



Ms Carding is currently Director and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada, a position she has held since 2010. Previously she was Assistant Director, Public Programs and Operations at the Australian Museum in Sydney.

She has been a museum professional for over two decades, and is originally from the UK, where she studied at Cambridge University and the University of London before beginning her museum career as a curator at London's Science Museum.

Ms Carding was the first woman to be appointed Director and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum, and her achievements there included

introducing a range of innovative events, novel programming and critically acclaimed major exhibitions, as well as presiding over the museum's centenary celebrations in 2014.

TMAG's new Chairman of Trustees Geoff Willis said that TMAG was delighted to be able to appoint a Director of Ms Carding's experience to the role.

"We had strong national and international interest in the role, which reflects the strong national and international interest in the arts and culture movement in Tasmania," Mr Willis said.

"Ms Carding is exceptionally well-equipped for this role, and we are so pleased that she now wants to return to Australia to join us at this exciting time."

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The Board of Trustees recently announced the appointment of Janet Carding as the new Director of TMAG, following an extensive national and international recruitment process.

## FRIENDS

# TMAG's new director

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FRIENDS

### NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2015

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| TASMANIAN |         |
| MUSEUM    | &       |
| ART       | GALLERY |

**George Davis:  
Master Draughtsman**  
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Mr Willis also paid tribute to Jennifer Storer, who has been Acting Director since Bill Bleathman announced his retirement as Director of TMAG in



Jennifer Storer

December 2013. Jennifer will continue to play a vital role in TMAG when she reverts to Deputy Director, Audience Engagement.

Janet Carding will shortly make the move to Hobart, and will take officially up the role of Director of TMAG on 8 April 2015.



More photos of our George Davis function on our website: [www.fotmag.wildapricot.org](http://www.fotmag.wildapricot.org)



## Antarctic update

From left: Jennifer Storer, Marnie and Peter Treseder, Elspeth Wishart and John Sexton

PETER TRESEDER (the donor of the Antarctic material known as the Patricia Dukes collection) with his daughter Marnie took time out from their holiday in Tasmania to meet with John Sexton, Jennifer Storer and Elspeth Wishart and discuss the potential of the recent donation and the associated grant funding that Peter organised through the Patricia Dukes Foundation. Peter in his dynamic way was enthusiastic about possible fundraising activities and networks that could assist TMAG in making the collection accessible into the future.

They also viewed the collection in storage. This gave Peter the opportunity to check some research details by referring to his diaries that form part of the collection. He was so inspired by seeing the collection and hearing of its archival research capabilities that he is now exploring other options for further study on the collection.

CHAIR OF THE Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery's (TMAG) Board of Trustees, Sir Guy Green AC KBE CVO announced his retirement from the role in late February.

Sir Guy, the former Governor of Tasmania, has provided strong leadership as Chair of TMAG Trustees over the past 11 years. During that period, TMAG has consolidated the central role it plays in Tasmania's now internationally recognised arts and cultural movement.

Sir Guy lists the completion of the redevelopment project as one of his proudest moments, along with the development of the acclaimed *Islands to Ice* permanent exhibition, the award-winning *ningina tunapri* exhibition and the Theatre of the World collaboration with MONA while the Museum was closed for the redevelopment work.

"I have been greatly privileged to have been one of the custodians of this truly significant Tasmanian cultural and intellectual resource," Sir Guy said. "It has been extremely gratifying that the redevelopment

has resulted in national and international accolades and awards but perhaps the most satisfying element is the way the public has embraced the new museum." His time on the Board also saw the creation of the collection and research facility at Rosny as well as many important acquisitions and bequests.

The Minister for the Arts Vanessa Goodwin also acknowledged Sir Guy Green's significant contribution to the museum: "Sir Guy's tireless commitment and belief in the museum's vision have helped to guide TMAG into a world-class institution of which all Tasmanians can be proud."

Geoff Willis has been elected by the Trustees as the new Chair. Geoff has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 2006 and will bring his business acumen and extensive governance and leadership skills to the role of Chair. Geoff and his wife Vicki are also long-term members of the Friends.

We look forward to seeing Sir Guy and Lady Green, who are honorary members of the Friends, at future functions.



## Farewell to Sir Guy



## George Davis: Master Draughtsman



In February our members enjoyed a viewing of the landmark *George Davis: Master Draughtsman* exhibition and an excellent talk by TMAG Senior Art Curator Sue Backhouse. Curating presents particular challenges when the last painting is brought in still not quite dry!



## Bush Blitz



MEMBERS who enjoyed our Bush Blitz presentation from Dr Miguel de Salas and Dr Simon Grove last August will be interested in hearing an update of recent activities by Bush Blitz.

Earlier this year, TMAG's invertebrate zoologists Cathy Byrne, Simon Grove and Kirrily Moore and the Herbarium's Gintaras Kantvilas, Matt Baker, Miguel de Salas and Lyn Cave spent nine days in the Tarkine, where they were participating in this year's only Tasmanian Bush Blitz expedition.

The Bush Blitz program is a nationally funded initiative, aimed at filling in knowledge-gaps concerning the species living in Australia's national

reserve system, with a particular focus on species discovery. Essentially, the program enables TMAG staff to do a core part of their job that would otherwise be beyond the capacity of their own internal budgets.

Besides the TMAG staff, this expedition also involved affiliates Kevin Bonham and Abbey Throssell, plus staff from DPIPW, the Queensland Museum, the University of New South Wales and from the Bush Blitz headquarters in Canberra.

From the base at Corinna, teams travelled by road and by chartered helicopter to some thirty remote locations spread across the Tarkine

area, from coastal dunes and riverside rainforest to buttongrass plains and subalpine hilltops.

Unexpectedly, the weather stayed fine for the duration, making for a productive if rather intense and exhausting nine consecutive days of collecting, pretty much from dawn to dusk, and with no 'down' time to speak of.

Early indications are that the trip was more about species quality than quantity, and there are undoubtedly several new species amongst those collected. Now the hard work begins: curating, identifying and registering all the collected material.



We held a special event in March to honour our very 'old' Friends — those who were there at the birth of our organisation back in 1982. Don Gregg, Director of TMAG at that time, led the reminiscences.

## Upcoming events

This is what we've got planned for the next few months. Invitations will be sent to you a few weeks before each event, and details will also appear on our website: [www.fotmag.wildapricot.org](http://www.fotmag.wildapricot.org) as the events are finalised.

- April/ May** Not one but two Anzac exhibitions and talks:  
*The Suspense is Awful: Tasmania and the Great War* (TMAG)  
*Sacrifice and Service at Home — An ANZAC Exhibition* (Schoolhouse Gallery, Rosny Farm)  
 New members night
- May** Visit to the Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts, and a look at their current exhibition, *Memento Mori* by Lauren Black
- June** *Things I Once Knew: The Art of Patrick Hall*, a survey exhibition of the work of Tasmanian artist and furniture maker Patrick Hall. His work is built around humble objects and the histories, memories and stories they generate or evoke
- July** A talk by Zoe Rimmer, TMAG Registration Officer in Indigenous Cultures, who recently travelled to the USA, Canada, UK and France on a Churchill Fellowship to explore ways in which museums are engaging with Indigenous communities and showcasing these cultures to a broader audience
- August** A tour of the Theatre Royal

## Membership that rewards you



The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery collects, houses and safeguards our natural and cultural heritage and provides an insight into other cultures.

The Friends are a group of people formed to bring the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery to Tasmanians and Tasmanians to TMAG. The Friends aim to help TMAG with our time, our talents and our money and to make more information available to the community about the TMAG and its collections. Part of the function of The Friends of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Inc. is to raise funds to assist with the purchase of significant items for the TMAG.

The Friends of TMAG are part of a wider Australian group with similar aims, the Australian Federation of Friends of Museums (AFFM).

We are enclosing a membership brochure with this newsletter: we hope you will pass this on to your friends who may be interested in also becoming our Friends.

## The Friends of the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery Incorporated

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 Andrew Ross Matt Spencer

Ex Officio:  
 Jennifer Storer, Acting Director, TMAG

### OFFICE HOURS

We are run entirely by volunteers so we can't staff our office on a fulltime basis. We almost always answer the phone at TMAG on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 and 12, so that's the best time to call. An email to [friends@tmag.tas.gov.au](mailto:friends@tmag.tas.gov.au) will get our prompt attention. Our website [www.fotmag.wildapricot.org](http://www.fotmag.wildapricot.org) carries lots of information. Comments and suggestions are always welcome!

Views expressed in this newsletter reflect the views of the author and not necessarily those of the editor, the Friends of the TMAG or the TMAG.  
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