

ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual Meeting on 4 March, Mr A.R. Neilson retired as Vice-President, and Mr M.R. Banks and Mr R.J. Downie as Members of the Council. The following were elected -

Vice-President	-	Mr K.E.J. Robinson
Members of Council	-	Mr R.J. Downie
	-	Mr A.R. Neilson
Honorary Secretary	-	Mr D.R. Gregg
Honorary Treasurer	-	Mr G.E.A. Hale
Honorary Auditor	-	Mr D.B. Churchill

LECTURES

The following lectures were given in Hobart during the year -

March	"Old Beach Bones"	Mr M.R. Banks, University of Tasmania
April	"Devils at Granville Harbour"	Dr E.R. Guiler, University of Tasmania
May	"The Vital Roll of Food: Source of Nutrients and Delights"	Professor Z.E. Sikorski, Department of Food Preservation, Technological University Politechnika, Gdanska, Poland, and Visiting Research Fellow at CSIRO, Hobart
June	"Implants in Surgery"	Professor R.M. Mitchell, University of Tasmania
July	"Brick and Stone Decay in the Penal Settlement at Port Arthur"	Dr N.K. Roberts, University of Tasmania
August	"John Glover, Landscape Painter - Romanticism or Reality?"	Mr John McPhee, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston
September	"Australian Cities and Public Policy"	Professor P. Scott, University of Tasmania
October	"A Word-list of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Languages"	Mr N.J.B. Plomley, Launceston
December	"Early Tasmanian Horticulture"	Dr D. Martin

QUEENSTOWN SYMPOSIUM

A symposium - "Landscape and Man - the Interaction between Man and the Environment" - was held at Queenstown on Saturday, 30 October to Monday, 1 November 1976, and took the place of the November General Meeting of the Society. The Society is indebted to the Mt Lyell Mining and Railway Company for the assistance provided by the company in making available staff and facilities during the symposium. Seventy people attended. Proceedings opened with an address "A Pummelled Landscape" by Professor G. Blainey. Subsequently speakers from Government departments, the University of Tasmania and industries made contributions on many aspects of the natural history and resources of the region and their utilisation. Proceedings closed with an address by Professor P. Scott on "The Future". Excursions were held in conjunction with the symposium - a half day excursion to Strahan attended by 6 people, a day excursion to the summit of Mt Read attended by 36 people and a day excursion to Granville Harbour (9 participants). The excursions were lead by Dr M.R. Banks, Dr J. Kirkpatrick, and Dr E.R. Guiler.

The Council is grateful to the committee who organised the symposium and in particular to Dr Banks.

NORTHERN BRANCH

The Northern Branch of the Society based in Launceston had the following Council -

Chairman	-	Mr P.G. Webb
Vice-Chairman	-	Mr H.S. Payne
Past Chairman	-	Dr E.V.R. Ratcliff
Honorary Secretary	-	Mr T.E. Burns
Honorary Treasurer	-	Mr J.D. Abey
Members	-	Mr G.H. Stancombe
	-	Mr N.J.B. Plomley
	-	Mr K.E.J. Robinson
	-	Mr H.C.A. Pitt
	-	Mr David F. Smith

Mr D. Walter was co-opted as Excursion Organiser.
 Mr J.N. Gee was appointed Auditor and
 Mr K.E.J. Robinson relieving Treasurer.

The following lectures were given -

March	"How to be Happy though Provincial"	Dr E.V.R. Ratcliff
April	"Aspects of Town Planning in Launceston"	Mr T. Kneebone
May	A Tour of the Newnham Campus of the T.C.A.E.	Dr David F. Smith
June	"Some Aspects of Indonesian Education"	Mrs M. Dowse
July	"The Troublemakers"	Mr G.H. Stancombe
August	"A Tour of the Northern Regional Library"	Mr P.F.J. Leonard
September	"Fish Technology: A Diversified Profession"	Dr J.N. Olley
October	"Nature Conservation in Tasmania"	Dr I.H. Eberhard
November	"Pre-settlement History of Mid-Devon"	Mr B.M. Thomas
December	Members' Night	Mrs Gwen Wales née Tilley
	"Golf"	by means of a tape made available by Mr S.V. Tilley
	"Across the Gibson Desert"	Mrs Z. Rosen
	"Banjo Paterson"	Mr Ron Ward
	"Features of Old Tasmanian Houses"	Mr A.T. Orr
	"A Great Tasmanian Poet"	Mr H.S. Payne

On 15 September, Branch members were the guests of the Tasmanian Historical Research Association when Dr R. Wettenhall delivered the Eldershaw Lecture on Public Administration in Australia.

An excursion visited the St Leonards area in May, under the guidance of Mr Stancombe, and in April there was a Tamar River cruise on the *Goondooloo*.

PUBLICATIONS

Volume 110 of the Papers and Proceedings was published early in December 1976. It contained 12 papers, totalling 217 pages, including papers on several aspects of botany, zoology, geology and one on psychiatry.

Preparation of Volume 111 is well advanced.

Preparation of the proceedings of the Queenstown Symposium is almost complete.

The Society is indebted to Dr Banks for his continuing work as Honorary Editor.

MEMBERSHIP

During the year the membership was 536 a decrease of 15.

The membership is made up as follows -

	Northern Branch	Total
Honorary Life Members	1	6
Life Members	9	34
Ordinary Members, receiving Papers and Proceedings	90	278
Ordinary Members, not receiving Papers and Proceedings	108	191
Associate Members	19	27
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	227	536

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council met four times during the year with Mr G.H. Stancombe and Mr P. G. Webb representing the Northern Branch on the Council.

One meeting of the Council, on 3 September, was held in Launceston, the first time the Council had met outside Hobart since 1965.

NOMINEES TO OTHER BODIES

The Council re-elected Mr M.R. Banks and Dr D. Martin to the Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. They report on the year's activities as follows:

The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery has continued to collect, preserve, study and exhibit objects related to the natural and human heritage of Tasmania, together with relevant material from beyond the State.

Shortage of space, both for reference collections and for display, is becoming of increasing concern to the Trustees. It is hoped that, before long, Commonwealth buildings adjacent to the present site will be made available to permit the further development of the Museum and Art Gallery.

An important acquisition during the year was a portrait thought to be of Abel Janszoon Tasman, the European discoverer of Tasmania. This portrait was purchased in London by the Tasmanian Government and presented to the Trustees.

An Art Conservation Workshop has been set up as a joint project with the State Library of Tasmania and is doing valuable work in preserving paintings of great historical and artistic interest.

The major exhibition shown during the year was *The Tasmanian Aboriginal in Art* which assembled in one place for the first time the main pictorial records of the Tasmanian Aborigines.

The status of the Royal Society within the Museum seems safe for the present although there is the possibility of a major re-organisation of museums in Tasmania. This would require legislation and presumably the opportunity to safeguard our position.

The Council re-elected Dr M.H. Hurburgh to the Board of Trustees of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. He reports on the year's activities as follows:

Many improvements have occurred in the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens during the last twelve months.

Mr A.P. May, the new superintendent, has been responsible for a vigorous planting-out programme, particularly in the more recently developed northern end of the Gardens where emphasis has been placed on the planting of indigenous species.

The R.E.D. Scheme also helped greatly towards the general improvement of the Gardens.

Under the aegis of the Australian Biological Resources Study Interim Council, the Tasmanian Herbarium had the service of Mr J.W. Parham, a noted botanist, as curator of the Tasmanian Herbarium project. During his term of office much valuable work was done under difficult conditions and his reports should provide invaluable material for the future development of the Herbarium.

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.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

GENERAL ACCOUNT TO 31 DECEMBER 1976

Receipts		Payments	
Carried forward from 1975	4650.83	Stationery	43.95
Subscriptions -		Insurance	170.65
2 @ \$100	200.00	Attendants' fees	463.51
214 @ \$8	1712.00	Library expenses	306.38
126 @ \$5	730.00	Accounting expenses - Layh, Hart, Room & Hyland	352.50
21 @ \$3	63.00	Meetings	435.32
Other years	<u>232.68</u>	Petty Cash	130.00
Interest on Special Accounts	632.06	Return of Cheques	13.00
Sales of publications	853.79	Management Fee, University of Tasmania	1450.00
Government Grant	1450.00	Post Office Box Fee	102.00
Rent	390.90	Postage	156.40
Closure of Publications account	588.13	Payment to Life Membership Fund	200.00
Queenstown Symposium	3665.00	Purchase of interest bearing deposits	4000.00
Miscellaneous	45.76	Typing expenses	76.25
		Mileage	67.56
		Payment to Northern Branch	1146.00
		Photocopying	8.02
		Catering for supper - Roy. Soc. Medal present.	40.00
		Cheque Book	8.00
		Payment to Papers & Proceedings Account	869.04
		Expenses Queenstown Symposium	<u>3460.39</u>
			13498.97
		Balance in bank	1715.18
			<u>\$ 15214.15</u>
	<u>\$ 15214.15</u>		

PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS ACCOUNT TO 31 DECEMBER 1976

Receipts		Payments	
Brought forward from 1975	6519.07	Government Printer - Volume 109	1359.85
Interest from investments	774.43	University of Tas - postage	31.20
Sales of publications - Papers and Proceedings	716.36	Australia Post - postage	12.00
Transfer from General Account	869.04	Purchase of Interest Bearing Dep.	3000.00
Miscellaneous publications sales	8.15	Cheque Book	2.40
Payment to Life Membership Fund	200.00	Macquarie Typing Service - Volume 110	915.42
University of Tasmania Grant to Papers and Proceedings	2000.00	M.R. Banks - photocopying	13.74
		Total	<u>5334.61</u>
		Balance in Bank	5752.44
			<u>\$ 11087.05</u>
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ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1976

Accumulation Account		
Balance per Accounts 1 January 1975		65 028.21
Plus Stock adjusted	13 800.00	
Subs in Advance adjusted	21.00	
Income Publications Account	55.93	
Cash on hand adjusted	13.00	13 889.93
		<u>78 918.14</u>
Plus Excess Receipts over Expenditure		2 709.59
		<u>81 627.73</u>
Less Transfers to Trust Funds		419.70
		<u>\$ 81 208.03</u>