 45 618 people visited the Museum and Art Gallery during the exhibition; last year 16 000 people were counted during the comparable 6½ weeks.

Dr J.E.S. Townrow was re-elected by the Council to serve a further term on the Board of Trustees of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. She reports on the year's activities:

Nineteen hundred and eighty-six has been a year of mixed fortunes for the Gardens.

Public patronage apparently dropped by 5% to 236 000. The lower number of recorded visitors may be linked with the decline in the tourist trade and the more stringent economic climate. However the drop may be more apparent than real because the main gates which are not monitored were open for construction traffic from mid November to the end of December and several thousand visitors were not counted.

The Museum's opening hours were extended to 10 am to 4 pm (summer Monday-Friday) and 11 am to 3 pm (winter). Major displays included *Grasses*, followed by *Eucalypts*, a newly designed *Evolution* room and a basket weaving exhibit. Even so the Museum visitors (19 000 or 8% of the Garden's visitors) were 19% down on last year though school visits were up 34%. One hundred and sixteen schools, including two from Melbourne, and 4 600 pupils compared with 36 schools and 3 500 pupils in 1985.

The State Government Grant was \$880 000, a cut of \$112 000 on budget estimate of which \$706 500 was for wages and salaries, leaving \$173 500 for maintenance and general operations. Due to the stringent Government policy of cutbacks in funding and non-filling of vacancies, a reduction in staff to three short of the lowest workable complement was unavoidable, resulting in a noticeable deterioration in maintenance of the Gardens over the past twelve months. The Nursery has been particularly understaffed running on half its full complement for most of the year. Consequently the Conservatory will close 6 weeks early missing out on the Chrysanthemum display. Two annual beds have been grassed over and weeding, edge-trimming and disease control have also suffered because of insufficient numbers of gardeners. Two major landscaping projects — the endemic plant section and the lily pond rockeries reconstruction — have had to be postponed indefinitely because of lack of both staff and finance.

Staffing problems have been compounded through the introduction of a 38 hour working week, giving wage workers one day off per month.

On a brighter note, the year has been notable for support coming from both public and private individuals. Sir James Plimsoil has been most interested in the Gardens and is a frequent visitor often to be seen showing Gardens highlights to his guests. Our Minister, Hon. P.C.L. Hodgman, MHA, has given great support and been extremely positive working to avoid further Government funding cuts, and expressing enthusiastic appreciation of Gardens developments. The Cabinet, on one of its regular sitting days, lunched with the Board of Trustees for the first time ever at the Gardens, and members were taken on a lightning tour through the rain by the Superintendent in the Horticultural Therapy Minibus.

There has been more than the usual numbers of letters of appreciation from overseas and interstate visitors.

At last, after more than ten years of continued efforts by the Trustees and staff to get Government support and funding, Stage 1 of the reconstruction of the Technical Support Services Centre (formerly the condemned stores and depot area) commenced at the beginning of December.

The Horticultural Therapy unit run by Pat Hewitt has received \$70 000 from the Health Department from HACC funds for the development of a Demonstration Garden. This will be part of the Easy Access Garden facility where disabled people will be able to plant and grow flowers and vegetables in a screened outside area behind the Easy Access glasshouse.

The provision of an Education Centre to house classes conducted by Alan Gray, Education Officer, and Pat Hewitt, Horticultural Therapist, has moved closer to reality through the combined efforts of a group of student architects from the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology and Trustees applying for Foundation funding.

Four students led by Mrs Lynden Aylif prepared an excellent design plan and model of the proposed centre with a full report to supplement their design submission for Elective Studies. This splendid start has been boosted by a donation of \$10 000 from the Ian Potter Foundation towards the estimated cost of \$230 000.

Other notable highlights include progress on the almost completed Japanese garden with continued CEP funding and very generous public donations of money and time. For example, Hobart Technical College staff and students built the Huon Pine waterwheel which was financed by a Hobart businessman, the bridge posts were turned by a HTC tutor, and the various stone lanterns have been donated by several Hobart firms. The opening of the Japanese Garden is planned for 18 February 1987.

The introduction of guided early morning Birds and Plants Walks, followed by breakfast in the gardens restaurant, (another of the Superintendent's brilliant ideas), has proved most popular, and brought more of the community into the Gardens. Another well received innovation was the Tulip Festival when about 4 000 inspected the displays in the Conservatory and the outside beds, and purchased tulips brought in and distributed by costumed members of the Dutch Community.

Many of the public have appreciated the increased numbers of labelled plants, now over 7000 compared with 2500 last year, the good work of Plant Recording Officer, Mrs Sue Wells.

Due to lack of finance, the Trustees were unable to publish the history of the Gardens by Mr Marcus Hurburgh. He financed his own publication and The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens 1818-1986. A History in Stone, Soil and Superintendents, printed by Shearwater Press, is now available.

The Board of Trustees commend the Superintendent Tony May and his staff for their continued devotion to the gardens over the past rather testing year.

Acknowledgements

The Council is grateful for help generously given by many individuals and organisations. In particular, the lecturers, the Government of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery are specially thanked for their help and co-operation.

P.W. McCarthy
Senior Vice-President

D.R. Gregg
Honorary Secretary

5 February 1987

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 December 1986

General Account

Balance 1 January 1986	15 987.94	Stationery	251.13
		Insurance	246.24
Subscriptions		Attendants' fees	614.52
1 @ \$200	200.00	Secretarial fees	2 074.36
252 @ \$ 12	3 028.00	Post box rental	115.00
102 @ \$ 8	822.00	Postage and freight	1 127.68
16 @ \$ 5	80.00	Photocopying	46.10
Other years	216.00	Subscriptions	856.75
		Repairs and maintenance	991.18
Interest	3 977.43	Federal & State debit tax	25.92
Donations	28.00	Telephone	20.36
Sales of publications and		Northern Branch	1 000.00
Papers and Proceedings	951.78	Sundry expenses	26.00
Treasury grant	1 800.00	Symposium	3 337.22
Subscription refund	75.26		10 732.46
Symposium	3 763.50	Papers and Proceedings	5 429.71
			16 162.17
		Balance 31 December 1986	14 767.74
	<u>\$30 929.91</u>		<u>\$30 929.91</u>

Papers and Proceedings Account

Balance 1 January 1986	2 155.33	Tax	0.10
Interest	601.00	Balance 31 December 1986	2 756.23
	<u>\$2 756.33</u>		<u>\$2 756.33</u>

Accumulation Account

Balance 1 January 1985			66 736.73
Add	Net increase in valuation of publications for sale	232.10	
	Net increase in advance subscriptions	<u>31.00</u>	263.10
			<u>66 999.83</u>
Deduct	Decreased cash at bank	296.26	
	Net transfers to Trust Funds	<u>2 238.50</u>	2 534.76
Balance 31 December 1986			<u>\$64 465.07</u>

NORTHERN BRANCH

Balance brought forward	1 012.91	Subscriptions to Hobart	179.00
Subscriptions	179.00	Printing and stationery	543.80
Suppers	11.11	Theatre hire	100.00
Grant (Royal Society)	1 000.00	Postage	149.00
Excursions	328.00	Post Office Box	25.20
Bank interest	32.33	Secretarial services	480.00
		Excursions	295.00
		Sundries (badges)	30.00
		Bank charges, etc.	6.00
		Bank balance	755.35
	<u>\$2 563.35</u>		<u>\$2 563.35</u>

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1986

1985			1986
66 736.73	Accumulated Funds		64 465.07
143.00	Subscriptions in advance		112.00
	Trust Funds:		
2 088.03	— Clive Lord Memorial Fund	2 285.03	
3 503.48	— A.N. Lewis Memorial Fund	3 831.34	
1 592.74	— Morton Allport Memorial	1 782.47	
627.36	— A.A. Clark Bequest	683.45	
4 276.70	— Joseph Milligan Bequest	4 676.37	
2 322.54	— R.M. Johnston Memorial Fund	2 543.08	
1 017.26	— Henry Oliver Bequest	1 12.406	
2 328.64	— W.H. Hudspeth Memorial	2 547.66	
3 740.70	— Life Membership Fund	4 274.15	23 735.95
<u>\$88 377.18</u>			<u>\$88 313.02</u>

Represented by:

33.00	Cash on hand	
	Cash at bank:	33.00
15 987.94	— General account	14 767.74
2 155.33	— Papers & Proceedings Account	2 756.23
534.54	— Clive Lord Memorial Fund	672.17
748.87	— A.N. Lewis Memorial Fund	934.28
860.00	Mortgage Loan	860.00
	Commonwealth Treasury Bonds &	
29 900.00	Inscribed Stock (at cost)	29 900.00
7 000.00	Interest Bearing Deposits	7 000.00
15 000.00	Library (at valuation for insurance)	15 000.00
16 157.50	Publications (at selling price)	16 389.60
<u>\$88 377.18</u>		<u>\$88 313.02</u>

The Society owns works of art which have been donated over the years and which do not appear on the Balance Sheet. They are all housed in the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and are covered by that organisation's insurance. A catalogue is available to members listing these works of art.

T.A.H. Knight
Honorary Treasurer