

THRA

TASMANIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER NO. 123

April 2025

MEETING CALENDAR 2025

8 April	Bob Brown A Tasmanian Life
13 May	Penny Russell: Eldershaw Memorial Lecture Family archives, feminist readings: reflections on intimacy and absence
10 June	Keith Corbett Rocks and people in the story of geology in Tasmania
8 July	Michael Stoddart Tasmania's southern horizon: exploration, whaling, science, diplomacy
12 August	Theresa Sainty Interpreting Palawa Ngini voices from the past through colonial documents: Staying faithful to culturally embedded meaning
9 September	Imogen Wegman Edward Foord Bromley's disappearing New Town
14 October	Alan Townsend Scandal & Graft: the outrageous career of George Duffield
11 November	Jody Steele Public history and interpretation
9 December	John Dent Launceston: the first twenty years – a difficult birth

NEW and RETURNING MEMBERS

David Adams of Perth (TAS)
Wendy Bowler of North Hobart
Jed Dorrington of Coomera (QLD)
Karl Goetz & Monica Wood of Margate
Dean Greeno of Riverside
Brian Hearn of Kaleen (ACT)
Christine James of Hobart
Pauline Johnston of South Hobart
Mark Newell of Battery Point

Sue Newitt of Rokeby
Amanda Paul of Kingston
Anthony Speed of Mt Nelson
Trevor Sullivan of Mt Nelson
Matthew Tidswell of Miandetta
Rosalie Triolo of Victoria
Sebastian Verbeeten of Launceston
Tony Webster of South Arm

UPCOMING EXCURSION: NARRYNA HOUSE

THRA has teamed up with **Narryna house museum** in Battery Point to offer an excursion for members on **Saturday 26 April**. The excursion will include morning tea and an introductory talk about the history of Narryna and its collection followed by a self-guided tour of the house, its collections and garden.

Narryna is an 1830s merchant's house and collection that tells the story of early colonial life in Hobart. The fine Georgian town house was built by seafarer, Captain Andrew Haig who built warehouses facing Salamanca Place in 1834. Narryna has had a varied existence as a home to large families, boarding house, hospital and museum. In 1955 it became Australia's first folk museum through the efforts of Hobart residents who formed a collection that is redolent of the mercantile and maritime histories of Salamanca Place and Battery Point.

The THRA tour will be at **10am on Saturday 26 April** and will cost **\$20 each**. If you are interested contact **Ian Terry** at iterry@iinet.net.au. Numbers are limited.

PAPERS and PROCEEDINGS

Recently, we have experimented with some **full-colour editions** of *Papers and Proceedings*. These were received very well and the committee has agreed that in 2025 all editions of our journal will be published in colour.

We hope you enjoy perusing the colour images as much as we have!

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS in 2025

The THRA Committee is finalising the details on a selection of excursions for the rest of 2025. If you have any suggestions for excursions you believe would make an interesting addition to our program in the next year or two, please send them through to thra@thra.org.au or pass them onto a Committee member for discussion.

In the winter months, the **UTAS Rare and Special Collections** and **John Elliott Classics Museum** have offered to show us some of their Tasmanian wonders. This will include objects from the *Waterworth Optical Collection*, which isn't on public display. Watch your email for more details.

Notices about upcoming excursions are distributed by email, so make sure your email contact details are up-to-date with THRA. Email membership@thra.org.au if you are unsure.

KNOPWOOD'S DIARY and THRA USBs

After selling the final CD of *The Diary of Robert Knopwood* from the online THRA store, we are excited to announce that this publication is now available on **THRA branded USB drives** for \$30. This transcription of the **Reverend Robert "Bobby" Knopwood's Diary** provides curious and sometimes colourful insights into the earliest years of Van Diemen's Land.

To purchase a THRA USB with *Knopwood's Diary*, go to **Publications** on the THRA website. We will also have limited numbers available at Tuesday Meetings.

You can also buy an empty THRA USB for \$12 at our Tuesday meetings. You will receive an 8GB USB thumb drive that has USB-A and USB-C (the newer format) plugs so it works with most devices, making it a handy companion on all trips to the archives.

HUGUENOT SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA

The **Huguenot Society of Australia** was formed in 2003 by Australian Huguenot Descendants as an Historic and Genealogical organisation for anyone interested in Huguenots. The Society is based in Sydney, but has active branches in most States except Tasmania, where there are only a small number of members.

The Aims of the Huguenot Society of Australia are to foster a bond of friendship amongst descendants of Huguenots, as well as offering advice and assistance on Huguenot family history research. If any THRA member is interested, please visit huguenotsaustralia.org.au.