

## **Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers' Association**

### **PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022**

Our meetings in February and March again had to be cancelled due to health concerns and resumed in April with reduced numbers of members choosing to attend. I appreciate their enthusiasm and loyalty!

In May we had textile conservator Freya Harrington speaking about the history of Tasmanian fashion. June saw Tony Hope discussing Macquarie Point. July saw a very interesting presentation from Jeff Schneider, President of the Hobart Jewish Community re the history of the Jewish Synagogue. August saw Ian Terry gave a well-illustrated talk on the George Augustus Robertson Project that involved retracing Robertsons footsteps during his "Friendly Mission". September again saw Tony Hope talk about "Glimpses of Early Hobart".

In October, Association historian, Maree Ring, gave us a presentation on the history of the Cornelian Bay Cemetery, this being the Sesquicentenary year of the Cemetery. In November Hannah Moore gave her presentation on the story of Henry Jones, her great grandfather James Darragh and the history of IXL. This was well illustrated with family photos, historical images and illustrations of her IXL jam label collection. December was our Christmas morning tea and members show and tell.

During the year the Association made our views known re the public debate over the Crowther statue with a letter to the Hobart City Council. This topic was covered in our newsletter.

There were committee meetings in our room on the fourth floor of the wonderful Art Deco HCC building at 24 Davey Street. This room contains the Association's library and other records that have been curated and maintained by our past and present committee members. I would like to thank the excellent support from our secretary Stephany who has maintained the newsletter, the office at Davey Street, the setting up and packing up of the room at Moonah for our monthly meetings. This is in addition to the usual task of minutes etc. Stephany has been an outstanding contributor to the Association over many years and I thank her for her for the very good support I have had over the past year, including her support with the floral tribute.

I would also like to acknowledge the very professional work of our Treasurer, Alastair Douglas OAM. Alastair has filled this position for quite some years now along with his role of maintaining the spreadsheet of the membership lists and details. So, thank you Alastair.

I would also like to thank our Historian Maree Ring for her contributions over the past year and her willingness to freely share the fruits of her research with the group.

Thanks are due to Kath Lonergan, Carol-Ann Hooper and Di Vertigan for undertaking and serving the morning teas at our monthly meetings.

It was quite a pleasure to be in contact with Association patron, Lord Miles Hobart, the Earl of Buckinghamshire who wrote of fond memories of his visits to our city.

VALE TONY HOPE

It is with sadness that we pass on the news of Tony Hope's passing on February 27 after a short illness. His widow, Suzie, said that "he lived his life to the fullest and made a fantastic contribution not only in business life but also in the community of Tasmania." Our Association is grateful for the many times Tony shared his wonderful knowledge with us, both at meetings and at the 2022 Annual Floral Tribute.

Jonathan Davis  
February 2023.