



ILMO

May 2023

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc

Mersey Branch

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc

Mersey Branch

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023/2024

President Roslyn Coss
Vice President Gary Bryant
Secretary Gaylene Hays
Treasurer Ross Warren

OTHER COMMITTEE 2023/2024

Lyn Chambers
Neville Bingham
Rosie Marshall
Sue-Ellen McCreghan
Betty Keep
Peter Marlow

SPECIALIST AREAS 2023/2024

Library Co-Ordinator	Rosie Marshall
Library - Assistant	Marilyn Oakley
Membership Officer	Ross Warren
Research Co-Ordinator	Roslyn Coss
Journal Liaison Officer	Roslyn Coss
Newsletter Editor	Gaylene Hays (Mentor Peter Marlow)
Publication Committee	Committee
Publicity & Promotions Coordinator	Committee
Publication Sales Co-ordinator	Gary Bryant
Equipment Manager	Neville Bingham
Other (Indexing)	Lyn Chambers with Ann Lowe & Sandra Henwood

STATE DELEGATES 2023/2024

TFHS Inc - Mersey Division

Roslyn Coss
Sue-Ellen McCreghan
Lyn Chambers (Proxy)

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc

Mersey Branch Library

Old Police Residence



117 Gilbert Street, Latrobe,
Tasmania

Opening Hours

Wednesday and Friday

10.00am to 3.00pm

Phone 03 6426 2257

Other times by appointment

Email: secretary@tfhsdev.com

Introducing a new annual award from the TFHS

The *Tasmanian Ancestry*

PATRON'S AWARD

celebrating the best article published in *Tasmanian Ancestry* in a single
calendar year
by

any past or current student in the

University of Tasmania *Diploma of Family History*.

To enter simply submit your article in the usual way by email to the editor at
editors@tasfhs.org including in the body of the email information allowing the society
to confirm your enrolment in the diploma course.

Attach your article as a Microsoft Word attachment to your email. length from 1000 to
2000 words.

More details are available in an article elsewhere in this issue.



Programme 2023 Year

MAY

8th (Monday) Committee Meeting 1.30pm
20th (Saturday) Executive Meeting

JUNE

12th (Saturday) Committee Meeting 1.30pm
17th (Saturday) State AGM 10.30am

JULY

10th (Monday) Committee Meeting

AUGUST

14th (Monday) Committee Meeting
August is Family History month

SEPTEMBER

11th (Monday) Committee Meeting

OCTOBER

9th (Monday) Committee Meeting

NOVEMBER

13th (Monday) Committee Meeting

DECEMBER

No Committee Meeting



News Items

From The Editor's Desk

The President and Committee extend their sincere apologies to all our members and/or other persons wishing to utilise the facilities of Mersey Branch during the enforced 2-week closure of the library, due to Covid.

We reopened Wednesday 10th May 2023 (10.00am to 3.00pm)

At the Annual General Meeting, President Ros presented "*Certificates of Appreciation*" to Helen Anderson, Peter Marlow and Sue-Ellen McCreghan for their many years of active service to Mersey Branch.

BRAIN TEASERS *(don't look yet but the answers are on page 6)*

1. What has cities, but no houses; forests, but no trees; and water, but no fish?
2. Lovely and round, I shine with pale light, grown in the darkness, A lady's delight. What am I?
3. I have a big mouth and I am also quite loud! I am NOT a gossip but I do get involved with everyone's dirty business. What am I?
4. No matter how little or how much you use me, you change me every month. What am I?
5. I come in different shapes and sizes. Parts of me are curved, other parts are straight. You can put me anywhere you like, but there is only one right place for me. What am I?
6. What has a head and a tail but no legs?



ARTICLES for ILMO

We are always looking for articles of interest of upcoming events or of Latrobe or your families' history to be included in our ILMO newsletter. Anything at all that you may find interesting for others to read.

If you have any articles you would like to be included, please bring them to the History Library Wednesday or Friday between 10.00am and 3.00pm

Contact via email or phone below

Secretary@tfhsdev.com

Phone 0408 059 990

Gaylene Hays-Newsletter Editor



President's Report - Annual General Meeting 22nd April 2023



Mersey Branch had the pleasure of hosting the State AGM in June at The Devonport Country Club, at Spreyton, Interesting speakers, good food and a better than normal attendance of 65 enjoyed the weekend. Dinner at the Lucas Hotel Latrobe for 30 & an enjoyable guided tour of Home Hill, Devonport. Thanks to the committee who helped make a very successful State AGM.

Our front windows display 'FAMILY HISTORY' in different colours as well as 14- A4 photos. Changed every month they reflect events i.e., Anzac Day, old buildings & families etc. Josie Badcock kindly gave us permission to use any sketches from her Sketchbook series. Josie's kindness extended to permission for a sketch of our building on our letterhead.

In November for Remembrance Day with the help of Gay & Gary the Latrobe shopping area was canvassed. Fifty photos with information of soldiers & nurses from our WW1 soldier collection were displayed in their windows for a week. Our front windows display soldiers this Anzac Day.

Thank you to Neville & Ross for improving & maintaining the building with new lighting, painting the chimney breast wall and highlighting the entrance step etc.

Projects this past year include - Advocate indexing 2022 by Anne & Lynnie.

Indexing of F E Watts funeral directors records by Rosie, Gay, Marilyn & Sandra.

Permission has been given by Peter Vincent to publish & sell when completed.

Helen is co-ordinating a project Settlements & People of the Latrobe District with helpers Betty, Neville & Ross. Helen has completed updating the book 'The Cemetery That Was - The Bluff Cemetery' by the late Elaine Garwood after approval, the book will be put on our website.

Gay &, Helen have added items to Latrobe History & Devonport & Surrounds Facebook pages. Our branch website has been updated by Andrew Cocker although a bit more work is needed.

Peter Marlow has continued to produce ILMO, working through ill health many times. Peter has tended his resignation although he assures me, he'll be on tap if needed. I thank him for all his input into Mersey branch over the last ten years.

Two successful fund raisers this year, Christmas raffle & Afternoon T, grateful for the donations to both. Plans underway for the Afternoon T again in November.

Sadly, there are also resignations from Denise Young as a valued library assistant.

Helen Anderson after 42years. Helen, a founding member, in 1981. She has held every executive position except President and contributed to many projects. A favourite ongoing project is Thomas & Dolly Johnson's history & their descendants.

Sue-Ellen McCreghan has resigned from secretary's position and has been a loyal and valued member for 15 years. Holding every executive position including President with her happy manner to every position & event has made Mersey branch a pleasure for all to be part of. A position on committee hopefully will be her next step.

Welcome to Gay, Gay has joined our branch with great enthusiasm and greater still computer knowledge. Her input is already appreciated.

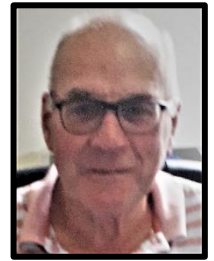
There are members who are the backbone of Mersey Branch, Rosie our librarian, Marilyn our cleaner & Ross our treasurer, I am very thankful to have their valued input.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the branch over the past 12 months.

Ros Coss, President



Treasurer's Report to Annual General Meeting 22nd April 2023



Receipts for 2022/23 financial year totalled \$9936.80 up from \$8469.40 last year. Payments totalled \$8803.89 up from \$6119.69 last year resulting in a surplus of \$1132.91 for the year. This is a pleasing result following deficits in recent years.

The Profit & Loss table below summarises major areas of Expenditure and income.

The cost of library utilities was down by \$310.71 on the previous year.

Admin and ILMO were also down slightly.

Income from membership subscriptions and donations was up \$694.50 but this varies each year depending on subscriptions being paid before or after March 31. As at 21 April 2023, 55 Mersey Branch members were financial for /24 year, including four new members. Financial members in November 2022, 74. Membership continues to decline, 83, 96, 83, 79, 74 are numbers for last five years. Income from membership last year is shown in table below.

Research income was well up on the previous year, an increase of \$1184.32. Well done to Ros and all those members involved in research.

The library made a small surplus despite the cost of carpet cleaning, painting and new lighting installed during the Christmas break.

The Christmas Raffle and an Afternoon Tea/Trade Table held in February were both successful resulting in an increase of \$1178.95 in fund-raising income.

Sales income was up again this year.

A new hard drive and guillotine were purchased during the year. One library computer is not functioning correctly and investment in replacement computer hardware and operating system will be required in the near future in order that we can continue to offer reliable computer access to members and visitors.

Ross Warren, Treasurer

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023		
	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
CAPITAL		
THESE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY		
CURRENTASSETS		
Cash at Bank - Bendigo Bank		
Working Account #1 12368744		
Opening Balance \$	5669.04	3319.33
Surplus (Deficit) for Year \$	<u>1132.91</u>	<u>2349.71</u>
Closing Betances \$	<u>6801.95</u>	<u>5669.04</u>
Investment Account #144829744		
Opening Balance \$	7479.50	11422.86
Surplus (Deficit) for Year \$	<u>45.74</u>	<u>(3943.36)</u>
Closing Balance \$	<u>7525.24</u>	<u>7479.50</u>
WORKING CAPITAL \$	<u>14327.19</u>	<u>13148.63</u>
FIXED ASSETS \$	<u>18706.14</u>	<u>20784.60</u>
TOTAL CURRENTASSETS \$	<u>33033.33</u>	<u>33933.28</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES \$	0	0

Profit & Loss Statement 2012/2023

Expense		Income		
Library utilities	\$4065.01			-\$4065.01
Admin and ILMO	\$445.59			-\$445.59
Membership Subscriptions Society Share	\$580.00	Membership Subscriptions & Donations collected by Branch and Society	\$2617.70	\$2037.70
Research	\$0.00	Research	\$1385.90	\$1385.90
Library Sundry Costs	\$559.21	Library Income	\$676.55	\$117.34
Sales Costs	\$133.50	Sales Income	\$1505.00	\$1371.50
Fund-raising Costs	\$406.60	Fund-raising Income	\$1715.65	\$1309.05
AGM	\$2355.00	AGM	\$2036.00	-\$319.00
Assets	\$258.98			-\$258.98
	\$8803.89		\$9936.80	\$1132.91
		Interest Term Deposit	\$45.74	\$45.74

	Memberships	Subscription	Total	Branch Share
Joint	2	\$55.00	\$110.00	\$55.00
Joint Concession	4	\$45.00	\$180.00	\$90.00
Ordinary	22	\$45.00	\$990.00	\$495.00
Concession	40	\$35.00	\$1400.00	\$700.00
			\$2680.00	\$1340.00

Ross Warren, Treasurer



Answers to brain teasers on page 3

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A map | 4. A calendar |
| 2. A pearl | 5. A puzzle piece |
| 3. A vacuum cleaner | 6. A coin |

Library Report - Annual General Meeting 22nd April 2023



Since the library reopened after the outbreak of Covid the number of people using the library has gradually increased. The number of members using the library this financial year is on a par with last year's figures with three members using the resources on a regular basis: Gloria Bowden has a regular booking for using ancestry.com while Kelli Evans and Neville Bingham are the other more frequent researchers. Another 27 members signed in with some of them coming more than once.

The number of visitors to the library has doubled in the same period. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of interstate visitors. Some have made preliminary contact others have noted the opening times and have visited accordingly while others have simply been drawn in by the noticeboard on the street.

Our thanks go to Peter Sims who has donated some of his surplus books to the library. Two have been accessioned and the remainder is available for sale to boost our fundraising efforts.

With the closure of the Huon Branch, we are looking forward to additional research material.

The library could not operate without the help of the dedicated group of volunteers who welcome visitors and help with research. It was with regret that we accepted the resignation of Denise Young who has been an enthusiastic helper for many years and who also helped with indexing tasks. Our team of volunteers include Ros Coss, Lyn Chambers, Sandra Henwood, Gay Hays, Rosie Marshall, Gary Bryant and Ross Warren. Other members who volunteer their time are Anne Lowe, Marilyn Oakley, Sandra Henwood, Lyn Chambers, Gay Hays and Cathy Hennessy. They have been busy indexing the personal notices from *The Advocate*, F E Watts Funeral Records and photocopies of items in a series of scrapbooks.

The displays in the windows of the veranda have been an initiative of Ros Coss and Gay Hays and with the changing subject matter the windows have created an area of interest.

Thank you to Marilyn Oakley who keeps the library spick and span and to Neville Bingham for his advice and action in the day-to-day maintenance issues. Thank you also to Neville Bingham and Ross Warren who completed some much need painting during the Christmas break.

Thank you one and all for all assistance during the year. Without your help the library would not be able to operate.

Rosie Marshall (Branch Librarian)

NEW ACCESSION BOOKS now in the Library

Clarke, Peter; Hell and Paradise – The Norfolk Bounty Pitcairn Saga

Ryan, Lyndall; The Aboriginal Tasmanians

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; An index to *The Advocate Personal Announcements* 2006

Sims, Peter C; The Latham (Butler) and Dobson Story

Sims, Peter C; Henry Mundy and his Music

Publication Report to Annual General Meeting 23rd April 2003



I make this report to the members present with some degree of trepidation as I neither sort nor was appointed as Mersey Branch's Co-ordinator of, in fact I became the pseudo appointee for the past twelve months.

Throughout the period I have had considerable health problems have been unable to perform the duties as coordinator. It is with gratitude that I received the understanding and support from fellow volunteers. I thank President Ros and Gaye Hays for stepping into the breach and keeping the sector operational. As from January this year I have, by necessity, virtually become a mentor to other persons undertaking allied tasks. Again, thank you Ros for understanding my situation.

The scanning of the Personal Classified pages from the Advocate Newspaper continues. Sandra Henwood now collects the Classified pages from the Advocate Newspaper and in future, will, be responsible for scanning and copying these sheets, thus preparing the data for indexing. Special thanks to Sandra, Anne Lowe and Lyn Chambers all of whom prepare the data for final publication.

Completion of the indexing of all Classified pages for the years from 2016 to 2020 made it possible to produce a new publication entitled "An Index to the Classified Pages of the Advocate Newspaper 2016 -2020". As the year 2015 had not been produced in book form it left it open for the production of a second 5-year-book covering the years from 2011 to 2015. Both books are now in circulation. The Archives Authorities advised us that the 2006 single year Advocate book had not been published - this has now been rectified.

Our 3-fold brochure has been updated. Similarly, our Sales Brochure continues to be updated as required. I thank Gaye Hays.

The ILMO newsletter continues to be compiled quarterly and distributed to all members via email or postage. My aim was to produce a newsletter that contains items of interest – some serious and others with an element of humour. I firmly believe that the newsletter should be something other than an avenue for the publishing of sales specials for the reminding members of coming events. Our committee members have contributed interesting articles that have been used and I sincerely thank them.

Following an article which appeared in an Interstate Newsletter the Committee agreed to make Gift Voucher Certificates available to persons wishing to give a present to family or friends. They can be used for research, certificates, book purchases and memberships. To date the response has been minimal.

There remains two other projects which I have been unable to conclude within my period of Publications Coordinator. The production of the Mersey Vale Cemetery Book, in some form, probably without images of plaques. In 2016/17, I personally spent many hours photographing all of the plaques found on plinths. I believe these photographs should not be lost and intend to hand them to the Branch for research or future publication purposes.

The revised version of "The Cemetery That Was", will be available within the next few months as arrangements are now in place to obtain the approval to publish and print.

As this will be my last and final report as Publication Co-Ordinator, I wish to convey my sincere thanks to each and everyone, from within Mersey Branch and its Membership, for their support, advice, assistance and fellowship during the last thirteen years.

Peter G. Marlow





ANZAC Remembrance

25th April 2023



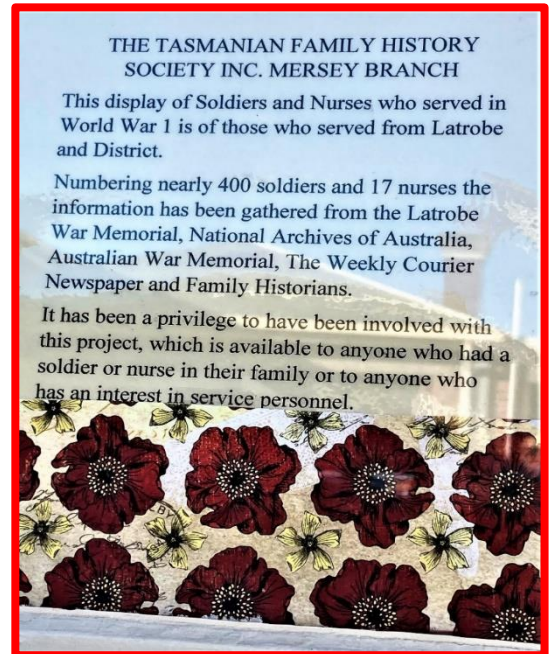
Latrobe " Cenotaph"





ANZAC Remembrance

25th April 2023



Mersey Branch – Window Display – ANZAC DAY 2023

