



In one of her first public activities as Tasmania's Arts Minister, Dr Vanessa Goodwin formally opened the esoteric and sometimes challenging exhibition by Tasmanian artist Pat Brassington.

This Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) touring exhibition is a major survey of the photo-based artist's 30 years of practice and was introduced to us in an informative talk by its curator, ACCA's Artistic Director Juliana Engberg. After the launch I interviewed the Minister to learn more about her new portfolio.

"I am delighted to have this new role," she told me, "and I am on a steep learning curve to get up to speed. There is lots going on in the arts in Tasmania, and I've been busy meeting stakeholders in all areas. I'm still exploring what's possible and where we might be headed. It's all tied in with the question of how we define

FRIENDS

New Arts Minister opens national exhibition

PAT BRASSINGTON'S *À REBOURS*

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2014

TASMANIAN
MUSEUM &
ART GALLERY

Tasmania and how we attract people to Tasmania. Remember we used to be seen as the Natural State? Back then we attracted people by the beauty of the island. But now we are seen as so much more, with fine food and wine, our unique heritage attractions and the national and international interest in our ever-growing arts and cultural scene."

Dr Goodwin (her PhD is in criminology from UTAS) qualified as a lawyer and is also the Minister for Corrections and the Attorney General of Tasmania. With her practical background, she sees her role in her own way: "I love being in a position to help artists acquire some vital practical skills — so they can make a viable business out of their artistic work. This will help them to become more capable of realising their artistic potential."

When the State Budget is out of the way, I think we can expect to hear more from the Minister about her vision for the future direction of the arts in Tasmania.



Top: Pat Brassington, *By the Way*, pigment print, 2010 courtesy the artist, Arc One Gallery, Melbourne and Stills Gallery, Sydney (detail)

Above: Juliana Engberg, Pat Brassington, The Honourable Vanessa Goodwin MLC, Minister for the Arts, Sir Guy Green, Chair of the Trustees of TMAG, Jennifer Storer, Acting Director of TMAG, and John Sexton, President of the Friends of TMAG

VALE PETER UNDERWOOD

We were saddened to learn of the untimely death of the Governor, Peter Underwood AC, who was Patron of the Friends of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. We extend our condolences to Mrs Frances Underwood and the family.

FROM OUR FRIENDS AT ROSNY BARN...

Clarence City Council is organising a special event for the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the publication of the Edward Abbott Cookbook: *The English and Australia Cookery Book*. Edward Abbott was the first Warden of Clarence from 1860–1868 and Council will be holding a gala dinner in the Barn on 2 August to celebrate this important historical event.

Along with a selection of dishes recreating some ideas from the book, diners will be transported to colonial times by host Ryk Goddard and there will be musical entertainment by classical ensemble Strings on Fire. There will be an opportunity to purchase an advance copy of the newly reprinted book as part of the event.

6pm Saturday 2 August 2014
THE BARN, ROSNY FARM

\$80 pp / \$420 table of 6 /
\$560 table of 8. Tickets include
three course dinner, wines and
other oddities, and entertainment
by Ryk and the Strings.

Enquiries to Clarence Council
on 6245 8740 or
artsandevents@ccc.tas.gov.au

BOOKINGS
<http://www.trybooking.com/FFR>



Clarence... a brighter place



Major curatorial donation

The Collection consists of equipment and supporting documentation for the 1997 Spirit of Australia South Pole Expedition, the 2000 International Transantarctic Expedition and the 2002 Arctic Expedition. The 1997 private expedition was the first Australian overland journey to the Geographic South Pole on foot and unassisted. The International Transantarctic Expedition achieved a world record for the fastest unsupported traverse to the Geographic South Pole, and the longest unsupported traverse in Antarctica up to that time.

TMAG Senior Curator (Cultural Heritage) Elspeth Wishart travelled to Brisbane to examine the collection for relevance to TMAG and its collections, and was delighted to discover that the collection would enhance TMAG's existing collection of Antarctic and Arctic material. The Collection will be known as the Patricia Dukes Collection, and the grant will assist with the freight and cataloguing of the collection. When processing of the collection is completed it is planned to incorporate some of the material into the Islands to Ice exhibition. The funding is to be used at the discretion of the Friends of TMAG to support the curatorial care of the collection, and we are very grateful to the Patricia Dukes Foundation for the donation.

The Friends of TMAG have benefited from a generous donation of \$50,000 from The Patricia Dukes Foundation to support the curatorial care of a collection of Antarctic and Arctic equipment and supporting documentation being donated to the Museum by adventurer Peter Treseder AM.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

On behalf of the committee members processing your membership renewals, thank you very much for your prompt response. Once again, we are very grateful to those members who make an additional donation along with their renewal — your generosity will benefit TMAG through the diverse projects that the Friends finance during the course of the year.

We are very pleased to be able to offer a range of payment options: online via EFT, by credit card or cash through the TMAG shop, or by the traditional cheque in the mail. Around 50 per cent of our members are choosing to renew online: they will receive receipts via email. Those paying by cash or cheque will receive receipts in the mail.

Remember that if you aren't on computer yourself, we are happy to update your details for you. When you return the renewal form, make sure you mark any changes.

You will receive a fancy new membership card in the mail, but these won't be ready for a few weeks yet. In the meantime, your current card or receipt will give you entry to the members' lounge and discounts at the TMAG Shop and Café.

Recent events at TMAG and further afield



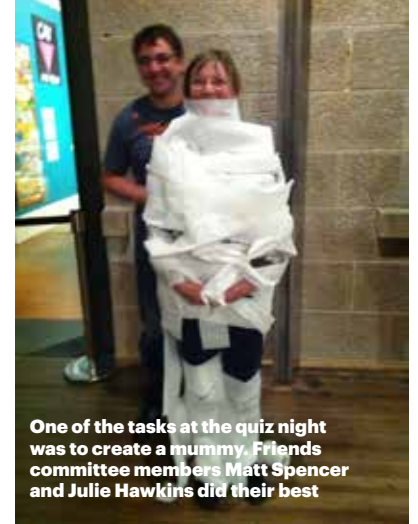
TMAG opened its doors on the opening night of Dark Mofo in June



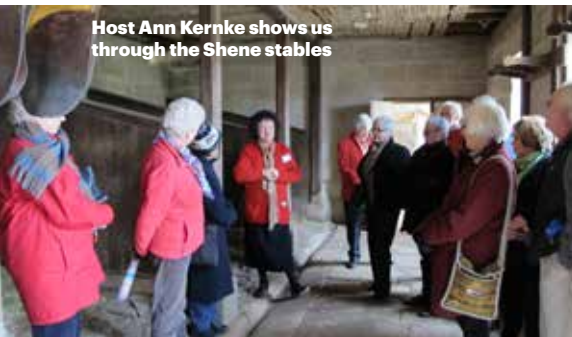
The TMAGgots held a very successful quiz night in May



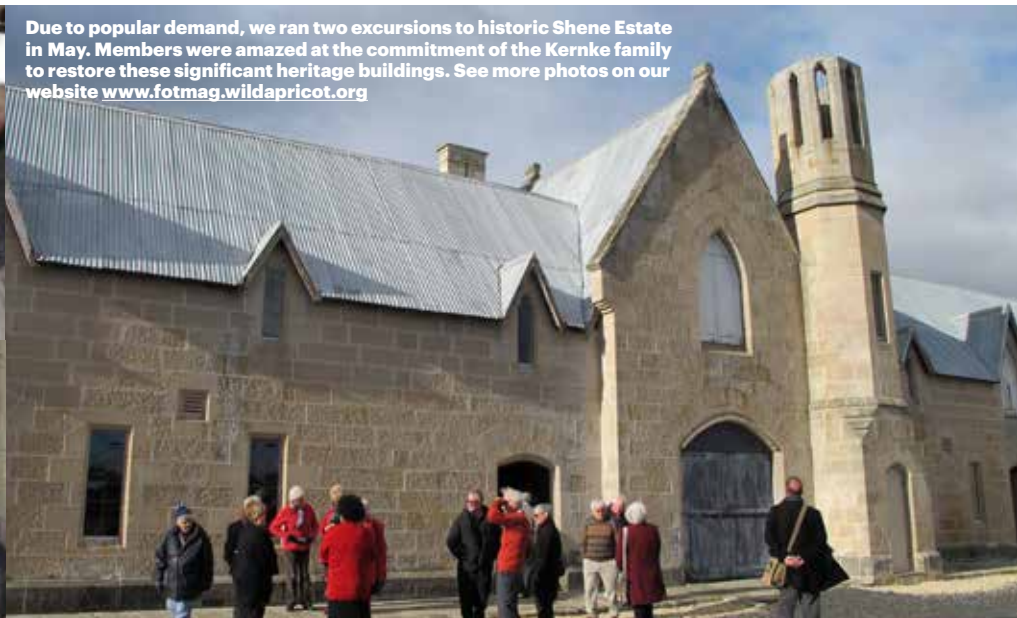
Launch of the Festival of Voices in June



One of the tasks at the quiz night was to create a mummy. Friends committee members Matt Spencer and Julie Hawkins did their best



Host Ann Kernke shows us through the Shene stables



Due to popular demand, we ran two excursions to historic Shene Estate in May. Members were amazed at the commitment of the Kernke family to restore these significant heritage buildings. See more photos on our website www.fotmag.wildapricot.org



We were privileged to explore the new Institute of Marine and Antarctic Science in June. CEO Mike Coffin (a member of the Friends) treated us to a fascinating overview of the IMAS international research programs



Upcoming events

We'll be sending you invitations closer to the event. Details will also appear on our website: www.fotmag.wildapricot.org

Sat 26 July, 2.30–4.30pm HOW TO CREATE AND APPRECIATE ZEN PAINTING

The Chinese Art Society invites Friends to a talk and demonstration by Professor Wong Shiu Hon. The venue is the Centre for Learning and Discovery, TMAG. For bookings contact Nancy Wong 0418 914 007 or chinese.art.soc@gmail.com.

Prof. Wong was recently invited by the Chinese Ambassador to do a painting for the newly completed Chinese Embassy in Canberra. Prof. Wong is shown presenting the painting to Ambassador Dr Ma Zhaoxu.



August BUSH BLITZ IN FOCUS: DISCOVERING NEW SPECIES IN TASMANIA

Learn how TMAG's zoologists and botanists are discovering new species in Tasmania as part of the Bush Blitz Program.

September FRIENDS AGM WITH GUEST SPEAKER

Come along and hear about what the Friends have been doing for the past year, along with a talk by a special TMAG guest speaker.

October CITY OF HOBART ART PRIZE

This year it's glass and printmaking. This is always a great event with talks by artists and/or judges.

November TRANSPLANTATION

A major exhibition of eclectic contemporary jewellery which is coming to Tasmania as part of a national tour.

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Committee Members:
David Coleman Digby Longhurst
Heather Morris Andrew Ross
Matt Spencer Christopher Thomas

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 will get our attention at other times. Our website 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.

Publication editor: John Sexton
Graphic design: Julie Hawkins, In Graphic Detail

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).

For more information or to join the Friends, mail or email your postal address to us or pick up a membership brochure from the TMAG reception desk.

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E.R. Henry Wherrett & Benjamin
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