



Launceston Historical Society Inc

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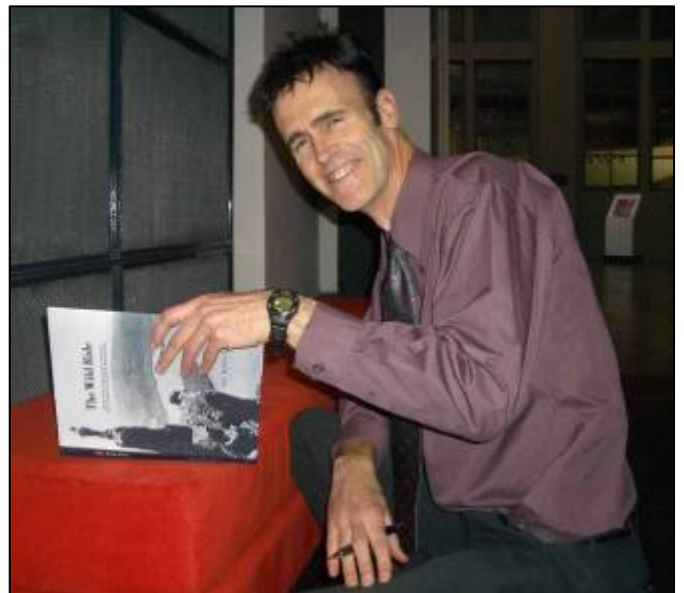
"Bringing together people with an interest in history"

The Wild Ride

At the Launceston Historical Society meeting on 18 May, Nic Haygarth kept the audience enthralled with a fascinating illustrated launch of his latest book. His talk celebrated the early Tasmanian photographers whose stunning views in black & white promoted tourism, conservation and the creation of reserves. Photographers such as the Anson brothers, Beattie, Smithies and Stephen Spurling II and III, went to extreme lengths to capture the Picturesque and Sublime images in remote areas of Tasmania. Nic is pictured here signing a copy of his book.

Hardcover books are available for \$59.95 and leather bound for \$120.00.

(Photo: Marion Sargent)



(Photo: Nic Haygarth)

Furneaux Shipping

On Sunday 15 June about forty people attended the LHS talk. Steve Radford's experience, knowledge and enthusiasm enlivened his subject of trading vessels to the Furneaux Group, one of Tasmania's enduring communication routes. He appears to have been a keen observer during his four years living and working on Flinders Island and during his time in the air over Bass Strait. Steve has promised us a talk on the even more turbulent King Island trade in the future. "Old Salts" pictured here are Cyril Taylor, Garth Sims, Luke Toonen, Bill Barrett and speaker Steve Radford.

LAUNCESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President	Marita Bardenhagen	6334 4490
Vice-President	Jenny Gill	6331 1150
Minute Secretary	John Dent	6331 4099
Correspondence Secretary	Rosalie Kelly	6340 2965
Treasurer	Carol Fuller	6331 1558
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Speaker Coordinator	Nic Haygarth	6398 1334

All correspondence should be sent to: PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Society Website: www.launcestonhistory.org.au (A copy of this newsletter can be found on this site)

July Talk

Sunday 20 July 2008 – 2.30pm in the Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk.

John Shepherd: Launceston Businesses in 1873.

BIOGRAPHY: John was born in Launceston in 1933 and has lived here ever since. He was educated at the West Launceston State School and the Launceston Technical High School, now Queechey High. He worked in the family bakery (Shepherd's) for 24 years before taking a position in the railways, was elevated into the clerical ranks and retired in 1991 after 18 years' service. He became interested in family genealogy and furthered a fascination in the history of Launceston. He joined the Northern Tasmanian Camera Club in 1960 and still is an active member. He has studied much of the Club's early records and photographic albums from 1889, when Frank Styant Browne first started the Club. His wife's grandfather, Charles Hart, joined the NTCC in 1891, remaining a member until his death in 1953. Many of his old glass negatives and lantern slides survive to this day. John converted to digital photography about six years ago and enjoys enhancing and restoring pictures in the computer. John and his wife are living happily in the retirement village at Glenara Lakes in Youngtown.

DESCRIPTION: A presentation and talk on approximately 180 digitally-projected images relating to many of Launceston's early (1873) businesses. The lithographs have been selectively photographed from nearly 100 that are on a large display board fixed in the schoolroom at 'Franklin House', Youngtown. The original locations of these businesses have been researched and all the individual sites were photographed as they are today. In many cases the addition of relative photographs taken during the intervening years adds significantly to the presentation.

Katrina Ross will talk briefly on her research into the Waldheim Chalet Visitors' Book.

Note that the Launceston Historical Society has a new website address:
www.launcestonhistory.org.au

August Talk

Sunday 17 August 2008 – 2.30pm in the Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk.

Jeff Jennings: North-East Tasmania Past and Present.

Jeff Jennings, born in Ilkley, Yorkshire, in 1944 emigrated with his parents and sister (Carol Fuller) to Tasmania in 1954. He lived on the North-West Coast of Tasmania, studying at Smithton and Burnie High Schools before leaving to attend the University of Tasmania where he graduated in 1966 as a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Geography and Political Science. After completing a Diploma of Education, Jeff taught at secondary schools in Hobart, Devonport and New Zealand, before moving to Scottsdale High School in 1972. He and his wife Bev made their home at Bridport and, with their two children, carved their lives and careers around North-Eastern Tasmania.

For the past 25 years Jeff has been actively involved in the collection of historical information and photographs of the North-East. His collection of historical photographs of the area, many of which he has transferred to CD ROM, is unsurpassed. He receives many calls on his time as local historian and requests for copies of photographs. Jeff has written and published *A History of Bridport* and is a co-author of *Scott's New Country*, a history of the Scottsdale district.

Jeff has a significant archive of his own photographs featuring students at Scottsdale High School. This collection spans 25 years of activities at the school. Many of the pictures were taken on school outdoor education camps, particularly reflecting the environment and 'survival camps'.

In addition, Jeff has a considerable collection of 35mm slides and digital images taken at locations in North-East Tasmania. These landscape photographs have been used in many promotional and historical publications.

Since the early 1970s, he has been a keen sea canoeist. His association with like-minded adventurers in the Maatsuyker Sea Canoe Club has led to his involvement in expeditions to most of Tasmania's off-shore islands including Flinders and Maatsuyker Islands. Jeff has some dramatic photographs of Tasmania's spectacular coastal scenery taken from the precarious perspective of a small sea kayak.

His interest in photography began while he was a university student and remains a life-long passion. His skills as a still photographer now are complemented by the production of video and DVD films of his expeditions. One project involved a photographic essay on Albatross Island and the Shy Albatross. This was enhanced by a documentary video, "Tasmania's Shy Albatross" which Jeff also produced as a result of three excursions by kayak to the island. The Shy Albatross photographic essay was recently shown at the Bridport "Contemplations" art exhibition. Jeff hopes that these photographs eventually will be exhibited throughout Tasmania.

In recent years Jeff has made the transition to digital photography. This technology allows him to take many panoramic photographs by stitching images together on a computer. He has a collection of panoramic seascapes ranging around the Tasmanian coast. His image library contains photographs from many remote areas of Tasmania including locations such as Deal Island, Maatsuyker Island, Port Davey, Three Hummock Island, Maria Island and Tasman Island, besides panoramic images of the Overland Track and the Walls of Jerusalem.

Sea kayaking expeditions to the Whitsunday Islands, Hinchinbrook Island and SW Thailand resulted in a wider range of videos and photographic images. In 2003 Jeff embarked on a four-week sea kayaking/photographic expedition from Strahan to Port Davey, out to Maatsuyker Island and finishing at Hobart.

In 2004 Jeff won first prize in the Wilderness Gallery, Break O' Day Photographic Award for his photograph of "Frost on Sand Dunes taken at Waterhouse Lake" in the North-East.

Advance Notice of Activities

Keep an eye out for more information about our excursions to the Marakoopa Cave near Mole Creek, the Trail of the Tin Dragon at Derby and the Van Diemen's Land Company establishments in the Far North West. The dates for the first two are yet to be confirmed. The VDL trip is to be held on the long weekend of 1-3 November 2008.

14 September 2008 Keith Sykes, Simon Leslie Brown, founding headmaster of Scotch College

19 October 2008 Andrew Gregg, Convict labour at 'Brickendon'

16 November 2008 Peter Cox, On the trail of William Paterson

April 2009, Symposium, Non-Conformists in Northern Tasmania

Characters from the Past



Source: Local Studies Ephemera Collection, Launceston Library

From *Launceston Examiner* 27 December 1848, page 848.

Snakes

A few days ago, as some of Mr Cox's men were engaged on the banks of the river of Clarendon estate, their attention was directed to some of the rubbish which had been thrown up on the banks by the late heavy floods, where they succeeded in destroying no less than *thirty five* of those dangerous reptiles, which it appears had taken shelter therein. As Mr Cox gives sixpence for every snake killed on his property, the men were amply rewarded for their trouble.

A female residing near Mr Pitcher's was bitten on the hand by a snake a few days ago, and her husband having cut out a piece of the flesh, she recovered without feeling much pain.

A woman living down the river was recently bitten, and Dr Maddox amputated her finger.

2008 Launceston Historical Society History Prize

“Why study history?”

Entries now close on 5 September 2008

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Society in 1988, seven book vouchers will be awarded to young people interested in history. These will consist of four prizes for essays discussing the topic “Why study history?” and three for posters depicting the same theme. Students living in the 63 telephone area are eligible to enter in the following categories:

- Primary School students – story or poster (\$50.00)
- Grades 7 to 10 – 500 word essay or poster (\$100.00)
- Grades 11 and 12 – 750 word essay or poster (\$200.00)
- First and second year University students enrolled in history – 1000 word essay (\$250.00)

All entrants will receive a certificate of participation. Certificates also will be awarded to the schools of participating students. Prize-winning entries will be announced at the LHS meeting on Sunday 20 July 2008.

Guidelines: Essays should be handwritten or typed on one side only of A4 size paper. Posters may be A4 or A3 size.

Please post entries to the Launceston Historical Society Inc PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250 or hand deliver to Marion Sargent at the Launceston Library by **5 September 2008**.

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Entry Form

2008 Launceston Historical Society History Prize

“Why study history?”

Name:

Address:

Phone:**Mobile:**

Email:

Age:**Class/Grade:**

School/College/University:

Are you currently studying history? **Yes/No**

Members' Column



Peter Richardson (Committee member)

Peter has been Senior Librarian at the Launceston Library since September 1998, and has been a librarian for over twenty years.

Peter has a strong interest in Tasmanian and local history, and has been involved in many pioneering projects aimed at making Tasmania's heritage more accessible, especially online. He was the Project Manager responsible for Tasmania's eHeritage: a web collaboration between the State Library and Tasmanian local and family history societies, which was launched on 30 April 2003.

He edited three volumes of *On the Tide; stories of the Tamar* a popular history of the region between 2001 and 2007. Peter also co-edited a nineteenth century manuscript for publication in October 2002, entitled *Voyages in a Caravan; the illustrated logs of Frank Styant Browne*. Peter is currently coordinating the Launceston Family Album project, an Internet search for

information about Launceston residents at www.launcestonfamilyalbum.org.au in collaboration with the Friends of the Library, Launceston.

His research interests include convicts in Tasmania in the post-transportation period; the Closer Settlement movement with special reference to the Cheshunt settlement in the Meander Valley; crime reporting in Tasmanian Newspapers – Colonial and early Twentieth Century; the Cooking Pot Rebellion on Norfolk Island in 1846; and the Reverend T J O'Donnell – biography.

New Members: The President and Executive welcome to our Society the following new members: Kathy Evans, Mike & Bernadette Fruin, Janet Headlam, Prof Campbell Macknight and Katrina Ross.

Nic Haygarth opened the J H Robinson photographic exhibition at the TMAG on Thursday 3 July 2008.

Marita Bardenhagen's travelling exhibition *Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Lives* is now at Mole Creek.

2005 Papers & Proceedings: The 2005 LHS *Papers & Proceedings* have been printed, with copies posted to all those who previously paid for them. Extra P&P will be available for \$12.00 at the next meeting. Contact Marita Bardenhagen if you require copies to be posted. Postage will be added to the cost.

Paul A C Richards & Murray Johnson, *Health, wealth & tribulation: Launceston's Cataract Gorge:* This book, which explores the icon gorge in the heart of Launceston, is available for purchase by Launceston Historical Society members from Paul Richards at Myola House of Publishing 397 Wellington Street SOUTH LAUNCESTON TAS 7249 for the special price of \$30.00.

Recent Publications by Members

Michael Roe, *Albert Ogilvie and Stymie Gaha.* Published by the Parliament of Tasmania. This is an account of the Tasmanian Premier Ogilvie and Health Minister Dr Frank Gaha in the 1930s. For a preview see *The Examiner* 21 June 2008, page 32.

Marion Sargent, 'Amy Sargent's address book: HMHS *Britannic* 3 February 1916', in *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol 29 No 1, June 2008, page 16. The Hospital Ship *Britannic* was berthed in Naples, Italy, during World War One when Staff Nurse Amy Sargent passed around her address book so that 28 of her fellow nurses could record this moment in history.

Can You Help?

The Cornish in Tasmania

George Stevens is giving a talk in November on *The influence of the Cornish in Tasmania* at the Cornish Cultural Celebration in West Nowra, NSW. He is seeking information about migrants from Cornwall, and the influence they had on this state's development. He is interested in people who were involved in the mining industry, politics, government, medical profession, construction, pastoral, judiciary and commerce, as well as ordinary people like shopkeepers, shoe repairers, domestics, carpenters, blacksmiths and convicts. Also places such as Cornwall Square, Cornwall Assembly Rooms and the East Coast town of Cornwall are possible sources of useful information. If you can help, write to George Stevens, PO Box 18 BEROWA HEIGHTS NSW 2082, phone 02 9456 4007, email gws@pacific.net.au.

Exchange Journals

The following journals are available for members to read at the next meeting:

- Channel Heritage Museum, *Newsletter*
- Cultural Heritage Practitioners Tasmania, *Newsletter*
- Devonport Maritime Museum and Historical Society, *Time & Tide*
- Federation of Australian Historical Societies Inc., *FAHS Newsletter*
- George Town and District Historical Society, *Newsletter*
- Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association Inc, *Newsletter*
- National Trust Magazine and *Trust News*
- Royal Historical Society of Victoria, *History News*
- Tasmanian Historical Research Association, *Newsletter*

Other Items and Events of Interest

The Oral History Association of Australia (Tas) Inc. is holding a seminar on Sunday 10 August in the meeting room, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, starting at 1.30. Heather Felton will speak on *Stories from the people of the Hydro – many voices, many views*, and LHS member Dr Jill Koshin will talk on *Interviewing Eric Reece*.

Heather Felton's book, *Ticklebelly tales and other stories from the people of the Hydro*, was launched in May at Tarraleah and has since been high on the local bestseller lists. She will speak about the process of developing the book, which is based on both oral history sources and documentary research. Over 100 people were interviewed, and Heather will include some of their stories in her presentation.

Jill Koshin has spent ten years researching the life of Eric Reece, one of Tasmania's best-remembered Premiers, in preparation for a soon-to-be published book. Part of her research involved interviewing Mr Reece as well as many of his family and associates, and her talk will concentrate on her use of oral history. Interview excerpts will be played.

Entry is by gold coin donation and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the talks at 3.30.

Friends of the Orphan School & St John's Park Precinct: A new group, to be launched on 20 May 2008, has been formed, under the umbrella of National Trust (Tasmania), to highlight the importance of this nationally significant heritage site. To support the project and receive information on progress throughout the year, become a member for \$10.00. Phone 6272 8737; Membership enquires to Treasurer, PO Box 111, Moonah TAS 7009; or email friends.orphanschool.stjohnspark@gmail.com.

National Book Council of Tasmania: the speaker for July is Guy Nicholson, author of *Billy Vincent, Bush Pilot*. Pilot Billy was the lifeline for the people of the islands off Tasmania's far north-west and west coasts from the time he obtained his licence in 1952. Starts 1.15pm, Wednesday 16 July 2008, Phil Leonard Room, Launceston Library, Civic Square, Launceston.

Tasmanian Living Writers' Week 2008 at National Trust properties: LHS member Anne Green – Research and Writing. Anne, historian and author, will lead a discussion on the approach to research and writing about heritage places. Tuesday 19 August 2008, 3.00pm-4.30pm at Franklin House; \$12.00; bookings essential; phone Hilary Keeley 6344 7824 Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. LHS member Nic Haygarth, author, will be discussing his book, *The wild ride: Revolutions that shaped Tasmanian black & white wilderness photography*. Sunday 24 August 2008, 2.00pm at Clarendon. \$6.00; bookings essential; phone 6398 6220.

Centre for Tasmanian Historical Studies: 23rd Annual conference, *Tasmanians and War*, Keynote speakers: Dr Michael McKernan and Prof Bruce Scates, Saturday 23 August 2008. UTAS Hobart. A flier is enclosed with this newsletter.

Tasmanian Historical Research Association: Norfolk Island Conference to mark 200 years after the arrival of the last ship bringing Norfolk Islanders to Van Diemen's Land. Speakers will be: LHS member Michael Roe, *The slow death of Norfolk Island's first settlement*; Mike Nash, *The voyage to Van Diemen's Land*; James Boyce, *Van Diemen's Land in 1808*; and Alison Alexander, *Norfolk Islanders: lazy layabouts or upstanding pioneers?* Saturday 4 October 2008, Town Hall, Hobart, \$45.00. Contact Irene Schaffer on schafferi@optusnet.com.au.

Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association Inc: *Island to Island* events weekend 9-13 October 2008. Includes bus tours to areas settled by Norfolk Islanders 1807-08, a dinner at the Grand Chancellor and a visit to the Parliament House Museum and Library. PO Box 337 Glenorchy TAS 7010.

Isles of Exile Conference Norfolk Island: 26-29 October 2008. Contact Jannise Witt at The Travel Centre PO Box 172 Norfolk Island 2899; Phone 6723 22502; email jannise@travelcentre.nf. The conference forms and travel information can be downloaded from the website www.travelcentre.nf.

George Town and District Historical Society: 6th Biennial Conference, *The other half of history: Women in the history of the Tamar Valley*. York Cove Centre, Sorell Street, George Town, Sunday 9 November 2008. Contact Peter Cox: 45 Tamar Avenue George Town TAS 7253; phone 6382 2046; mobile 0407 203 610; email pcox21@tasmail.com.

Cornish Cultural Celebration: Guest speakers from Cornwall, England, a bus trip, workshops, dinner and concert with a Cornish theme will be held at the Shoalhaven Campus of the Wollongong Uni at West Nowra, NSW, on 7-9 November 2008. Contact George Stevens by phone 02 9556 4007 or email gws@pacific.net.au. (Please put CCC in the subject line)

International Council on Monuments and Sites: Contributions are being sought for papers which examine developments and trends in identifying, managing and conserving 20th century heritage places, providing opportunities to participate in the current debate about heritage values and places of the last century, and their conservation, management and interpretation. Abstracts due 28 September 2008. Send to Scott Robertson rharch@ozemail.com.au. Conference to be held in Sydney 7-10 July 2009.

Tasmanian Local History Conference: The Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association Inc will host the 10th biennial conference *Van Diemen's Land 1820-1860 - Manufacturers and Traders* on Saturday 10 October 2009 at Wrest Point, Hobart. They are calling for 30 minute papers to be presented. The closing date for proposals is 1 November 2008. Contact Kate Carlisle, PO Box 337 Glenorchy TAS 7010; phone 6272 8737; email carlisle464@ozemail.com.au.

Deadlines

Members wishing to place items on the Agenda for the 12 August 2008 LHS Committee Meeting are requested to have these to the President by **1 August 2008**. Items for the next Newsletter should be sent to the Editor by **1 Sep 2008** at marionsargent@bigpond.com or PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250.