



**LAUNCESTON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



Oral History Tasmania

SEMINAR

Sunday 18 September 2016

Meeting room, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk

10.00 Registration

10.30 **Brad Williams, *Archaeological dig at Launceston College / Gaol***

With recent plans for an expansion of the Launceston College Performing Arts building, the College commissioned Brad Williams of Praxis Environment to investigate the archaeological potential of the site which was originally the Launceston Gaol. Excavations revealed that the development site straddled the very earliest part of the gaol stemming from 1825. This talk will detail the archaeological project and give a sneak preview of the college's plans for embracing their heritage.

11.30 **Jill Cassidy, *Oral History: What's all the fuss about?***

Many years ago oral history was not seen as 'real' history and there are still some people who question its use. Despite this, over recent decades there has been an extraordinary mushrooming of oral history. What is there in oral history which has caused so many people to make such a fuss of its benefits and has led to an explosion of books, radio and television programs, museum exhibitions and more recently CDs and videos using oral history?

12.30 **Lunch and AGM**

1.30 **Margaretta Pos, *My journey with colonial pioneer Elizabeth Fenton***

Born in Ireland in 1804 into the Anglo-Irish gentry, Margaretta Pos' great-great-great grandmother Elizabeth Fenton sailed for India in 1826 and died in Tasmania in 1876. She left a revealing chronicle of her life in her journals, the later ones, which have remained unpublished with her descendants. An intelligent and highly literate diarist, she faced tragedy, political intrigue, loss of faith, and all with a depressive illness that shadowed her life. Margaretta Pos approached her words as if conducting a series of interviews. Her book, *Mrs Fenton's Journey: India and Tasmania 1826 to 1876*, was published in 2014.

2.30 **Afternoon tea**

Cost \$25

Prior registration is essential for catering purposes.

Enquiries: Catherine Pearce, 6331 6828 after 6pm or cath.pearce@bigpond.com