



Launceston Historical Society Inc

Newsletter No 121

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PO BOX 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

"Bringing together people with an interest in history"

Waverley Woollen Mills

On 21 February Julian Burgess gave an interesting illustrated talk on the history of the Waverley Woollen Mills, the oldest continuously working woollen mills in Australia. Established in 1874 by Peter Bulman, together with his wife Agnes Hogarth, four generations of the Hogarth family were involved with the mills until sold in 1981. Waverley is probably the only suburb in Australia named after a factory. Julian's book *The outcome of enterprise: Launceston's Waverley Woollen Mills* is available to buy at the Launceston Library and QVMAG bookshop for \$25.00.



February's speaker Julian Burgess with LHS President Dr Marita Bardenhagen. Photo: M Sargent

Membership Renewals

The annual subscriptions for the Launceston Historical Society were due on 31 January 2010. Thank you to those who have paid for another year of membership. A blue renewal form was enclosed with the last newsletter.

April Symposium

A yellow registration form is enclosed for the Annual Symposium to be held on Saturday, 17 April 2010, from 9.00am to 3.00pm. The cost is \$25.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members. Morning tea and lunch are included. Registrations close on Friday, 9 April. The topic this year is *Tasmanian Women and War*. We also will be treated to a performance by the Launceston Players of a segment of the play *Dinkum Assorted* written by Linda Aronson.

Annual General Meeting

The 2010 AGM will be held from 11.45am to 12.45pm at the Annual Symposium on Saturday, 17 April 2010, at the Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk. (See separate pink insert for notice of meeting). Nominations are sought to fill all eleven positions on the Executive: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and seven Committee Members. Nominations should reach the Executive on or before Friday, 9 April 2010. Now is the time to join the Committee to help your Society run its active and vibrant programme of talks and excursions.

LAUNCESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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|---|--------------------|-----------|
| President | Marita Bardenhagen | 6334 4490 |
| Vice-President | Marion Sargent | 6331 4890 |
| Minute Secretary | John Dent | 6331 4099 |
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All correspondence should be sent to: PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250 or launcestonhistory@gmail.com

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

Advance Notice of Activities

Saturday, 17 April 2010, 9.00am – 3.00pm, Annual Symposium: *Tasmanian Women and War* and the Annual General Meeting.

A registration form for the Annual Symposium and a nomination form for the 2010 Executive are enclosed with this newsletter. At the Symposium speakers will explore various aspects of Tasmanian women's involvement in the First and Second World Wars, ranging from those at home knitting for the soldiers and working on the land, to nurses at the battlefield.

Sunday, 16 May 2010: Alison Alexander, *Tasmania's Convicts: how felons built a free society*

Sunday, 20 June 2010: Nick Clements, *The Black War*

Sunday, 18 July 2010: Dianne Snowden, *Convict women in the North* (to be confirmed)

Sunday, 15 August 2010: Steve Radford, *Shipping in Western Bass Strait*

Sunday, 19 September 2010: Patsy Cameron and Linn Miller

Sunday, 17 October 2010: To be advised

Sunday, 21 November 2010: To be advised

Members' Column

Archaeology Group: The next meeting will be on 27 April 2010 (the last Tuesday) at 1.00pm at the Phil Leonard Room, Launceston Library.

Longford Excursion: The Tasmanian Family History Society organised a bus trip on Saturday, 27 February, along Pateena Road, where LHS member Mary McRae, together with Mary Dadson, provided an informative commentary. After lunch at the Norfolk Plains Heritage Centre, LHS Vice-President Marion Sargent led a walking tour of the Longford town centre and a visit to her ancestors' home at 'Longford House'.

The Overland Track – Historians' Walk: LHS committee member Dr Nic Haygarth, and Dr Simon Cubit will be providing a historical commentary on a six-day Cradle Mountain Huts Walk from 9 – 14 April 2010. The walk will feature stories and artefacts following the history of the area from the early European explorers to how we preserve this area today. For more information on the walk see <http://www.cradlehuts.com.au/historianswalk/>

March Lecture

22nd *The Examiner*-John West Memorial Lecture

Friday, 12 March 2010 – 8.00pm at the Albert Hall, Launceston

Speaker: Professor Tim Flannery

"The CPRS – Is it right for Australia?"



Tim Flannery is on a mission. He believes that human activity is altering the earth's climate drastically; and that before too long these changes will have a devastating effect on the life of our planet. He wants to mobilize social and political will to address this problem before it is too late.

That is why Tim Flannery wrote *The Weather Makers: How Man Is Changing the Climate and What It Means for Life on Earth*. In this important and provocative book, which debuted on *The New York Times* bestseller list, Flannery tells the fascinating story of climate change over millions of years to help us understand the predicament we face today. In authoritative yet accessible language, Flannery carefully lays out the science, demonstrating the substantial, human-induced climate change and the likely ecological effects to the planet if this process continues. He then proposes a game plan to halt, and ultimately reverse, this damaging trend. *The Weather Makers* has sold over a million copies worldwide, and is proving to be one of the most pivotal and influential texts in our understanding of global warming.

Tim Flannery is the former director of the South Australian Museum, and currently is a professor at Sydney's Macquarie University. He spent a year as professor of Australian Studies at Harvard, where he taught in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology. In 2002, he became the first environmentalist to deliver The Australia Day address to the nation. In 2005 he was honoured as Australian Humanist of the Year and, in 2007, he was named Australian of the Year.

A regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and *The Times Literary Supplement*, Flannery also contributes to ABC Radio, NPR (National Public Radio) and the BBC. And he has written and hosted several Documentary Channel specials, including "The Future" and "Islands in the Sky", besides being involved in the ABC TV series "Two Men in a Tinnie" and "Two in the Top End".

Drawing on the ideas from his groundbreaking new book, *The Weather Makers: How Man is Changing the Climate and What it Means for Life on Earth*, Tim Flannery presents a straightforward and powerful exploration of the connection between climate change, global warming, and human activity. Through deft use of imagery, analogy and common sense, he has the gift of making complex science understandable to a lay audience. But Flannery does not tell his audience just what is happening to our planet. He very clearly lays out a game plan for halting current warming trends and of beginning the long, but entirely achievable project of reversing the damage we have done. His goal is to mobilize his listeners "both personally and politically" to recognize that we are all "weather makers" and that the only choice, both logically and ethically, is to begin to address this problem before it is too late.

This lecture has been organised by the Launceston Historical Society and is supported by the *The Examiner*, the Launceston City Council, the University of Tasmania, World Education Forum Tasmania and Natural Resource Management.

Can you Help?

***Dinkum Assorted*:** The Launceston Players are treating us to a sneak preview of their play *Dinkum Assorted* at our Symposium on 17 April, followed by the full production at the Annex Theatre on 12-15 May 2010. The Players are in need of six safe World War II civilian gasmasks and a tin hat. The gasmasks need to be cleaned of asbestos and sealed. If anyone can help, please contact Betty Hall, phone (03) 6331 4162 or 0428 848 356 or email bettyhall3@bigpond.com.

Other Items and Events of Interest

Robert Dowling: Tasmanian Son of Empire is a National Gallery of Australia Exhibition showing at the Aspects Gallery, QVMAG@Inveresk until 25 April. It is the first major retrospective of the works of the distinguished colonial artist Robert Dowling (1827-1886). Born in Britain, Dowling – aged seven – came to Launceston in 1834 with his family. His father Henry was the first Baptist minister in Van Diemen's Land. Robert was apprenticed to Tevelein and Stubbs' saddlery in Charles Street, besides taking lessons in painting from local artists: Frederick Strange, Thomas Bock and John Glover. He advertised his services as a portrait-painter and miniaturist. In 1857 he travelled to London, remaining there for 27 years. He exhibited at the Royal Academy and sent paintings back to Australia. In 1884 he returned to Melbourne for two years, and went back to London where he died suddenly in 1886. Many of Dowling's paintings and watercolours from Australian and British collections have been brought together for this unique exhibition. The Gallery is open from 10.00am to 5.00pm daily and admission is free.

National Book Council: Guest speaker for the March meeting is Dr Sally Bryant, co-author of *Animals of Tasmania: Wildlife of an incredible island*, a beautifully illustrated book about animals and birds, past and present, delightfully illustrated by Tim Squires. Phil Leonard Room, Launceston Library, Civic Square, Wednesday, 17 March, 1.15pm.

Library Book Fair: St Ailbie's Hall, 46 Margaret Street, Launceston, Saturday, 27 March, 9.00am – 2.00pm. Thousands of second-hand books at bargain prices; self-publishers; storytime for children aged 3 – 7 years; and meet local authors! Refreshments will be available. This is a community project involving the Riverside Lions Club; Friends of the Library, Launceston; and the Launceston Library.

Arts Tasmania Grants and Loans: Arts Tasmania's Small Museums and Collections Program supports smaller community collections and museums through grants, loans and access to the Roving Curators. The program aims to improve access to collections, support museum management, collections management and care or product development. The Roving Curators are available by appointment to discuss project ideas and suitable grant options for your organisation. Call Arts Tasmania on (03) 6233 7308 or email the Small Museums and Collections Program Officer, Robyn Miller robyn.miller@arts.tas.gov.au, or the Roving Curators Veronica Macno veronica.macno@arts.tas.gov.au and Elizabeth Adkins elizabeth.adkins@arts.tas.gov.au. Applications are due on 23 August 2010.

National Archives of Australia: The Hobart office was threatened with closure, but on 23 February 2010 an announcement was made that face-to-face service will be maintained. The National Archives body is looking at the option of co-locating with a similar institution in Hobart. The reality is that relatively few personal visits are made to the office as more people are accessing records online. But it is good news for academics and researchers who use the facility to search for our history. NAA can be contacted by phone on (03) 6230 6111 or through its website: www.naa.gov.au.

Deadlines

Members wishing to place items on the Agenda for the 13 April 2010 LHS Committee Meeting are requested to have these to the President by **1 April 2010**. Items for the next Newsletter should be sent to the Editor by **1 May 2010** at marionsargent@bigpond.com or PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250.