

The logo for ADFAS, featuring the letters 'ADFAS' in a bold, white, sans-serif font against a solid black rectangular background.

AUSTRALIAN DECORATIVE  
& FINE ARTS SOCIETIES



Dear Members

In March, I attended the ADFAS Council Meeting in Sydney, along with Jane Wilson as Observer. This year, ADFAS celebrates its 30 year anniversary and from small beginnings we now have 37 Societies in Australia with Perth, Western Australia becoming a full Society in September of this year, making 38. (see birthday cake below). A team of dedicated volunteers work diligently to affect a smooth delivery of lectures, church recordings and young arts programs.

It was a pleasure to meet our Patron, Patricia Robertson, Founding chairman of Association of ADFAS. Her work in enabling the conservation of Australian cultural materials led to the development of our current 3 scholarships per year to students working in this field.

There has been much debate on whether to continue the ARTLIFE magazine. ADFAS Hobart voted to continue the publication but unfortunately the numbers were not on our side. Financial costs and relevance to members were a big consideration on this decision. Members will receive the last magazine this year

I would like to give a warm welcome to new and returning members and hope that you enjoy the lecture topics chosen by your committee who are now working on topics for 2020 lectures. We have 6 overseas and two Australian lecturers each year with Special Interest Days dispersed throughout the year.

Lorraine Polglase, Chairman



**February  
Paul Bahn**

## **What Really Happened on Easter Island?**



Sally Morrisby and Annabelle Grant.



Yvonne Buckley with guests Peri Buckley and Gail Andersson.

## **ADFAS, visit to Shene, Brighton**



Ann and David Kernke of the historical homestead Shene welcomed 24 ADFAS Hobart members and guests on a beautiful crisp morning to share the story of their renovation of the Homestead and magnificent stables.

Shene, built for the early colonialist Gamaliel Butler as a country retreat now houses a distillery for gin and whisky. A tippie sampler was appreciated along with the talk by David.



## **Congratulations Sarah Sansom!**

Congratulations to past ADFAS committee member and present member Sarah Sansom, pictured who was selected to attend the Venice Biennale as Tasmania's representative in the 2019 Professional Development Program.

As part of the program, Sarah will be co-hosting a tour with Kendrah Morgan (our April lecturer) through the French, Polish, Nordic and British Pavilions.

Sarah is a practising artist, curator and designer in Hobart. She has recently been appointed a board member of the Glenorchy Art and Sculpture Park (GASP).





The Association of ADFAS has identified that its constitution requires a complete overhaul. One of our members, Philip Jackson SC, has accepted an invitation to undertake that task. He made a preliminary presentation to the Council meeting in March and will present an entirely new constitution to the September Council Meeting.

Philip is pictured here with Caroline Bohm, ADFAS Chairman.

## New Committee Members



Jenny Holmes has been interested in art since school days and has personally experimented with, and undertaken courses in painting, mosaics and ceramics.

Jenny has travelled extensively overseas and always uses the opportunity to explore all aspects of art in museums, galleries and significant buildings of architectural interest.

You will meet Jenny when looking for your name label at lectures.



Jane Wilson is a psychologist by profession. Long-term obsessions are design and architecture, modernism and sustainability.

Jane has lately added family history, swimming and playing violin to her interests. Jane recently attended as an Observer the ADFAS Council Meeting.

Jane has connected ADFAS to the Institute of Architecture through the Open House Scheme.



Kathy Rundle has had a lifelong interest in the arts, architecture and literature. A teacher, she worked for her last 25 years in librarianship and establishing a School Archive.

In retirement Kathy is involved with TMAG art guiding and historic research.

ADFAS provides a wonderful addition to her interest. Kathy has kindly taken on our Hobart archives files.



Rosemary Sargison's main interests are travel, bushwalking and embroidery. She loved travelling to Bayeux to see the famous tapestry and spending time in the V & A pulling out drawers of historical embroideries.

After completing the Portuguese Camino track, Rosemary is gearing up to walk the French end in May. Rosemary's background as a Science, Maths and Computing teacher brings much needed skills to our ADFAS committee.

You will meet Rosemary when looking for your name label before lectures.

## ADFAS Supports TMAG and the TSO - Dinosaur Steps

In 2018 as part of Young Arts, ADFAS Hobart offered to support the 2019 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Children's Festival with a \$2000 donation.

This donation assisted TMAG to collaborate with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. The Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra Ensemble presented Dinosaur Steps an interactive, original composition by Tasmanian composer Thomas Misson, commissioned by the TSO for children six years and under.



The work is part of the TSO's emerging composer program and was performed by musicians of the TSO and presenter Madeleine Dyer.

Through the support of ADFAS Hobart the TSO and TMAG were able to engage a talented animator, Matt Daniels, who had turned children's art based on the Festival theme of Earth Time, into a set of stunning animations. These were mixed live as a projection to accompany the TSO ensemble performance of Dinosaur Steps.

The result was a high quality project across art forms, which provided a stimulating and memorable way for many hundreds of children to enjoy both TMAG and another iconic Tasmanian arts organisation, the TSO.

Ginetta Rochester

## A Potted History of ADFAS, Hobart

In early 2006, organised by Shirley Ryan and Deirdre Pearson, a group of about 15 women met with the National Vice-Chairman of the Association of ADFAS at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, and so began the bones of a committee to establish an ADFAS group in Hobart

In July 2006 a formal application to establish a steering committee to begin the process of founding a new ADFAS group in Hobart was made. The aim was for to achieve a membership of 180.

This Steering committee comprised:

Honorary Chairman	Annabelle Grant
Honorary Vice Chairman	Jill Bale
Honorary Secretary	Josephine Jaworsky
Honorary Treasurer	Rosalind Pitt
Committee Members:	Pat Cameron, Rosanna Cameron, Jillian Goater, Patricia Hefter, Helen Jones, Joanna More, Deirdre Pearson and Shirley Ryan. (see pictures below)



After much investigation, the Centenary Theatre at the University of Tasmania was chosen as the preferred venue; it was a modern medium size lecture theatre with capacity for 167 persons and excellent audio-visual facilities. It later became too small, hence the move to the Stanley Burbury Theatre in 2015.

Potential members were drawn from social connections of the Committee, many of whom already had interests in Galleries, Museums and other areas of Fine Arts. Friends were approached to attend the inaugural lecture on the 1 Nov 2007, being told:

***“The topics are wide ranging and fascinating. There are no examinations, no recriminations, and no fundraising. The focus is on stimulation, information and recreation. What could be better?”***

The event was a standout success and a mere six weeks later, Foundation membership was closed with 200 members and a waiting list. We were admitted as a full Society in 2008.

The National Committee offered Friday night for Lectures, but this was rejected as it was not thought viable in Hobart. Monday at 6 pm was suggested, as a suitable time for working members and still early enough for members to go out afterwards. It was decided sandwiches and wine after the lecture was the way to go and this is still enjoyed!

We are fortunate to have enjoyed Vice-Regal support since inception and were able to have our 10 year Anniversary Cocktail Party, as well as other functions and lectures, at Government House. We have also held many lively interest days covering a wide variety of subjects, as well as the Lecture Series.

We donated money in our early years to assist the compilation and publication of a Church Recording of St John’s Church in New Town by our Members.

Our Society also published research about the Van Diemen’s Land Mechanics Institute, 1827, Hobart (Town), at 58 Melville Street, notably the very first Mechanics Institute in Australia, started with the aim of bringing culture, art and literature as well as education to the working classes. Research was also published about the Oatlands Institute in High Street, Oatlands

Hobart is now a most successful ADFAS Society, generously supporting Young Arts and donating to numerous organisations such as TMAG for the Tempest Exhibition and more recently Dinosaur Steps and the Theatre Royal.

***Rosalind Pitt***

## ADFAS, Hobart Committee, 2019



Left to right. Ginetta Rochester, Vice Chairman, Rosemary Sargison, David Askey-Doran, Juliet Webster, Dale Anning, Lorraine Polglase, Chairman, Jane Wilson, Robyn Jackson, Penny Brown, Secretary, Barb Edwards and Kathy Rundle.

Inset: Jenny Holmes and Biz Ritchard, Treasurer and Membership Secretary.

**April**

**Kendra Morgan**

**Grant Featherston: Design for Life**



Tina Terry and Corinne Robertson, new member.



Susan Anderson, Helen Yeoland and Jill Bennett.



ADFAS Travel is offering an Artisanal Tour of Morocco from 10 - 20 November 2019

MARRAKECH, SKOURA OASIS, SAHARA, NKOB, AIT BEN HADDOU ...plus optional extra 7 days:  
North to Fes, Chefchaouen, Rabat, 20 - 26 November 2019 [For more information click here](#)

Editor: Barb Edwards