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**SOUTH HOBART  
PROGRESS  
ASSOCIATION**

(Incorporating Cascades Progress Association)

Founded 1922

President: Mr. David Day Honorary Secretary: Ms Elisabeth Rees  
PO Box 200 South Hobart Tasmania 7004 ABN 65 850 310 318

[www.southhobart.org.au](http://www.southhobart.org.au) [office@southhobart.org.au](mailto:office@southhobart.org.au)

### THE SOUTH HOBART PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 7:30 pm in the *South Hobart Community Centre*, 42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart. All are welcome to attend, especially any new residents.

### BUSHCARE WORKING BEES

**The Rivulet Group** will meet on Sunday, 12th July, 2:00 pm to 4:30pm, meeting at the Tara Street picnic area., South Hobart and **The South Hobart Group** will meet on Sunday, 19th July, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, meeting at the Wentworth Street *cul de sac* near 109 Wentworth Street, South Hobart. All equipment provided - Any enquiries to John (Rivulet) on **0417 617 572** and Janet (South Hobart) on **6223 8132**.

### VALE FATHER MICHAEL TATE AO

Father Michael Tate AO, Parish Priest at South Hobart, died around lunchtime on the fifth of June at *Calvary Hospital*, Lenah Valley. Archbishop Ireland said that: "in many ways Fr Michael was one of a kind, gifted intellectually, a powerful communicator, and an extraordinarily generous and faithful pastor who loved his people." Fr Michael had a long and prestigious career in both law and politics before becoming a Catholic priest later in life.

He was born on 6th July 1945 in Sydney and lived in South Hobart at 6 Wentworth Street. He was descended from several generations of South Hobart residents. Educated at *St. Virgil's College*, Hobart, he studied law at the *University of Tasmania*, graduating with First Class Honours in 1968, and went on to obtain a master's degree in Theology from the *University of Oxford* in 1971. He lectured in law at UTAH from 1972 to 1978 and was the Dean of Faculty from 1977 to 1978. In 1977, his political career began when he was elected to the Senate representing Tasmania.

He served as the Minister for Justice for the Hawke and Keating governments from 1987 to 1993. In 1994, he was appointed as Australia's Ambassador to the Holy See and to the Hague. In 1996 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for his distinguished service to Australia. He was awarded honorary doctorates from the *University of Tasmania* and *Charles Sturt University*. As he left his

### SOUTH HOBART COMMUNITY CENTRE

42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart  
All enquiries to Bookings Manager

**Emma Gunn**

[www.southhobart.org.au](http://www.southhobart.org.au)

diplomatic post at the Vatican, he told Pope John Paul II that he would begin studying for the Catholic priesthood.

He was ordained a priest by Archbishop Adrian Doyle on 19th May 2000 at *St Mary's Cathedral* in Hobart. Fr Michael served as Parish Priest at Bridgewater-Brighton, Sandy Bay, Huon Valley, and South Hobart. He also served the Archdiocese as a Consultor, a member of the Council of priests, and for a time as Vicar General. In 2010, he was appointed Tasmania's first Parliamentary Standards Commissioner. He was the founder of the popular *Way to St James* Cygnet, an annual pilgrimage through the picturesque Huon Valley. He was a cultured man, who admired the Music Dramas of Richard Wagner, amongst others.

### BEAKER STREET FESTIVAL

6th August - 17th August

[beakerstreet.com.au/festival](http://beakerstreet.com.au/festival)

Tasmania's annual celebration of science and culture is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year! It's one of Australia's most distinctive winter festivals: playful, thought-provoking, social, and deeply connected to Tasmania's landscapes, creativity and scientific culture. This year's festival line-up brings together a Nobel Prize-winning astrophysicist, psychedelic researchers, indigenous astronomers, forensic scientists, experimental artists, sex historians, game designers, and underground mushroom growers for two weeks of conversations and experiences unlike anything else in Australia. Of course, Dr. Karl will make an appearance.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Contributions are welcome and should be forwarded to the Newsletter Editor: [dhalserogers@gmail.com](mailto:dhalserogers@gmail.com) by the first Monday of each month.

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## NOTABLE RESIDENTS

**Haughton Forrest** (30/12/1826- 20/01/1925), sometimes incorrectly referred to as James Haughton Forrest, was born in France on Saturday, 30th December, 1826 and was educated in Jamaica and the German state of Hesse. His father, Thomas, was an equerry to Queen Victoria. He joined the Honourable Artillery Company of London in 1852, at the age of 26, and later served in the 31st Royal Monmouth Light Infantry. Forrest probably didn't see himself as a career military man, because he resigned from the Army shortly after being promoted to the rank of Captain, and took up a 'safe' job with the British postal service.

In 1858, Forrest married Henrietta Bunce in Plymouth, and they went on to have five children, one of them dying in infancy. Soon after the wedding, Forrest took up painting. There is no evidence to indicate he studied to become an artist, so he probably taught himself. A few of his early paintings were allegedly commissioned by King Edward VII [1901-1910] who was Prince of Wales at the time.

In 1876, Forrest and his family moved from Britain to a block of land on the *Ringarooma River* in north-east Tasmania. They later relocated to Sorell, where Forrest took up several roles in the municipality, including Superintendent of Police. He resigned these positions in 1881, and the family took up residence in present-day Cascade Road, South Hobart. [See if you can locate the house, which still stands.] It was in Hobart that Forrest became a full-time artist. He spent the rest of his life (some 70 years) painting marine subjects and local landscapes. Forrest passed away in 1925, aged 99, at Melton Mowbray. His output was prolific, amounting to some 3,000 works of art. Many of his paintings can be found in art galleries in Tasmania and around Australia. Australia's first set of pictorial postage stamps (released in 1899) includes some of Haughton Forrest's paintings of Hobart and *kunanyi/Mount Wellington* (including the tuppenny black). Forrest's work was highly detailed and precise, which made it look incredibly realistic – not a style popular during his lifetime.

## HOBART'S TREASURE

Hobart's Treasury complex is arguably Tasmania's most important surviving government precinct. The block of land that would eventually become Hobart's Treasury complex was reserved for major government functions in 1811, but not until 1824 did the original *Supreme Court* take shape. Generally regarded as the oldest surviving Supreme Court building in Australia, it later became the centrepiece of the Treasury complex. The Police and Convict Office was added in 1835, followed by the Public Offices in 1841. The latter was the first building on the site to be used by the colonial treasurer and other senior officials, marking the beginning of the block's long association with treasury administration. In 1855-56, van Diemen's Land became self-governing, and, as a result, the officials and staff, who worked in Hobart's Treasury buildings, became responsible to local parliament rather than the colonial authorities in London.

Further additions were made to the complex during the second half of the 19th century, including office space for the Executive Council and a range of government departments. Further additions were made to the complex during the second half of the 19th century, including office space for the Executive Council. Over time, the site evolved into an interconnected group of Georgian- and Victorian-style buildings that overlooked Franklin Square and Murray Street. Following the Federation of Australia in 1901, the Treasury complex continued to be used by State Government departments, as well as the Premier and other senior ministers.

The final major construction, completed in 1957, brought more than 130 years of construction to a close. In 2018, then-treasurer, Peter Gutwein, announced plans to sell the Treasury complex for redevelopment as a hotel. The proposal sparked furious public debate over the site's heritage significance and its future. Although the sale and redevelopment never went ahead, the future of the Treasury complex remains uncertain. The present State Government still appears to want to offload it, and various proposals have been put forward.

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