



Annual Report 2018/2019

2018 has overall been a rather quiet year for the society, but one that has seen us put in place some changes that will lead us into the future. Early in the year we became an incorporated body this has opened the door for further funding opportunities.

The decision to change our meetings to Saturdays and to hold informal meetings on alternate months will hopefully lead to increased membership and generate enthusiasm for new projects.

The society now has both a Facebook & Instagram presence, the next step will be to update our web page. The digitisation of our resources is an ongoing process which will undoubtedly lead to greater access for researchers in the future.

As in previous years our members undertook research projects and answered numerous enquiries. Including hosting visits & assisting external research projects such as the SBS program 'Who do you think you are?'

In June Suzanne & Tracy met with Parks & Wildlife and Heritage Tasmania to discuss Variety Bay and ongoing issues that we face with this site. While they were unable to provide any financial support, they offered some very sound advice and recommendations. Their ongoing support for our work will be vital to any future success and the continued management of this important Bruny Island Heritage site.

This year's open day at Variety Bay had an increase in attendance over the previous few years, however donations on the day were down. We will be considering a small entrance fee next year to allay some of the ongoing costs.

Purchases for the year include:

Ride on Mower – (Cork Club)

Additions to our collection

1 box of Adventure & Resolution by Edith Oakes -Kerry Oakes

Adventure Bay School publication- Sue Smythe

Adventure Bay Coal Mine publication -Sue Smythe

Field Naturalists Club publication

-Sue Smythe

1x Copy of discharge papers Charles Seymour Vaughan- Charlie Vaughan

3x copy of letters from School Children at Barnes Bay School 1950- Michael Gasking

Various papers on Cookville -Cynthia Turnbull

Congratulations & Thank you

We would like to congratulate Kathy on the recognition of her important work for both the Historical Society over the last 35 years and the Quarantine Station.

Sue's management & knowledge of the Variety Bay Heritage Site is integral to its success and along with Pete & Ian continue ensure the site is accessible and maintained, thank you.

Thanks to all those volunteers who make our stories accessible to the public, by continuing to actively research items of both importance & general interest and giving of their time to open the History Room on weekends and public Holidays.

To community members & families who continue to see the importance of recording our stories for future generations, we recognise and appreciate your ongoing support.

And a special thanks must go to the Bruny Island Cork Club who generously donated the funds which enabled us to purchase a second-hand ride on mower for the Variety Bay Site.

Our display corner has had a continued focus on the Bruny Island Community during the Wars over the past year and will now be reverting to rotating exhibitions & new themes.

Don't forget to stop in at The History Room we have lots of stories to share.

Tracy Thomas
Co Ordinator BIHS Inc.