



Launceston Historical Society Inc

Newsletter No 76

May 2003

LAUNCESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President	Mrs Anne Bartlett	6344 5258
Vice-President	Miss Jenny Gill	6331 1150
Minute Secretary	Mrs Dorothy Rosemann	6330 1328
Correspondence Secretary		
Treasurer	Dr John Morris	6343 5803

All correspondence should be sent to PO Box 1296, Launceston, Tas 7250

Society Website: www.elaunceston.com/launcestonhistory (A copy of this newsletter can be found on this site)

At the annual General Meeting held on the 27 April the following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

President:	Anne Bartlett		
Vice President:	Jenny Gill		
Minutes Secretary:	Dorothy Rosemann		
Correspondence Secretary:			
Treasurer:	John Morris		
Committee Members:			
Karen Barnes	Jan Critchett	Billie Eastoe	Jillian Koshin

It was left to the Committee to fill the remaining vacancy/ies on the committee. There was some discussion on whether the constitution allowed five or seven committee members. On checking it has been found that the constitution was amended to increase the number of committee members from five to seven at a Special General meeting on 14 March 1998.

MAY

Friday 16 May 2003 - 10.30 am onwards at the Tramshed Auditorium, Invermay

Roundtable on Tasmanian History

“Tasmanian Aboriginal History: Fabrication or Fact”

Keynote speakers include Keith Windschuttle, Henry Reynolds and Lyndall Ryan. For further details of speakers, program and cost see enclosed flier.

Sunday 18 May 2003 - 2.30 pm at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery theatre

John Taylor - “The Aboriginal Discovery and Settlement of Tasmania”

Humans reached Australia more than 100,000 years ago, but did not reach Tasmania for another 60,000 years. John Taylor will discuss the geological, archaeological and linguistic evidence, which explains the delay, and further explains why Aborigines from the Australian mainland did not again reach Tasmania until 9,000 years ago. Aboriginal place names evidence the expansion of the new immigrants over most of Tasmania, and their clan names and other material provide clues as to the reasons for their initial success. But by the time Lieut Bowen arrived in 1803 the descendants of the first Tasmanians had reoccupied two thirds of Tasmania and were still expanding. One of their responses to their displacement by the European colonists was an attempt to settle the Central Plateau and the valleys leading into the western ranges.

John Taylor, BLL (Hons), BA, worked as a Barrister and Solicitor with the HEC and in private practice for over forty years. He is currently completing a thesis on the Palawa (Tasmanian Aboriginal) languages in connection with post-graduate studies for a Master of Arts degree at the University of Tasmania. John's publications include *Dictionary of Tasmania Place names* (1993), *Tasmanian Place Names - The Aboriginal Connection* (1995) and *Dictionary of Palawa (Tasmanian Aboriginal) Place names* (2003). John is a foundation member of the Launceston Historical Society and served as Secretary from 1997-2001.

JUNE

Sunday 15 June 2003 - 2.30 pm at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery theatre

Jai Paterson - “Boags: the family, the business, and the new Centre for Beer Lovers”

Boag's Centre for Beer Lovers opened at the old Tamar Hotel in William Street in November last year. The Centre, and the tours it supports, is so successful that J Boag & Son decided to begin Stage 2 early. As you read this, the second floor of the Tamar Hotel is being refurbished to provide additional space for the Centre.

Deciding the themes, and building the displays at the Centre was a team effort, heavily influenced by J Boag & Son's tight scheduling. The Tamar Hotel was researched by Marita Bardenhagen who also collated the Boag's family history material used in the displays. The story of the Boag family, and the brewery they built, is a significant part of the history of Tasmania over two centuries. The development of Boag's Centre for Beer Lovers, is part of the story of our current age.

Jai Paterson undertakes historical research and exhibition projects for the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery and J Boag & Son Ltd. Jai moved to Tasmania seven years ago, after a museum career in Sydney: from the beginnings of the Powerhouse Museum, to Collections Manager at the Historic Houses Trust of NSW.

Monday 16 June 2003 - 6.00 pm at the Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk

Book Launch

Members of the Launceston Historical society are cordially invited to a reception to be held at the Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk at 6 pm on Monday 16 June 2003 at which the book ***The Usefulness of John West: Dissent and Difference in the Australian Colonies*** will be launched by the Governor of Tasmania, His Excellency Sir Guy Green, AC, KBE

Bookings are essential and may be made by telephoning the Museum. (See enclosed flier for further details of Patricia Ratcliff's book.)

RSVP by Wednesday 11 June 2003 to (6323 3777), indicating that the caller is a member of the Launceston Historical Society

26-29 June 2003 - Strahan, West Coast of Tasmania

ESCAPE Conference

An international conference on escape and convict experience

Organised by the School of History and Classics, University of Tasmania, Hobart. For further information on speakers, registration costs, etc see the conference website (<http://iccs.arts.utas.edu.au/escape.htm>) or contact Lucy Frost at the University (email: L.Frost@utas.edu.au).

JULY

Saturday 26 July 2003 - 2.30 pm at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery theatrette
"A Rugged Path? Family and Gender in Australia and Tasmania"

Centre for Tasmanian Historical Studies Annual Conference

The conference will be held at the Stanley Burbury theatre, University of Tasmania, Hobart campus. Visiting speakers include Professor Janet McCalmun, Professor Patricia Grimshaw and Professor Marilyn Lake. For further details contact Dr Allison Alexander (6226 2607, email Allison.Alexander@utas.edu.au), Professor Michael Bennett (6226.2302) or Mrs Lyn Rainbird (6226 2298) Details and copies of the registration form may be found on the centre's website: www.utas.edu.au/history_classics/.

Call for papers - Biennial History Conference

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society is calling for people to present lectures, poster displays and workshops at the Biennial Historical Conference being hosted by them on 27 and 28 September 2003. The theme of the conference is “**Travel by Land and Sea**”. Anyone interested in delivering a segment should contact Joyce Dunbabin (6257 7568 or Elizabeth Hodson (6257 8096) or email the organisers (gsbhs@tassie.net.au).

Recent Publications by Members

Newsletter no. 74, February 2003, noted that Sheila Burchill, Sheila Rockliff and Virginia Sharpe had pieces published in ***An inspired pursuit: forty years of writing by women of northern Tasmania*** (Canberra, 2002). It has since been realised that **Judy Morris** and **Sue Wyly** also have pieces in the book. Judy, who attended the inaugural meeting of the Launceston Tatlers in 1962, is the author of the first story in the book, and Sue has two pieces included among the eighty selected for publication from the Tatler’s archives.

Jan Critchett is author of one of the chapters in Bain Attwood & S G Foster (eds), ***Frontier Conflict: The Australian Experience*** published by the National Museum of Australia (Canberra, 2003). Jan's chapter is entitled ‘**Encounters in the Western District**’. Members may remember that Jan gave an account of the experiences of a number of northern Tasmanian families who moved across Bass Strait to the Western District in the 1830s in a talk to the Historical Society in August 2001.
