

# A SOUTH HOBART NEWSLETTER



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Authorised by E Ruzicka 699 Huon Road Fern Tree

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## South Hobart Progress Association Inc.

President: Kevin Wilson (Incorporating Cascades Progress Association) Secretary: David Halse Rogers  
Founded 1922

**PO Box 200 South Hobart Tasmania 7004 6223 3149**

<http://www.tased.edu.au/tasonline/sthhbtpa>

**No. 187 August 2002**

ABN 65 850 310 318

### NEXT SHPA MEETING

The next meeting of *The South Hobart Progress Association* will be held in conjunction with *The South Hobart Neighbourhood Watch* August meeting. The meeting on **Tuesday 13th August, 2002 at 8.00 pm** will deal with community safety. Deputy Commissioner Lupo Prins will be the guest speaker.

### RESIDENTS ACTION 1904

*Proposed Infectious Disease Hospital*

In 1904, organisation of public health in Tasmania changed with the creation of a *Department of Public Health*. One of the main initiatives of the new Department was to establish an infectious disease hospital in Hobart. *The Department of Public Health* had purchased a site for the hospital in Wentworth Street near the southern corner of the then *Congregational Cemetery*, which was located on land between Congress and Wellesley Streets near the Huon Road. At the time, the government did not feel the need to consult, and the plans for a new hospital only became known to the public when it came before the *Legislative Council*. It was then that the *Wellington Town Board* called a public meeting to discuss the matter. [The *Wellington Town Board* was an early form of local government in place at the time to manage road construction, building approvals and other matters. It had jurisdiction over the district known as *Wellington* between D'Arcy Street and the Brewery.]

*The Mercury* of 24th May 1904 published a report on the meeting. Because of continuing objection from residents of the area, an official report on the advisability of establishing an infectious disease hospital in a residential area was commissioned by the Government. The 1904/1905 Annual Report of the Department reported that the site was "clearly suitable". To the contrary, a report, supplied by the Hobart City Surveyor, concluded that the site was "unsuitable". On 21st July, *The Mercury* reported

### COMMUNITY CENTRE

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**6223 3415**

that a delegation of residents of *Wellington* called on the chief Secretary, the Government minister responsible for health matters at that time. Apparently people power had its way, as the proposal was dropped for a few years. But by about 1909, *Vaucluse* in Macquarie Street had become a hospital for diphtheria and scarlet fever. Use of the site for an infectious diseases hospital and related purposes continued there for many years, up until the late 1980s, when it was purchased by the *Baldwin Care Group* to be redeveloped into *Vaucluse Gardens Retirement Village*.

### SOUTH HOBART HERITAGE REVIEW

Congratulations to the *Hobart City Council* for the publication of local historian Ian Terry's look at South Hobart, entitled "**A Favourable Progression**". A copy of this book should be in every South Hobart home. To make this possible, the Association has negotiated a very special price for the book, which will be further subsidised by the Association to make it as affordable as possible for all. For paid-up members of the SHPA Inc. (remember that it only costs you \$2 to join at the Post Office) the cost will be \$15. For non-members, the cost will be \$16.50, which is still a considerable saving on the RRP. (Copies will be available from Wayne Daniel at the *South Hobart Post Office* shortly.)

### LOCAL ARTIST EXHIBITS WORKS

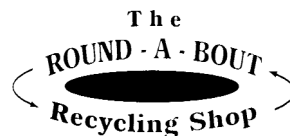
Local artist, Hilary Wilson, will be displaying a selection of her work at *Walchs Artsales Gallery* 1st Floor 130 Macquarie Street from Monday 26th August to Saturday 7th September. Weekdays 10-4:00 pm; Saturdays 10 to 2:00 pm.

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## FEMALE FACTORY HISTORIC SITE

*The Female Factory Historic Site* at 16 Degraives Street, South Hobart is arguably the most significant site in Australia in terms of female convict history. Governor George Arthur purchased the site in 1827 from the owner of a failed distillery and converted it to the Cascades Female Factory for the female convicts of Van Diemen's Land. Opened in 1828, it was gradually expanded to hold 700 women but at its peak held 1200. It was the female equivalent of Port Arthur. An archaeologist has recently unearthed the foundations of the single cells in yard 3, which were built in the 1840's. These will be conserved and interpreted to allow our visitors a glimpse into the past. **Tours of the site** are conducted at 9.30 am Monday to Friday (public holidays excepted). Special tours can be arranged for groups of 15 or more. On the tour you will learn of the women and their lifestyle at the prison, the buildings as they were at the time and the restoration and archaeological work currently being carried out. After visiting the memorial garden, the tour finishes in the *Island Produce Fudge Factory*. The site shop is open Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm (public holidays excluded). During August, while stocks last, the shop is holding a Fudge Sale. *The Female Factory Historic Site* is a 'not for profit' organisation with all proceeds from shop sales and tours being returned to the restoration and conservation of the site. Volunteers play a big part in our operation, both in the shop and conducting tours. Mike Hewitt, the site's Tourism and Development Manager, would be very pleased to

hear from anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer. For further information, please check the website: [www.femalefactory.com.au](http://www.femalefactory.com.au) or contact by phone on 6223 1559, fax 6223 1556 or E-mail: [info@femalefactory.com.au](mailto:info@femalefactory.com.au)

## SOUTH HOBART PRIMARY SCHOOL WANTS YOUR HELP

*South Hobart Primary School* has registered to participate in the *Free Books for Schools* programme, and would like to encourage the entire community to support it. The more tokens collected, the more free books the library will receive. Perhaps you could enlist the help of your relatives, neighbours and work colleagues. This programme is a wonderful opportunity for the community to support the children and help provide much needed resources to aid their development.

## 10TH HOBART SCOUTS

*The Tenth Hobart Scout Group* runs a comprehensive youth programme including: Joeys, Cubs, Venturers, and is home to the Wellington Rovers. The programme is open to both sexes, and meetings are held in the Scout Hall at 62 King Street, Sandy Bay. There are limited vacancies at all levels of the Group. Contact Group Leader **Peter Hall** on **6225 1738** for further information.

**SOUTH HOBART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**  
Next meeting of South Hobart NHW will be on **Tuesday 13th August** at 7.30 pm in The South Hobart Community Centre, 42 D'Arcy Street South Hobart. Contact **Otto Bitterman** on 6223 1465.

*A SOUTH HOBART NEWSLETTER* is produced and published on a voluntary basis solely as a community service. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information contained therein is accurate, no warranty as to such accuracy can be given and any reader who wishes to rely on such information for any purpose whatsoever does so at his/her own risk.

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## South Hobart Winter FUDGE SALE

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