

# Launceston Historical Society Inc.

## Newsletter No 190

October 2023

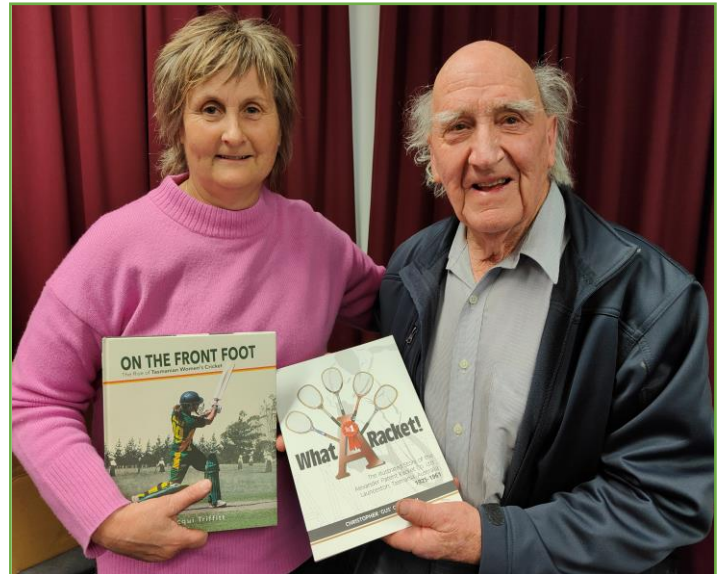
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PO BOX 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

*Bringing together people with an interest in history*

### On the Front Foot

Former state player Jacqui Triffitt gave a great talk on the rise of Tasmanian women's cricket on 16 July 2023. Her book *On the Front Foot* documents the history of women's cricket in Tasmania from the 1890s through to 2010. The book's cover demonstrates how far women have come from the players wearing long skirts and boater hats at Wynyard in 1907 to the present day with practical clothes and safety gear. The bat Erin Burns is holding goes through the line showing that women are breaking barriers. Lily Poulett-Harris from the Oyster Cove team is regarded as the founder of organised cricket in Tasmania. In the 1930s, Launceston became the centre of women's cricket when Mary Fox encouraged schoolgirls' cricket.



Jacqui Triffitt is pictured with Gus Green. The Alexander Tennis Racket Co also made cricket bats.



Luci Woodland, a great-great granddaughter of Florence Perrin is pictured with Tabatha Badger.

### Florence Perrin

On 20 August 2023, Tabatha Badger presented a fascinating insight into the life of Florence Perrin. With her husband George Perrin, she ventured into Tasmania's wilderness areas, walking, skiing, and photographing the unique flora. Perrin's Bluff was named in her honour. Florence was an avid collector of seaweeds, orchids, and ferns, and was involved in more than a dozen organisations. Florence passed away on 25 April 1952 aged 68. She was ahead of her time and tried hard to have her voice heard in support of women and the environment. Tabatha is writing a book on Florence Perrin, to finally give her the recognition she deserves.



## J Martyn Haenke's architectural legacy

Johannus Martyn Haenke was born in Ipswich, Queensland in 1877 to German immigrant parents. After working with architects in Ipswich and Melbourne, in 1903 he moved to Launceston and signed on with leading builder J&T Gunn. On 17 September LHS President **Marion Sargent** presented a marvelous, illustrated lecture on Haenke's professional achievements and personal life in Tasmania and further afield. During the three and a half years he was in Launceston, Haenke was responsible for several major projects, including the remodeling of the Launceston Hotel, the renovation of F&W Stewart's jewellery store, and the design of the Tasmanian Woolgrower's building (now Spotlight) in Cimitiere Street. He also designed Victoria League House, Lyttleton Street, in grand Art Nouveau style – so grand it was believed to have well exceeded his client's budget! Haenke left Launceston in June 1906, somewhat under a cloud, for undercutting competitors' quotes and failing to pay for fiancé Blanche Withington's engagement ring. He decamped to America soon after. Though inclined to stretch the truth about his origins and qualifications, Haenke was a man of

considerable talent who went on to become a prominent architect in California. He died in Los Angeles in 1963.

## October Meeting

**Prue McCausland, *The Albert Hall and the Tasmanian Exhibition 1891-92***

**Sunday 15 October 2023 – 2pm, Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk**

The iconic Albert Hall at the north-west corner of City Park was built for the Tasmanian Exhibition of 1891-92 by the Launceston City Council at cost of £12,000. Half a million locally-made bricks were used in its construction. For the Exhibition, large temporary annexes were erected over parts of City Park. These housed displays of manufactured goods and art works from Tasmania, the mainland colonies, Great Britain, Canada, France and New Zealand. Over 243,000 people attended the Exhibition when Launceston's population was only 17,000.

**Prue McCausland** is a retired teacher and librarian with an interest in local and family history. She is involved with several community groups including the LHS, Friends of the Library, Friends of QVMAG and Friends of the Launceston Mechanics' Institute.



## November Meeting

**Michelle Blake, *Virtual tour of local heritage in Launceston***

**Sunday 19 November 2023 – 2pm, Meeting Room, Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk**



Launceston view, *Weekly Courier*, 24 Mar 1906

We walk past local heritage in Launceston all the time. It is not just grand buildings but the houses in our neighbourhoods that tell the stories of everyday life. This talk will explain what local heritage is and why it is important. While remaining comfortably seated, we will embark on a virtual tour of some Launceston neighbourhoods and look at how they came to be and the significance they hold today.

**Michelle Blake** is a freelance historian and research assistant with experience in Lands Title research and house histories. She is passionate about cultural heritage and public history. Michelle is a member of the Professional Historians Association (Vic and Tas).



## LHS Activities 2023

Launceston Historical Society meetings are usually held at the meeting room, Queen Victoria Museum, Inveresk, on the third Sunday of the month at 2pm, unless otherwise notified. Free for members, visitors are welcome to attend at \$5 each. Bring some cash for a chance to win a prize in the raffle. The meetings are no longer livestreamed on Zoom, so come along to learn about our history.

Earlier talks are available on our website, so catch up on ones you missed or listen to them again: <http://launcestonhistory.org.au/lhs-lecture-series/>

## Members' Column

The President and Executive welcome to our Society the following new members: Ingrid Andersen, Bob & Cheryl Richardson, Brian & Patsy Walsh

## Membership Form

Membership forms are available on our website in both PDF and Word formats. Sunday meetings are free for LHS members, and we have raised the visitor's fee to \$5. Renewals for 2023 were due on 31 December 2022. We encourage members to pay by direct debit into our Commonwealth Bank of Australia account: BSB 067-003 A/C No. 2804 8638, by cheque in the mail, or cash at the next meeting you attend.

## Other Events of Interest

**George Town & District Historical Society:** The Grove, George Town, Monday, 16 October 2023 at 7.30pm, AGM & Pat Grey, *Family connections to the sealing industry of Bass Strait*; Port Dalrymple School, Sunday, 12 November 2023 from 8.45am to 4.15pm, \$40.00, Conference, *Convicts & Convictism in Northern Van Diemen's Land / Tasmania*. Email: [info@gtdhs.com](mailto:info@gtdhs.com).

**National Book Council Tasmania:** Launceston Library, Level 2, third Wednesday of the month at 1.15pm. 18 October 2023, Hildegunn Hodne, *Spider stories: From phobia to fascination*; 15 November 2023, Catherine McCullagh writes non-fiction and fiction with military themes. Members free; non-members \$5. RSVP: [nationalbookcounciltasmania@gmail.com](mailto:nationalbookcounciltasmania@gmail.com).

**Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch):** Meeting Room, QV Museum, Inveresk on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1.30pm. 22 October 2023, UTAS PhD candidates, *Breaking New Ground*; 26 November 2023, Tanya Ringuet, *International Big Picture Learning Credential*. Inquiries: Lois Beckwith, [loisbeckwith27@gmail.com](mailto:loisbeckwith27@gmail.com)

**Tasmanian Historical Research Association:** Legacy Function Rooms, 159 Macquarie St, Hobart on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. 10 October 2023, Martin Stone, *Forensic Wellingtonology*; 14 November 2023, Kate Warner, *My pathway to the pathway to the Truth-Telling and Treaty project*. 12 December, Eldershaw Memorial Lecture, Gaye Sculthorpe, *Tasmanian Aboriginal Objects: the overlooked archive*. Email: [info@thra.org.au](mailto:info@thra.org.au).

**Aboriginal people of Kanamaluka: First Tasmanians of the Launceston area:** Have a look at the new website created by two of our members – Louise Zarmati and Geoff McLean – which provides teachers and any interested person with easily accessible information that is aligned to First Nations topics in the Australian Curriculum. The information presented is based on primary sources and current historical, archaeological, and cultural research, from Deep Time to the end of the colonial period. The topics present a perspective of our local history that puts the experiences of Tasmanian Aboriginal People at the forefront of the narrative. <https://aboriginallaunceston.com.au/>

### From Trove: *The Examiner*, Tuesday 16 June 1903, page 4

**The Tourist Traffic** – During the past tourist season striking evidence was afforded of the inadequacy of accommodation of a first-class character obtainable in this city and other parts of the state. In view of the increasing numbers of visitors to Northern Tasmania, improvements are being made to several of the existing hotels and boarding houses, while new buildings are in course of erection. In the city extensive preparations in this direction have commenced, and the proprietress of the Launceston Hotel has made arrangements for extensive additions and alterations to her house. Another front storey is to be added, and downstairs a general transformation is to be effected. A start was made yesterday. As has been previously mentioned, a new coffee palace containing about 100 rooms is to be erected in Tamar-street.

# East Tamar Excursion

Monday 6 November 2023

## The Launceston Historical Society's Spring Excursion for Members

- 9.00am Bus departs from the **Northern Inveresk Car Park**, 14 Forster Street, Invermay.
- 9.20am Stop at **Hillwood Berries Farmgate** for coffee and snack (at your own expense).
- 10.00am Drive to **Lefroy** for some history on gold mining and a walk in the cemetery.
- 11.00am Drive to **George Town** for a guided tour with Des Wootton. Visit the **Watch House** which includes a model village of the town around 1815. Admission included.
- 12.15pm Drive to the **Low Head Pilot Station Maritime Museum** for a guided tour by Des Wootton. Admission included.
- 1.00pm **Lunch** at your own expense at [Seafood Shack](#), **Low Head**. Bring a picnic lunch if you prefer.
- 2.00pm Visit the **Low Head Lighthouse Precinct**, Marine Education Centre, foghorn building, and manual arm telegraph system.
- 2.45pm Drive to St Mathias Church, [Windermere](#), walk around the cemetery, and see inside.
- 4.00pm Return via Dilston to Launceston.
- 5.00pm Arrive in Launceston.

Please post or email the details below @ **\$50.00 per person**.

Post a cheque to the Treasurer, Launceston Historical Society, PO Box 1296, Launceston, TAS 7250, **or** pay by direct debit BSB 067 003 A/C 2804 8638, and email Leonie Prevost: [leonie.prevost@bigpond.com](mailto:leonie.prevost@bigpond.com) or Marion Sargent: [marionsargent@bigpond.com](mailto:marionsargent@bigpond.com), phone 0438 432 848.

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<b>East Tamar Excursion, Monday 6 November 2023</b>	Return to:
Name.....	LHS Inc.
Address.....	PO Box 1296
Mobile.....	LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
Email.....	<b>\$50.00 per person</b>
Entry to the Museums is included. Coffee and lunch at own expense.	
Lunch at the Seafood Shack? Yes / No	

## Our History

These stories on Launceston's history and beyond have been contributed by our members. You are welcome to send articles of 475 words, with at least three pictures, to the president [marionsargent@bigpond.com](mailto:marionsargent@bigpond.com). Read the stories in *The Sunday Examiner* or on [Facebook](#).

No	Date	Page	Author	<i>The Sunday Examiner</i> Title	Topic
291	9 Jul 2023	23	Julian Burgess	Waverley Woollen Mills marks 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary	Waverley Woollen Mills 150 <sup>th</sup>
292	16 Jul 2023	23	Marion Sargent	Northern pioneers spearhead rise of women's cricket	Ladies' Crescent Cricket Club
293	23 Jul 2023	23	Nigel Burch	Labor Lance one of Launceston's finest politicians	Lance Barnard was his father's son
294	30 Jul 2023	23	Nigel Burch	This CBD corner was Mrs Crosby's Jubilee Bakery	Mrs Crosby's Jubilee Bakery
295	6 Aug 2023	18	Nigel Burch	Longford power took more than a flick of the switch	The tortuous process of powering Longford
296	13 Aug 2023	28	Prue McCausland	Presumed curable: The sad story of Theodora Weston	Theodora Weston
297	20 Aug 2023	23	Nigel Burch	How soapmaker genius saved local manufacturing	R Miller & Co, soap and candle manufacturers
298	27 Aug 2023	23	Julian Burgess	The mysterious memorial for William Collins	The mysterious memorial for William Collins
299	3 Sep 2023	27	Nigel Burch	The road to forming our first ambulance service	The first Launceston ambulances
300	10 Sep 2023	22	Nigel Burch	The century-old story of Barratts Music stores	The story of Barratt's Music
301	17 Sep 2023	23	Nigel Burch	How Barratts founder's son gave his life for Christ	David Barratt: The Devonport Martyr
302	24 Sep 2023	23	Marion Sargent	Spotlight shines on Launceston architect's legacy	Shining a spotlight on J Martyn Haenke's architectural legacy
303	1 Oct 2023	39	Nigel Burch	How two Johns established the Tamar Brewery	Tamar Brewery
304	8 Oct 2023		Julian Burgess		Launceston's first Council
305	15 Oct 2023		Marion Sargent		Talbot Road Lookout

### Launceston Historical Society

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/launcestonhistory>

### Deadline

Items for the next *Newsletter* should be sent to the editor by **1 Dec 2023** at [marionsargent@bigpond.com](mailto:marionsargent@bigpond.com) or PO Box 1296 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250.

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