

TASMANIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
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APRIL 2013

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Georgia Fountoulaki, Riverside
John Spurway, Sandy Bay
Thelma McKay, Kingston
Nicole Mays, Seacliff Park, South Australia
Anne Lucas, Hobart

DRAFT CALENDAR 2013

14 May

Roger Kellaway
Rosny copper smelter, 1846-1852

11 June

Don and Maggie Row
A Skinner Prout from the shed

9 July

Betty Pilgrim
'Tasmanian talent to the fore'—the legendary Pollard Opera Company

13 August

Nick Clements
'Frightened to death'—colonists' experience of Aboriginal violence in Tasmania

THRA MEMBER VISIT TO TMAG BOND STORE GALLERIES

The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery will offer tours of its new Bond Store galleries prior to the general meeting on **14 May**. These exhibitions are:

Our living land: Encountering an upside down world
Our changing land: Creating Tasmania
Our land: Parrawa, parrawa! Go away!

Tours will start at 6.30 at the museum's new entrance off the Dunn Street carpark. They will be led by curators who prepared the exhibitions, all of whom are THRA members.

Numbers are limited to 30 members so book early. Contact Ian Terry by email at ianterry@netspace.net.au or by telephone on 6234 9979.

WALK OATLANDS—PARATTAH ALONG THE OLD RAILWAY LINE

The Oatlands District Historical Society is offering an excursion on a seven-kilometre walk along a new track opened on the old railway line. Steph Burbury says it is really interesting, with interpretation panels, and also an old sheep dip carved out of solid sandstone. Since it is a railway line, it is pretty flat.

Date: Saturday 18 May

Bring: lunch and walking gear

Meet at the History Room, Main Road, Oatlands at 10am. Toilets are available there.

We will organise a car shuffle, taking some cars to Parattah (though some people might want to walk 7 kms back again).

Graeme Raphael will accompany the walk and point out items of interest. At Parattah, Vera Fisher will give a talk on the railway while we eat lunch. The excursion will finish at approximately 2 pm.

Cost: \$10, pay on the day.

Please let Alison Alexander know if you would like to come, so that if weather forces cancellation you can be informed. Alison's email is Alison.Alexander@utas.edu.au or phone her on 6223 7762.

CREATIVE AUSTRALIA: NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

Ruth Kerr of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies has sent a summary of the Federal Government's National Cultural Policy, which we pass on to members for information. For more details go to the relevant website at <http://creativeaustralia.arts.gov.au/>

The then Arts Minister, Hon Simon Crean MP, announced the Australian Government's Arts Policy on 13 March 2013. There are very positive elements in it for the cultural heritage sector including digitization of documentary heritage in Australia. This follows the arguments submitted by the Federation of Australian Historical Societies and other bodies such as Museums Australia in response to the Arts Minister's 2012 Discussion Paper. Many of the proposed changes in policy lie in the areas of education and inter-agency co-operation. Total funding is \$235 million (generally over four years) and levels are set out on pages 34-35 of the policy document, *Creative Australia*. Significant funding elements announced are:

- \$75.3 million for the Australia Council over four years. Base funding will be increased 9% in the next financial year;
- \$8.595 million for Creative Partnerships Australia to establish a funding program for the cultural sector based on new models of funding, including micro-loans, crowd sourcing and matched funding;
- \$20.8 million to elite arts training organizations;
- \$13.983 million to extend the Indigenous Languages Support program;
- \$3.4 million for an ArtsReady program students in on-the-job training;
- \$8.1 million to establish the Creative Young Stars Program which will encourage, support and celebrate creative, academic and community achievement in every federal electorate and participation of students in primary and secondary schools and post-school young people to 25 years;
- \$10 million immediately for screen production for digital platforms including television to support innovation and augment Screen Australia's multi-platform;
- \$9.7 million to continue the ArtStart program for graduating practitioners;
- \$11.26 million to continue the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support Program;
- \$5 million to continue the Australian Music Radio Airplay Project through the Community Broadcasting Foundation;
- \$20 million for a new Location incentive for film makers to increase Australia's competitiveness; and
- \$40 million for the Regional Development Australian Fund (RDAF)—Arts and Cultural Infrastructure through RDAF Rounds 3 and 4.

Historical Society members are invited to read the policy noting the key sections which affect our sector:

- Expansion of digital access to national collections by building partnerships with community organizations;
- \$3.2 million has been allocated for Creative Partnerships Australia to help bring cultural organizations closer together;
- Streamlining of the administration by the Australian Tax Office of Gifts to cultural organizations;
- Development of a National Arts and Cultural Accord between each level of government to set out the principles of support for arts and culture; and
- Establishment of a national network of museums and galleries through Museums Australia and the National Museum by sharing resources and improving access to collections.