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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 office@southhobart.org.au

THE SOUTH HOBART PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the Association will be held on Wednesday 11th February, 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, 8th February, 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, meeting at the picnic area at the grassy end of Wynyard Street.
The South Hobart Group will meet on Sunday, 15th February, 10am to 12.30pm, meeting at 109 Wentworth Street *cul de sac*. All equipment provided. Any enquiries to **John** (Rivulet) on **0417 617 572** and **Janet** (South Hobart) on **6223 8132**.

SHPA THE NEW PRESIDENT

Introducing – David Day

After a long and varied career in banking and general management, I returned to Hobart 12 years ago and settled in South Hobart. The location, tucked into the flanks of our beautiful Mountain, gives me the best of Hobart – surrounded by bush but with all the benefits of a capital city close by. I have 4 children and 7 grandchildren, with my daughter and one grandson (plus two dogs and a cat) here in Hobart. My role with SHPA follows other activities in retirement – mentoring small businesses, volunteering in health and other community services, as well as cycling, trail running, bushwalking and supporting local arts and music.

Prior to becoming President, I was a committee member and represented SHPA at the Planning Tribunal, opposing the proposed cable car on kunanyi/ Mt. Wellington. In my new role, I am keen to help promote and maintain the many benefits of living in our beautiful suburb and contribute to a strong and inclusive South Hobart community. We are always interested in hearing a variety of ideas on local issues. Feel free to contact me through the SHPA email office@southhobart.org.au.

www.southhobart.org.au or come along to one of our regular General Meetings (the second Wednesday of the month at the *South Hobart Community Centre*, 42 D'Arcy Street, at 7.30 pm). I'm looking forward to meeting you.

SOUTH HOBART COMMUNITY CENTRE

42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart
All enquiries to Bookings Manager
Emma Gunn
www.southhobart.org.au

HOME HARVEST EDIBLE GARDEN TRAIL 2026

Hannah Moloney, ABC TV's *Gardening Australia* presenter, invites you to the seventh annual **Home Harvest Edible Garden Trail**. Her garden in South Hobart will be the big attraction, but there are many others – just go to the website for more details. It is a FREE one day event on the **fourteenth of February** in & around Hobart, where productive gardens open their gates to invite the public in to have a look, learn and get inspired. This year it's on **Valentine's Day!** So bring along your sweetheart to check out some sweet gardens. Supported by the *City of Hobart*. Bookings are essential and you can book at www.goodlifepermaculture.com.au

OUR WEBSITE

Readers are reminded that *A South Hobart Newsletter* is hand-delivered regularly to your letterbox each month by a band of dedicated volunteers. The date of delivery varies, due to publishing constraints and when weekends fall. For advertised events that fall in the first couple of weeks of each month, your Newsletter may not yet have been delivered. To ensure that you are kept up-to-date about events occurring in South Hobart, you are advised to visit our website regularly. The latest Newsletter is always available within the first few days of the month. Go to: www.southhobart.org.au/newsletters.

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WELLESLEY PARK LIGHTING UPGRADE

An on-site mediation has been scheduled in the appeal of Planning Permit PLN-HOB-2025-0483 (*Wellesley Park* floodlighting).

Date: Thursday 19th February, 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Wellesley Park

Interested community members are welcome to attend as observers.

HCC WORKS ON D'ARCY STREET

From Wednesday 28th January, the Council will be starting work to replace the retaining wall and footpath adjacent to the D'Arcy Street Park. These long-anticipated works will happen from Monday to Friday for four (4) months. Parking in D'Arcy Street will be restricted while the works are ongoing, but we understand traffic will be able to use D'Arcy Street throughout. **For users of the Community Centre, access will need to be through the corner gates at the junction of Washington and D'Arcy Streets until work on the D'Arcy Street steps is completed.**

SOHO ARTS WALL MURAL

Soho Arts is doing a mural on the wall that faces the play ground at 6 Washington Street. Graffiti has led to *SoHo Arts* commissioning an art work for the wall. Being next to a playground something bright and positive has been chosen. The artist is Max Follett, and he will start work at the end of February, assuming that we get the final sign-off we need from Council before then.

THE PRIORY

The Priory is a fine example of a late Georgian residence in an imposing hillside location with superb views to the *River Derwent*. The man who started the construction of this tall three storey house of red colonial brick was no stranger to sadness, adventure and perhaps more than a little bit of mischief. Hugh Cokeley Ross was a barrister, solicitor and conveyancer, who arrived in *Van Diemen's Land* in December 1822, on board the "Regatta". He was admitted to the Lt.

Governor's court on the 1st April the following year. He was admitted to the Supreme Court the very next day. His ownership of the land on which *The Priory* still stands was twelve years into his future. He suffered a bitter blow in 1825 when his twenty-six year-old wife, Sarah, mother to their four small children, died. By 1835, when he had purchased what was then a very large block of land where *The Priory* stands today, he was acting as Crown Solicitor for the colony and had been married again. His second wife, Anna Maria, would eventually bear him a further four sons. His newly acquired land had a frontage on Davey Street and extended down to the *Sandy Bay Rivulet*. The man from whom he bought the land was, Charles Colville Frankland RN, who had built a small cottage on it. Ross set about changing it to "an elegant and spacious residence" of one storey and consisting of at least six rooms. Sadly, by 1840, Ross found himself in financial difficulties and, by December that year, had been forced to advertise the property for sale. The reason given for the sale was that Ross's professional engagements required his constant residence in Town. However, worse was to come for Ross. Because of the existing financial climate in the Colony at the time, the house was sold for considerably less than expected and thus, a month later *The Hobart Town Courier* carried the following story: "A great sensation has been occasioned by the absconding of Mr Hugh Ross, the Crown Solicitor with, it is said, a considerable sum of the public money". He was eventually caught, returned to the Colony to face trial, and was ultimately acquitted on a technicality. In the late 1850s, *The Priory* was bought by a city chemist, Henry Hinsby, who added the second floor. In 1864, he completed its construction by adding the attic bedrooms. The present owners have confirmed that the first floor verandah is still, - in the words of the press advertisement of more than a century and a half ago - "commanding a most delightful view of the Harbour and *Sandy Bay*."



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