

This page was added on 11 January 2013 to include the Disclaimer below.

No other amendments were made to this product.

DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.

Chapter 1

HISTORY AND CHRONOLOGY

	<i>Page No.</i>
1.1 The First People in Tasmania	1
1.1.1 Physical Isolation	1
1.1.2 Cultural Isolation	2
1.1.3 The Earliest Sites	2
1.2 European Discovery	2
1.2.1 Dutch Exploration, 1606-1642	2
1.2.2 Chronology: 1642-1802	3
1.3 Settlement	3
1.3.1 Risdon Cove	3
1.3.2 The Settlement at Hobart	3
1.3.3 Settlement on the Tamar	3
1.4 Chronology: 1805-1817	3
1.5 Bushrangers	4
1.6 Chronology: 1820-1967	4
1.7 The 1967 Bushfires	9
1.8 Chronology: 1968-1983	9
1.8.1 The Tasman Bridge Disaster	10
1.9 Chronology: 1984	13
1.10 Chronology: 1985	16
1.11 References	28

Chapter 1

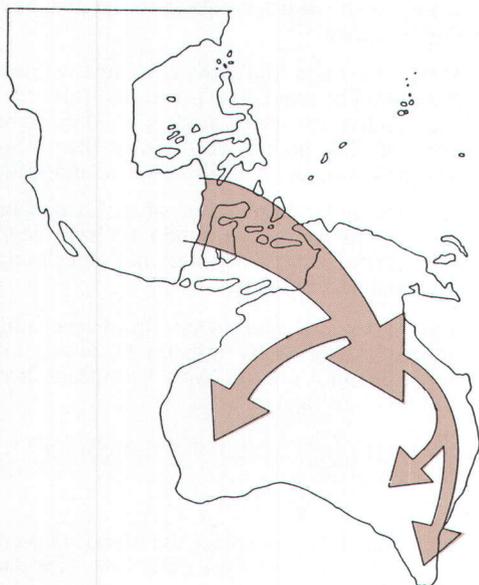
HISTORY AND CHRONOLOGY

The following information on the first humans to live in Tasmania, the Tasmanian Aborigines, is reprinted from a Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery publication, titled 'The Aboriginal People of Tasmania', by Julia Clark.

1.1 THE FIRST PEOPLE IN TASMANIA

Aboriginal people have been in Australia for at least 50 000 years. They probably came from Java and perhaps China, crossing the sea to the Australian continent on some kind of watercraft. They then spread to the most fertile areas, arriving in Victoria at least 30 000 years ago.

The Tasmanian Aborigines arrived in Tasmania more than 20 000 years ago. They are the descendants of the first colonists of the Australian continent. By 12 000 years ago, they had become isolated from the rest of Australia by the rising sea flooding the Bass Plain. The creation of Bass Strait brought about the cultural and physical isolation of the Tasmanian Aborigines.



Aboriginal migration into Australia 40 000 years ago.

1.1.1 Physical isolation

The Tasmanian Aborigines are the only people we know who remained totally isolated from other human populations for 12 000 years. As a result of this isolation, they developed certain physical characteristics which have been used to distinguish them from mainland Aborigines. These are:

- small to medium height;
- woolly hair; and
- certain features related to the size and shape of the skull, eye sockets, nasal opening and palate.

However, all these characteristics are also found in mainland Aboriginal people. We also know now that mainland people do not all look the same. People from the Central Desert are tall and slim. People from Victoria were shorter and very muscular. Different forms of the same general group are called 'regional variations' and are also found in European populations. Tall, thin, blonde Scandinavians are very different from short, stocky, dark Mediterranean people.

Regional variation accounts for the differences between Tasmanian and mainland Aboriginal populations.

From the greater number of similarities however, it is clear that both groups are very closely related and had the same ancestors.

1.1.2 Cultural isolation

Tasmanian Aboriginal culture is different in some ways from mainland Aboriginal culture. Certain things and ideas, which must have been introduced or invented after the Bass Plain became Bass Strait, did not reach Tasmania.

- The dingo arrived in Australia within the last 5 000 years, and never reached Tasmania.
- After about 5 000 years ago, new stone tools entered the toolkit of all mainland groups. These were very small and finely made. These were not used in Tasmania.
- The technique of hafting stone tools i.e. fitting axes, blades or scrapers with handles, although common on the mainland, was not used in Tasmania.
- Boomerangs and spear throwers must have been invented after Tasmania was cut off, as they were not used in Tasmania. The oldest boomerangs known are 10 000 years old.

Tasmanian Aboriginals did not suffer as a result of not having these things. They had all they needed to live well and happily.

1.1.3 The earliest sites

Archaeologists have found that people lived in Tasmania over 20 000 years ago. They may have been here even longer.

Past events leave remains such as bones and charcoal in layers. The deepest ones are the oldest, and the ones at the top are the most recent. These remains can tell us what people were doing in the past. Radiocarbon dating can tell us when they did these things. In this way archaeologists can build up a picture of the way of life of the Aboriginal people who used the site.

Cave Bay on Hunter Island was an inland hunting camp 23 000–21 000 years ago. It was abandoned during glaciation 14 000 years ago. Later when the sea reached its present level 6 000 years ago, it was re-occupied by people living off the resources of the sea. Then it was abandoned again 4 000 years ago. In its last phase, beginning 2 500 years ago, it was again used as part of the

coastal economy of Aboriginal people in the north-west. In the 1800s Aboriginal people still visited Hunter Island in summer for wallaby hunting, shellfish gathering and muttonbirding.

Beginners Luck Cave in south-central Tasmania was used by Aboriginal people more than 20 000 years ago.

Just before the beginning of the last period of intense glaciation in Tasmania, Aboriginal people were occasional visitors to the Florentine Valley; they came to hunt kangaroos and other animals on the open grasslands which were then present. They camped in the cave and left thick, crude flake tools and the charred remains of their meals.

20 000–15 000 years ago the Ice Age was at its most severe. The people who lived at Kuti Kina then were the world's most southerly population. They hunted wallaby in the open tundra around the cave. Their tools, called 'scrapers', were similar to those used on the mainland at the same time. These kinds of tools were used in Tasmania until the 19th Century.

Darwin glass, which is especially good for making stone tools, and ochre were brought into the area from many kilometres away. So we know that many of the aspects of traditional Tasmanian Aboriginal culture are at least 20 000 years old. These include trade and travel up and down the west coast and inland to the east, and the use of ochre.

15 000 years ago, the climate became warmer and wetter. The rainforest spread into this area. Wallabies live in open country, so they were forced out. The people who hunted them also had to move on, and Kuti Kina was abandoned.

The size of the population when Europeans arrived in Tasmania is thought to have been about 4 000 to 5 000. They were not a declining society, but still evolving.

The Aboriginals had no system of recording their own history. Study of their culture was not undertaken until contact with Europeans had erased much of their culture.

1.2 EUROPEAN DISCOVERY

1.2.1 Dutch Exploration, 1606–1642

In 1606, Captain William Jansz in the *Duyfken* was sent from Java to explore the islands of New Guinea and, crossing Torres Strait unawares, coasted along the west of Cape York Peninsula. This was the first of a series of voyages western shores of the unknown land.

Not all voyages were undertaken with the aim of exploration; Dirk Hartog's long journey along the western shore of Australia in 1616 resulted from his sailing too far east on the route from the Cape of Good Hope to Java. Some later Captains on the same route even regarded the western Australian coast as a suitable landfall before turning north for a Java—a commentary on the difficulty of navigation when longitude had to be established by dead reckoning.

1.2.2 Chronology: 1642–1802

- 1642 Abel Janszoon Tasman, commanding *Heemskirk* and *Zeehan*, sighted west coast and named his discovery 'Anthony Van Diemensland'. Landings on Forestier Peninsula and near Blackman Bay on east coast.
- 1772 Landing of a party from Du Fresme's expedition at Marion Bay and affray with the Aborigines.
- 1773 Tobias Furneaux in the *Adventure*, became separated from James Cook in *Resolution* and landed a party at Adventure Bay.
- 1777 James Cook anchored *Resolution* in Adventure Bay on first breadfruit expedition.
- 1789 John Henry Cox sailed *Mercury* from Cox Bight to Maria Island.
- 1792 William Bligh, on second breadfruit voyage, anchored *Providence* in Adventure Bay, Bruny Channel and charted south-east coast.
- 1793 D'Entrecasteaux returned for further exploration of south-east coast. John Hayes, commanding *Duke of Clarence* expedition, explored Derwent River.
- 1798 Matthew Flinders and George Bass circumnavigated Tasmania.
- 1802 Nicholas Baudin, commanding *Geographic* and *Naturaliste* explored south-east coast.

1.3 SETTLEMENT

1.3.1 Risdon Cove

The first settlement of Tasmania was at Risdon Cove, on the eastern shore of the Derwent River in 1803, established to assert British sovereignty over the island.

Lieutenant John Bowen was commissioned to make the Derwent settlement and sailed from Sydney with the *Albion* and *Lady Nelson*; the two vessels separated in a gale but were anchored at Risdon by 11 September 1803, when Bowen went ashore. The whole party of free, convict and military only numbered 49.

1.3.2 The Settlement at Hobart

The British cabinet, impressed by Governor King's warnings on possible French penetration, decided to establish a settlement at Port Phillip direct from Britain and, to this end, commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel Collins to command an expedition.

The settlers eventually arrived and formed a temporary camp near the site of the modern Sorrento township in Victoria. However, the site

proved unsuitable and Collins moved his command to the Derwent Estuary because of its reputation as a safe harbour and the fact that Risdon had already been settled.

On 15 February 1804, Collins, with the first detachment from Port Phillip in the *Lady Nelson* and *Ocean*, anchored off the new settlement at Risdon. A quick inspection satisfied Collins that the site was quite unsuitable and he made his own reconnaissance, eventually selecting the area on the western bank known as Sullivans Cove and ordering that the expedition should be disembarked with all its stores in the vicinity of Hunters Island.

Sullivans Cove had gentle slopes, a fine stream running from Mt Wellington and deep water which would accept the draught of any vessel.

1.3.3 Settlement on the Tamar

While Lieutenant-Governor Collins was still in Port Phillip Bay, wondering where best to settle, he had sent William Collins on a voyage of exploration to the Tamar Estuary.

By the time William Collins returned with good reports of the Tamar for settlement, the Lieutenant-Governor was already preparing for the expedition to the Derwent.

A short while later, Governor King received a despatch from Lord Hobart which recommended the establishment at Port Dalrymple.

He nominated Lieutenant-Colonel William Patterson as Lieutenant-Governor of the new colony who then set sail with two ships. After a first attempt was forced back by adverse winds, the party of 181 soldiers and convicts in four ships arrived at Outer Cove (George Town) on 4 November 1804. After exploring the region, Patterson established York Town as his headquarters. This choice proved unsuitable and in March 1806 the settlers moved to the head of the Tamar, to Launceston.

1.4 CHRONOLOGY: 1805–1817

- 1805 Collins forced by famine to cut rations by one-third.
- 1806 Settlers moved from York Town to Launceston area.
- 1807 Thomas Laycock's party crossed island overland from Port Dalrymple to Hobart. First Norfolk Island settlers shipped to Hobart in *Lady Nelson*.
- 1809 Governor William Bligh aboard *Porpoise* anchored in Derwent after NSW mutiny and embarrassed Collins with problems of jurisdiction.

- 1810 Lieutenant-Governor Collins death. Issue of newspaper *Derwent Star*.
- 1811 Governor Lachlan Macquarie's first visit to Tasmania.
- 1812 Lieutenant-Governor Thomas Davey arrived. Northern settlement at Port Dalrymple made subordinate to Hobart. *Indefatigable* brought first shipload of convicts direct from England.
- 1815 Hobart and Port Dalrymple declared free ports for import of goods. Davey proclaimed martial law against bushrangers. James Kelly circumnavigated island in a whaleboat.
- 1816 First issue of *Hobart Town Gazette*.
- 1817 Succession of William Sorell as Lieutenant-Governor.

1.5 BUSHRANGERS

During the first fifty years of settlement bushrangers proved a real obstacle to the settlement of Tasmania.

From 1806, when Lieutenant-Governor Collins ordered seven prisoners absent in the bush to return to Hobart Town camp, the colony lived in fear of the bandits. At the same time they depended on the kangaroo meat they traded with non-outlaws for clothing, ammunition and spirits.

The Government did not have enough soldiers to catch the bushrangers. In addition settlers could not procure legal redress without going, with witnesses, the 700 miles to Port Jackson, a prohibitively expensive and inconvenient business.

By 1814 the military and free settlers feared the bushrangers and convicts would combine forces and overthrow the military rule. Those living outside the town were more troubled by bushrangers and Aborigines. Both Europeans and Aborigines suffered many hardships caused by the bands of escaped convicts, soldiers and settlers who went bush. In 1814 Lieutenant-Governor Davey declared martial law, and an open season on bandits. Many bandits were killed, or captured and hanged.

Sorell took a hard line against the bushrangers and pursued them relentlessly. Large rewards were offered for their capture.

A breakthrough for the Government came in 1817 with the capture of Mary, the Aboriginal mistress of the bushranger Michael Howe. She helped the soldiers track the bushrangers and many bandits were captured with her help. Michael Howe was captured and killed in 1818.

1.6 CHRONOLOGY: 1820-1967

- 1820 Visit by John Thomas Bigge to conduct inquiry into colonial administration.
- 1821 Second tour by Governor Macquarie.
- 1822 Penal settlement established at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1823 Passage of British Act for the better administration of justice in NSW and Van Diemen's Land.
- 1824 Inauguration of Supreme Court, arrival of Lieutenant-Governor George Arthur.
- 1825 First Launceston newspaper, the *Tasmania and Port Dalrymple Advertiser*, established. Tasmania constituted a colony independent of NSW. Establishment of appointed Executive and Legislative Council. Martial Law proclaimed against Aborigines.
- 1829 First settlement at Emu Bay (Burnie).
- 1830 George Augustus Robinson began his mission to conciliate the Aborigines. First use of juries in civil cases. Beginning of the 'Black Line', the military campaign to round up the Aborigines. Publication of *Quintus Servinton*, first novel to be published in Australia. Port Arthur established as a penal settlement.
- 1831 Approval of British Government's new land regulations discontinuing free grants of land, and replacing them with land sales.
- 1832 First shipment of Aborigines to Straits Island. Establishment of the Caveat Board to settle land disputes and to confirm titles. Maria Island closed down as a penal settlement.
- 1833 Macquarie Harbour penal settlement closed down.
- 1834 Henty brothers from Launceston became first settlers in Victoria occupying land in Portland Bay area.
- 1835 John Batman sailed from Launceston to Port Phillip as agent for the Port Phillip Association. Tasmania divided into counties and parishes. Opening of Ross Bridge. Population estimated as 40 172 persons.
- 1837 Arrival of Sir John Franklin and assumption of office as Lieutenant-Governor.
- 1838 Sessions of Legislative Council opened to the public.
- 1840 Cessation of transportation to NSW and consequent increase in numbers transported to Tasmania. Population estimated as 45 999 persons.

- 1841** Assignment System of convict discipline replaced by the Probation System. Rossbank Observatory for magnetic and meteorological observations established in Hobart.
- 1842** Tasmania created a separate Anglican diocese. Hobart made a city. Peak year for convict arrivals (5 329).
- 1843** Recall of Sir John Franklin and succession of Sir John Eardley-Wilmot.
- 1844** Transfer of Norfolk Island penal settlement from NSW to Tasmanian control.
- 1845** Resignation of the 'Patriotic Six' members of the Legislative Council, over the drain on colonial revenue for support of Imperial Police.
- 1854** Bad floods throughout Colony. Passage of bill establishing responsible government.
- 1855** Succession of Sir Henry Fox Young: title now Governor. British Government Constitution Bill.
- 1856** Name of Van Diemen's Land changed to Tasmania. Advent of responsible self-government. Opening of new bi-cameral Parliament with W.T.N. Champ leading first government in the House of Assembly. Reorganisation of Police Department.
- 1858** Council of Education set up. *Rural Municipalities Act* passed.
- 1859** Charles Gould appointed to make geological survey of western Tasmania. Telegraph link established with Victoria.
- 1860** Population estimated as 89 821 persons.
- 1861** Succession of Colonel Thomas Gore Brown. Telegraph cable to Victoria failed.
- 1862** Promotion of scheme for a railway between Launceston and Deloraine.
- 1864** Arrival of first successfully transported salmon and trout ova.
- 1868** Visit by Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh. Primary education made compulsory.
- 1869** Succession of Charles Du Cane. Death of William Lanny, thought to be the last male full-blood Aboriginal. Death of Sir Richard Dry. New telegraph cable laid to Victoria.
- 1870** Withdrawal of remaining Imperial troops. Population 99 328 (Census).
- 1871** Opening of Launceston-Deloraine railway. Tin discovered at Mt Bishoff.
- 1872** Contract concluded for building Main Line Railway.
- 1873** Main Line Railway construction began. Start of economic recovery.
- 1874** Riots in Launceston in protest at rates levied for Launceston-Deloraine railway.
- 1875** Succession of Sir Frederick Weld.
- 1876** Race meetings established at Elwick. Gold nugget worth \$12 200 found at Nine Mile Spring. Death of Trugannini, thought to be last female full-blood Aboriginal. Mainline Railway opened for traffic.
- 1877** Port Arthur closed as a penal settlement.
- 1878** Increased activity in exploration of West Coast.
- 1879** Settlement of constitutional issue known as the 'Hunt Case'. Rich lode of tin discovered at Mt Heemskirk.
- 1880** First telephone in Tasmania with line from Hobart to Mount Nelson Signal Station.
- 1881** Succession of Sir George Strahan. Population 115 705 (Census).
- 1882** Increased prospecting on the West Coast.
- 1883** Discovery of the 'Iron Blow' at Mt Lyell.

'Patriotic Six'

1842 to 1845 were years of depression. The new Governor, Sir John Eardley-Wilmot, however, was instructed to reduce the expense of the colony. Being prohibited to use the Military Fund to meet growing commitments he sought to increase duties on tea, sugar and imported goods. When the six elected members of the Council opposed the estimates, the Governor claimed a deliberative as well as a casting vote to ensure passage of his bills. At this

Chas Swanston
Michael Fenton
Richard Dry
Thomas Gregson
William Kermode
John Kerr

all resigned for which they received enthusiastic support from the settlers.

- 1846** Recall of Eardley-Wilmot. Foundation of the Launceston Church Grammar and The Hutchins schools.
- 1847** Succession of Sir William Denison. The Lieutenant-Governor re-appointed the 'Patriotic Six'.
- 1848** Tasmania now the only place of transportation in the British Empire.
- 1850** Foundation of the Anti-Transportation League. Population estimated as 68 870 persons.
- 1851** British Act provided for limited representative government. First elections for 16 non-appointed members of the Legislative Council.
- 1852** First payable gold found near Fingal. Elections held for first municipal councils in Hobart and Launceston.
- 1853** Arrival of last convicts to be transported. First Van Diemen's Land postage stamp (Id. Blue) issued.

- 1885** Russian war scare followed by activity in improvement of defences. Formation of Mt Lyell Prospecting Association.
- 1887** Succession of Sir Robert Hamilton.
- 1890** Establishment of University of Tasmania.
- 1891** Collapse of Van Diemen's Land Bank; deep depression.
- 1892** Mt Lyell Mining Co. established.
- 1893** Succession of Viscount Gormanston.
- 1896** Establishment of Tattersalls Lottery by George Adams.
- 1898** Serious bush fires. Tasmanians four to one in favour of Federation at poll.
- 1899** Departure from Hobart of *Southern Cross* (Borchgrevinck) expedition to Antarctic.
- 1900** Departure of Tasmanian contingent to fight in the Boer War.
- 1901** Proclamation of the Commonwealth read. Polling for first elections to Federal Senate and House of Representatives. Succession of Sir Arthur Havelock. Population 172 475 (Census).

Members and Senators Elected 29-30 March 1901, Tasmania

(The first Commonwealth election was held under State electoral legislation. In Tasmania, the Hare-Clark system was used with the whole State as the electorate.)

Members of the House of Representatives

E.N.C. Braddon
D.N. Cameron
P.O. Fysh
K. O'Malley
F.W. Piessé

Senators

D.J. O'Keefe
J.H. Keating
C.S. Cameron
H. Dobson
J. MacFarlane

- 1903** Celebration of a 100 years' settlement cancelled because of smallpox epidemic in Launceston. Suffrage extended to women.
- 1904** Succession of Sir Gerald Strickland at reduced salary.
- 1905** Experiments in wireless telegraphy between Tasmania and the mainland.
- 1907** New Public Library opened; built with gift from Andrew Carnegie.
- 1909** Succession of Sir Henry Barron. Potato crop wiped out by Irish blight. State's first Labour Government under John Earle.
- 1912** Disastrous fire at North Lyell, Queens-town.
- 1913** Succession of Sir William Ellison Macartney.
- 1914** First aeroplane flight in Tasmania. Departure of first Tasmanian contingent to fight in Great War. Formation of Hydro-Electric Department.

Hydro-Electricity

The development of hydro-electric power has been important for the economic development of Tasmania. The first plant was opened in Launceston in 1895 at Duck Reach. Work on the statewide system did not begin until 1911 when the privately owned Hydro-Electric and Metallurgical Co. began work at Waddamana below Great Lake. The Company was purchased by the Government in 1914 and the Hydro-Electric Department was formed. An active policy was pursued to encourage high energy using industries to establish operations in Tasmania. The Hydro-Electric Department became the Hydro-Electric Commission in 1930.

The policy of the hydro-industrialisation was pursued in the hope of overcoming Tasmania's disadvantages of a small local market and transport problems. Zinc production began in 1916, fine paper production in 1938, aluminium smelting in 1955 and ferro-manganese production in 1962.

- 1915** Serious bush fires.
- 1917** Establishment of Electrolytic Zinc works at Risdon and Snug carbide works.
- 1918** End of Great War.
- 1919** First export of frozen meat.
- 1920** Visit by Edward, Prince of Wales. Purchase of site for Cadbury's chocolate factory at Claremont.
- 1921** Population 213 780 (Census).
- 1922** Completion of Waddamana power station.
- 1924** First superphosphate manufactured by Electrolytic Zinc Co. at Risdon.
- 1925** Discovery of osmiridium fields at Adamsfield.
- 1927** Inquiry into proposed bridge over Derwent. Visit by Duke and Duchess of York.
- 1929** Establishment of automatic telephone system in Hobart. Beginning of economic depression. Serious floods throughout Island.

THE MERCURY, MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1927

Thrilling Stories of Flood Disasters

TREMENDOUS DAMAGE AT LAUNCESTON

Thousands Rendered Homeless
Thrilling Rescue Work and Narrow Escapes
City Plunged into Darkness
Riverside Buildings Swept Away

The most devastating flood in the history of the city of Launceston has spread widespread distress, particularly in the lower parts of the town and suburbs, which, combined with Newbery, shatter about one-third of the population of the city.

Thousands are homeless and are being cared for in the 41 hostels built between State school and other buildings. The damage is incalculable.

As far as could be ascertained no lives had been lost in this disaster, but many persons who had refused to leave until the tide had very narrow escapes, and some are still completely missing.

On Thursday night in preparation for the full tide at a critical moment, the tide had been made to lower any reference to the Albert Hall and Government House school, and it was also decided to strike the chains of the lower dock of the pier to break and also ring the fire bell should any break be made in the river bank, which would have been a very serious matter.

DAMAGE ESTIMATED OVER MILLION POUNDS

Launceston Wharves and Suburbs Submerged
3,500 Persons Driven From Homes
Full Story of Briseis Disaster
Wives See Husbands Swept to Death
Tremendous Damage in North-West
Eight Lives Lost at Gawler

As communication between Hobart and other parts of the State is gradually being restored, it is possible to give an idea with some accuracy regarding the details of the awful calamity which struck Launceston, chiefly north of the town, through damage to wharves, and most in the aggregate, amount to many hundreds of thousands, and possibly approaching £1,000,000.

LAUNCESTON (INSURATED).

AT INVERMAY

Scene of Desolation
Rapun Tyre Factory Flooded

AT INVERMAY, the scene of desolation was everywhere. The Rapun Tyre factory, which had been flooded, was a mass of ruins. The surrounding area was a wasteland of mud and debris. The water had receded, leaving a trail of destruction behind it. The people who remained were looking at the devastation with expressions of grief and despair.

Providing Accommodation

AT INVERMAY, the scene of desolation was everywhere. The Rapun Tyre factory, which had been flooded, was a mass of ruins. The surrounding area was a wasteland of mud and debris. The water had receded, leaving a trail of destruction behind it. The people who remained were looking at the devastation with expressions of grief and despair.

No Lights in the City

AT INVERMAY, the scene of desolation was everywhere. The Rapun Tyre factory, which had been flooded, was a mass of ruins. The surrounding area was a wasteland of mud and debris. The water had receded, leaving a trail of destruction behind it. The people who remained were looking at the devastation with expressions of grief and despair.

Good Work by Police and Firemen

AT INVERMAY, the scene of desolation was everywhere. The Rapun Tyre factory, which had been flooded, was a mass of ruins. The surrounding area was a wasteland of mud and debris. The water had receded, leaving a trail of destruction behind it. The people who remained were looking at the devastation with expressions of grief and despair.

- 1930 Export prices fell to half 1928 level. Australian pound devalued so that £1 sterling equalled £A2.50 (£1/5s).
- 1931 Depression continued — 10 per cent in federal basic wage. Initiation of austere Premier's Plan. Conversion loan to reduce rate of interest on internal federal debt by 22½ per cent. Senior Ministers, including J.A. Lyons from Tasmania resigned from Scullin Government. Following the carrying of a vote of no-confidence in the Government elections were held at which Scullins Labor Government was swept from office. Lyons led the opposition United Party to victory.
- 1932 Joseph Lyons was sworn in as Prime Minister.



J.A. Lyons, Labor Premier of Tasmania 1923-8 and Labor Ministers in the Scullin Government 1929-31 became Prime Minister on 6 January 1932 as leader of the United Australia Party.

- 1933 Commonwealth Grants Commission appointed to inquire into affairs of Claimant states.

- 1934 Beginning of 35 years of continuous Labor Government with the election of A.G. Ogilvie Ministry. Second phase of hydro-electric development commenced at Tarraleah and Butlers Gorge.
- 1936 Tasmania linked with Victoria by submarine cable.
- 1937 Epidemic of poliomyelitis. Economic recovery evidenced by £0.50 'prosperity' loading added to federal basic wage.
- 1938 Paper mill using native hardwoods established at Burnie. First turbines operating at Tarraleah power station.
- 1939 Outbreak of World War II. Prime Minister Lyons died in office.
- 1940 Tasmanians sailed for Middle East with Australian 6th, 7th, and 9th Divisions.
- 1941 Newsprint production began at Boyer on the Derwent. Tasmanians sailed for Malaya with Australian 8th Division.
- 1942 Uniform federal income tax commenced.
- 1943 The floating-arch Hobart Bridge opened for traffic.
- 1944 Pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) income taxation introduced from 1 July.
- 1945 End of World War II.
- 1946 Rejection by Legislative Council to bill to grant Federal Government price control powers for three years.
- 1947 Court action to stop bank nationalisation by Federal Government. 'Displaced persons' commenced arriving from Europe. Population 257 078 (Census).
- 1948 Forty-hour week awarded to most workers from 1 January. Tasmanians voted 'No' almost two to one in referendum denying Federal Government power over prices and rents. Legislative Council's denial of Supply forced dissolution of House of

Assembly — Cosgrove Ministry returned to power.

- 1949** Compulsory X-rays introduced in fight against tuberculosis. Clark Dam at Butlers Gorge completed. Theatre Royal purchased by the Government.
- 1950** End of federal petrol rationing. Dissolution of House of Assembly granted by Governor and Cosgrove Ministry returned to power.
- 1951** *Communist Party Dissolution Act* declared invalid by High Court. Double Dissolution of Federal Parliament. Referendum to give Federal Government powers in regard to communism — 'No' vote prevailed although Tasmanians expressed slight preference for 'Yes'.
- 1952** Single licensing authority established for hotels, clubs, etc. State's free hospital scheme ceased.
- 1953** In September, Arbitration Court abandoned system of quarterly adjustment of federal basic wage. State wages boards suspended quarterly basic wage adjustments.
- 1954** Bill passed to resolve deadlocks in House of Assembly. Foundation of the Metropolitan Transport Trust.



Royal visit

- 1955** Uranium ore discovered at Mt Balfour and Royal George. Bell Bay aluminium plant officially opened. Trevallyn and Tungatinah power schemes officially opened.
- 1956** State wages boards' restoration of 'cost-of-living' adjustments effective from 1 February but later suspended. Dissolution of House of Assembly and Labor Party returned to power. Official opening of EZ Company's sulphate of ammonia plant. Centenary of self-government celebrated.
- 1957** Legislative Council rejected bill giving aid to private schools. First satellites — Sputniks I and II — seen over State.

- 1958** Establishment of Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Public Service Tribunal established as an industrial authority.
- 1959** First election to fill 35 seats in House of Assembly; Labor re-elected. *Princess of Tasmania* commenced roll-on roll-off ferry service Melbourne to Devonport.



- 1960** Liapootah power station commissioned. Zeehan-Strahan railway closed. Inland Fisheries Commission created. First Tasmanian telecast.
- 1961** *William Holyman*, cargo container vessel, entered Bass Strait trade. Legislative Council rejected equal pay legislation.
- 1962** Catagunya turbines began producing electricity. State Wages Boards granted three weeks annual leave. State subsidies announced for municipal fluoridation schemes. Closure of Mt Lyell railway, Queenstown to Strahan.
- 1963** Federal Court increased margins 10 per cent and granted three weeks annual leave. Universities Commission recommended medical school for Tasmanian University.
- 1964** Tasman Bridge opened for traffic. Hobart's water supply fluoridated. Glenorchy raised to city status.
- 1965** Provisional driving licences introduced. Dental Nurse scheme for schools announced.
- 1966** Decimal currency introduced 14 February. Burnie-Launceston co-axial cable completed. Equal pay for certain State Public Service females. Breathalyser tests approved for use by police. STD introduced.
- 1967** Federal Arbitration Commission abolished basic wage and substituted total wage concept but basic wage retained in State awards. Mt Cleveland tin mining town of Luina completed.

1.7 THE 1967 BUSHFIRES

On Tuesday, 7 February 1967, bush fires in Southern Tasmania caused 53 deaths and contributed to a further 9 deaths; destroyed tangible property valued at more than \$25 million and left thousands of people homeless; devastated 653 000 acres of farm land, forest and bush in fourteen municipalities causing severe stock and fodder losses; and brought about an almost complete breakdown in communications.

Weather conditions during the preceding three months had been very warm and dry but earlier good spring rains had brought on heavy growth; consequently grass and litter were abundant and tinder dry. The four days before the disaster had been characterised by rising temperatures, freshening hot northerly winds and falling relative humidities; warnings of very high to extreme fire danger had been given in meteorology bulletins each day and featured by press, radio and television. The maximum fire danger index for the actual disaster day was 96, one of the highest readings in recent Australian records.

The weather conditions in South Tasmania on 7 February 1967 were not unique. Similar dangerous combinations of high temperature, low relative humidity, high wind velocity and accumulated drought effect seem to have occurred in 1898, 1912, 1914, 1927, 1934 and 1940 while heavy fires in areas adjoining Hobart, and including Mt Wellington, are recorded in 1898, 1914, 1927, 1934, 1946 and 1961. It is worth emphasising that even in periods of extreme fire danger, spontaneous combustion does not occur — the fire must have an external cause, and usually the agent is man.

The fires were described as "wild fires" of high intensity. In some cases, especially in hilly or mountainous areas, they raged so fiercely that the rising hot air set up fire whirlwinds which caused severe mechanical damage to trees by tearing large limbs off, and which sent flames hundreds of feet into the sky. Spot fires, caused by wind-blown embers, sprang up ahead of the main fire bodies and were particularly troublesome in the open forest and grassland around the outer Hobart area.

Housing and Building Losses, 7 February 1967

Local Government Area	Houses	Cottages and Shacks	Farm Buildings
Hobart	433	45	15
Brighton	31	5	6
Bruny	2	1	1
Clarence	24	16	4
Esperance	31	38	2
Glenorchy	58	15	..
Green Ponds	1	..	2
Huon	50	8	20
Kingborough	303	96	2
New Norfolk	42	8	2
Oatlands	2	..	(a)
Port Cygnet	42	2	..
Richmond	18	3	(a)
Sorell	35	12	(a)
Total	1,072	249	(a)

Local Government Area	Factories	Retail Establishments	Churches and Halls
Hobart	8	3	5
Brighton	1	1	3
Bruny	1	..	..
Clarence .. ..	..	..	2
Esperance	3	..	2
Glenorchy .. ..	..	2	1
Green Ponds	2	..	..
Huon	16	1	3
Kingborough	9	12	13
New Norfolk	3	..	2
Oatlands .. ..	..	1	..
Port Cygnet	4	1	1
Richmond .. ..	..	3	..
Sorell	2	..	..
Total	49	24	32

(a) Numerous; no accurate count.

1.8 CHRONOLOGY: 1968-1983

- 1968** HEC Repulse Dam on lower Derwent completed. Batman Bridge across lower Tamar opened. Federal Government subsidy for apples and pears exported to UK and other countries. Full adult suffrage for Legislative Council elections from 1 July 1969. Capital punishment abolished.
- 1969** Parangana Dam (Mersey-Forth scheme) completed. North-Western General Hospital opened at Burnie. State election resulted in 17 ALP, 17 Liberals, one Centre Party (Mr Lyons). Mr Lyons combined with Liberals to form coalition government, ending 35-year Labor rule in Tasmania. Full Bench of Federal Arbitration Commission granted equal pay to females performing equal work; female salaries to be raised to male salaries in stages. Copper smelter at Mt Lyell closed; concentrate sent to Japan and Port Pirie (SA) for treatment.
- 1970** First pyrites railed from Rosebery to Burnie sulphuric acid plant. EZ Co. to establish \$6.3m residue treatment plant. Royal visit. Parliament legislated to introduce permanent daylight saving.
- 1971** APPM Ltd Wesley Vale paper plant opened. Serious shipping strike. Population 390 413 persons (Census).

- 1972** K.O. Lyons resigned cabinet portfolios and ended Liberal-Centre Party Coalition. APPM Long Reach woodchip plant commenced production. ANL vessel *Princess of Tasmania* made her final trip to Tasmania. Federal elections: ALP returned to power (after 23 years in opposition).
- 1973** First train travelled the Bell Bay rail link. The first legal casino in Australia, Wrest Point, officially opened. The \$121m Mersey-Forth HEC scheme officially opened. Storeys Creek tin mine closed down. The *Blythe Star* lost at sea while on charter to the Transport Commission. Tasmania voted in line with other Australian states on prices and incomes referenda. 'No' to both.
- 1974** Workers under State Wages Boards' awards granted four weeks annual leave. Women under State Wages Boards' determinations awarded equal pay. Gordon Dam completed. No fault third party insurance scheme implemented.
- 1975** Tasmanian suburban rail services ceased. TAB began operating. Transmission of colour television programs commenced in Tasmania. Federal Government takeover of Tasmanian railways. Temporary Bailey bridge across the Derwent opened. Hotels allowed to open for Sunday trading.
- 1976** A government commissioned inquiry recommended the abolition of the TCAE in Hobart and expansion of the northern campus. Sea cargo to and from Tasmania to be subject to a freight-equalisation scheme. South-West National Park doubled in size in line with South-West Management Plan proposals. The Neilson Labor Government returned to power with a reduced majority.
- 1977** Commonwealth Government confirmed Kingston as the site for Australia's new Antarctic Base. The Premier, Mr Neilson, announced his retirement to become Tasmania's Agent-General in London. Tasman Bridge re-opened 8 October. Mr Lowe replaced Mr Neilson as Premier. Drought conditions in many parts of the State the worst for 30 years.
- 1978** Large scale drug operation involving the smuggling of cannabis oil to Tasmania from Thailand uncovered by narcotics agents. The Tasmanian Railways came under full control of the Australian National Railways Commission. The Commission announced that all regular passenger train services in Tasmania would cease from the end of July. A major study of the State's coal reserves revealed a potential deposit of 251 million tonnes in the Fingal Valley.

1.8.1 The Tasman Bridge Disaster

At 9.27 pm on Sunday 5 January 1975, the Australian National Line ore carrier *Lake Illawarra*, bound upstream for the Electrolytic Zinc Company's works at Risdon, collided with the Tasman Bridge. The freighter collided first with the pile cap of one pier, and then with the pier cap of another.

The supporting pile groups were wrecked, the pier columns and the three spans supported by them collapsed and a large section of the bridge deck fell into the river 30 metres below, sinking it. This left the bridge with a 128 metre gap, and damaged two more piers.

Seven of the *Lake Illawarra*'s crew of 42 died. In addition, a number of cars crossing the bridge at the time plunged into the river 30 metres below, adding another five to the death toll. Not all bodies were recovered.

The *Lake Illawarra* and bridge debris sank in water over 30 metres deep, with the ship at an angle to the bridge. The carrier remains on the sea bed.



- 1979** The State Government to expand the South-West Conservation area to more than 20 per cent of the State's total area. Mr Charles Woodhouse appointed as the State's first Ombudsman. Tasmania's Parliamentary Hansard introduced. Mr Bill McKinnon (Labor), who lost his seat in the 28 July election, filed a petition in the Supreme Court claiming new Labor MHA in Franklin, Michael Aird, breached the *Electoral Act* by spending more than the statutory limit of \$1 500 on his election expenses. This began the so-called 'Electoral' or 'Constitutional Crisis'. The HEC released a report which recommended a \$1.36 billion power development scheme involving the Lower Gordon, Franklin and King Rivers to meet the State's electricity needs until the year 2000.
- 1980** Work commenced on the first stage of a second Hobart bridge. A by-election for the Denison electorate was held after the 'electoral crisis' of the 1979 State election. The Treasurer introduced legislation into the House of Assembly to allow \$530m to be spent on the HEC's Pieman River development. East-West Airlines were given approval for the only direct Hobart-Sydney air service. The National Parks and Wildlife Service started a major advertising and promotion campaign aimed at short-circuiting the HEC's proposed Franklin-Lower Gordon power scheme. The State Government decided to save the Franklin River by opting to flood the Gordon at the junction of the Olga and to construct four single state schemes on the King River. Parts of Southern Tasmania were facing the worst drought since white settlement. The Gordon-above-Olga power scheme was passed by the House of Assembly. The first direct flight from Hobart to Christchurch was made by Ansett Airlines. The Upper House Select Committee recommended the HEC's proposed Gordon-below-Franklin Scheme and rejected the Government proposed Gordon-above-Olga Scheme.
- 1981** Bushfires at Zeehan destroyed 40 homes. The State Government banned Saturday afternoon trading by companies employing more than 100 people on a statewide basis. The Commonwealth Government agreed to subsidise airfares to and from the State by 10 per cent following acceptance of the Holcroft report. The State Government announced the end of free public hospital treatment in Tasmania. A referendum was announced for November concerning the State's next power development. The Premier, Mr Doug Lowe, was deposed and Mr Harry Holgate replaced him as Premier. Mr Lowe resigned from Cabinet, Caucus and the ALP and took his place in the House of Assembly as an independent. The State Labor Government lost its majority in the House of Assembly with the resignation of a supporter of Mr Lowe, Mrs Mary Willey. The Tasmanian Conservation Foundation called for an informal vote in the referendum by writing 'no dams' on the ballot paper. A Royal Commission was appointed to investigate the powers of the Legislative Council. The State Government pledged that a dam would be built in the South-West whatever the referendum result. The referendum resulted in an extremely large informal vote but most supported the Gordon-below-Franklin option.
- 1982** The South-West National Park, the Franklin-Lower Gordon Wild Rivers National Park and the Cradle Mt-Lake St Clair National Park were nominated by the Commonwealth Government for the World Heritage List; the proposed dam on the Franklin River lay within the nominated area. The Holgate Labor Government was defeated on a no confidence motion by a majority vote of the Liberal Opposition, two Labor defectors and a Democrat. The ensuing election resulted in the Liberal Party forming a Government in its own right for the first time in Tasmania's history. Legislation for the controversial \$453m Gordon-below-Franklin power scheme finally passed through Parliament. State Government requested Federal aid to help fund Tasmania's record deficit estimated at \$38m. The Federal ALP Conference decided to oppose the construction of the Gordon-below-Franklin scheme. Premier Gray announced that police would act against conservationists who attempted to stop work on the Gordon-below-Franklin power scheme. The Minister for Primary Industry announced that the Tasmanian Apple and Pear Marketing Authority (TAMA) would be disbanded. Fires raged through the south of the State in the wake of Hobart's hottest November day since 1937 (35.6°C). The Federal Labor Party announced a no-dams policy in a decision which split the party in the State. Tasmanian police given new powers in a bid to combat a blockade of dam site

construction in the South-West by conservationists. The Senate select committee on South-West Tasmania came out against building the dam and put further pressure on Federal Cabinet to intervene. The Attorney-General, Mr Bingham, announced that Tasmania had formally applied to have its opposition to World Heritage listing heard by the World Heritage Committee in Paris and announced that he would go to Paris to lobby the Committee. Federal Government announced it would not intervene in the construction of the Gordon-below-Franklin dam. The World Heritage Commission placed Tasmania's endangered South-West wilderness area on its list. A total of 196 people were arrested for trespassing at the dam site.



1983 New drink-driving legislation reducing the permissible blood alcohol level for drivers from .08 to .05 and introducing random breath tests came into force. Conservationist leader Dr Bob Brown was elected to the House of Assembly on a countback following the resignation of Dr Norm Sanders. The Shell Co. of Australia revealed that coal mining at Mt Nicholas in the north-east could be sustained for 40 years. Tasmania's unemployment rate rose to 11.4 per cent. The Premier, Mr Gray, rejected \$500 million, offered by the Commonwealth Government to delay construction of the Gordon-below-Franklin dam. Tasmania's biggest ever rally was held to protest against the damming of the Franklin River; an estimated 12 000 to 20 000 people attended. Commonwealth Opposition Leader, Mr Hawke, pledged to stop construction of the Gordon-below-Franklin power scheme and offered financial assistance to meet the State's energy needs to the year 2000 as well as alternative employment for the HEC

workforce should the Labor Party win government on March 5. 'Green Day', a day designated by the Tasmanian Wilderness Society as a day of active protest, resulted in a record number of arrests (228) in the south-west. Hobart experienced its driest summer for 85 years. The Liberal Party was defeated by the Labor Party in the Federal election although Tasmania's five Liberal members of the House of Representatives were re-elected. Mr. Hawke was sworn in as Australia's new Prime Minister. Regulations under section 69 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975*, gazetted by the Commonwealth Government, made any further work on the Gordon-below-Franklin dam illegal. A Commonwealth writ, seeking an injunction to permanently stop work on the proposed Gordon-below-Franklin dam, and a Tasmanian writ seeking a declaration from the High Court that regulations gazetted under which the Commonwealth was acting were constitutionally invalid, were filed in the High Court. The Day Light Saving Bill, to permanently entrench a five month period, was passed by the House of Assembly. The lowest temperature yet recorded in Tasmania, -13°C , was registered. The High Court ruled that the Gordon-below-Franklin dam could not go ahead in a landmark decision. Alternative works to the Gordon-below-Franklin dam began, including Guildford-Hampshire and Cradle Mountain road links, the Mt Black deviation near Tullah, and the Lyell Highway 14 mile deviation. Argument began on the value of compensation. The Commonwealth Government committed \$23 585 000 compensation for job alternatives to the south-west dam. The State Government decided to speed up work on access roads for the \$460 million Henty-Anthony and King River hydro power schemes. The Premier put the comprehensive, long-term south-west dam compensation at \$3 455 million. The State Budget hit smokers with a 13 cent per packet increase and people using credit cards or making savings withdrawals with a 15 cent transaction tax. The Legislative Council took only 30 minutes to approve the \$549 million King and Anthony Power schemes. Cathy Franks was crowned Miss Tasmania 1984.



The new Devonport \$6.5 million jet airport was officially opened. A Legislative Council Select Committee report recommended the formation of a greater Launceston by amalgamating the urban areas of five surrounding municipalities. The greater Launceston proposal was rejected by four of the six municipalities involved in the referendum held to decide the issue. Conara Junction named as a possible site for a coal fired thermal power station. *Condor* won line honours in the Sydney-Hobart yacht race after *Nirvana* was disqualified after a protest, lodged by *Condor*, was upheld; *Challenge* won the race on corrected time. Tasmania's road toll, 70 for 1983, was the lowest in 20 years.

Dam Compensation Payments

When the High Court decision, making further work on the Gordon-below-Franklin power scheme illegal was handed down, negotiations as to the level of assistance were entered into. Agreement was reached that the following assistance would be provided in full settlement of the undertakings:

- \$45.3m for employment creation projects (\$16.9m was paid in 1983-84) plus direct Commonwealth expenditure of \$5.6m on upgrading the Hobart Airport (\$2.6m was spent in 1983-84).
- \$200m in equal annual instalments over 10 years as subsidy to providing 112 MW of electricity which would have been the output of the Gordon River Power Development Stage 2.
- Ex-gratia payment of \$25m for expenditure incurred on the scheme.

1.9 CHRONOLOGY: 1984

January

Tasmania won its Sheffield Shield match against Victoria by an innings and two runs with a day to spare. Thousands of dollars worth of regenerated forest, saw log and pulp wood were destroyed by fire. One road fatality was recorded in Tasmania during the Christmas-New Year holiday holiday period. Charles Davis Ltd, owners of FitzGerald's, bought McKinleys Pty Ltd for \$1 million, and Petersville Industries took over the General Jones vegetable processing factory at Scottsdale. Marihuana plants with an estimated street value of \$150 000 were seized when police raided a plantation on the outskirts of Smithton. Roger Woolley, Tasmania's wicket

keeper in the Sheffield Shield competition, was selected to tour the West Indies as a member of the 16-man Australian cricket squad. The Hobart City Council made known its intention to turn the 122 hectare Knocklofty Reserve into a recreational area for picnicking, cycling, horse-riding and walking. Industrial Equity Ltd gained control of Cascade Brewery Co. Ltd.

February

The State Government 15 cent debit tax on withdrawal transactions came into force. The United Launceston Citizens Committee continued to push for a greater Launceston under the new leadership of Mrs Sheena Butler. 'Viscount Geoffrey' won the Hobart Cup. Sir Peter Crisp, one of Tasmania's leading judicial figures, died at the age of 71. Tasmanian bowler, Peter Clough, snared 8-95 against Western Australia, the best first class figures by a Tasmanian bowler this century and the third best ever recorded by a Tasmanian. The \$48.5 million Bowen Bridge was opened by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke. Three Tasmanian drive-in cinemas closed, resulting in the loss of 40 jobs. The HEC was fined \$750 in the Hobart Magistrate's Court on two charges of polluting the Pieman River. The Launceston Cup was won by 'Martian's Son'.

March

The Tasmanian Wilderness Society launched a campaign for the creation of a 1 760 000 hectare world class national park in Western Tasmania. Mr C.G. Brettingham-Moore was appointed puisne judge of the Tasmanian Supreme Court to replace Mr Justice Everett. The Premier, Mr Gray, offered to trade his \$319 million compensation claim on lost South-West jobs for the \$1.5 million submarine construction venue and exclusive 200 mile zone fishing rights. Former Wynyard and Devonport rover Jan Frimley died after being injured in a practice match at Queenstown. Mr Brian Broadby was elected Lord Mayor of Hobart. The Federal Government ruled out any South-West compensation deals with the Tasmanian Government concerning the site for the Navy submarine contract. A violent wind storm caused damage estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars as it ripped through the North-West Coast. The APPM Kings Cup and National Regatta began at Lake Barrington with oarsmen vying for a place in Australia's squad for the Los Angeles Olympic Games. The Federal Government offered the Tasmanian Government \$270 million South-West compensation settlement; the State Government began preparing a counter bid. \$3 million, part of the South-West

compensation package, to be used to upgrade Hobart Airport to give a limited international capacity. APPM and Forest Resources to pay increased royalties to the State Government for a greater use of forest resources. The first stage of Tasmania's first privately financed and owned eel farm was opened.

April

Fifteen thousand people at Lake Barrington watched NSW win the APPM King's Cup. Fifty employees (one-third of the total) at Cleveland Tin Mine were retrenched. The Tasmanian Government accepted in principle the Commonwealth \$270 million South-West compensation offer. New seismic and geological studies showed that Bass Strait may have oil pockets in an area that ESSO and BHP rejected. More than 5 000 people rallied to the cause of nuclear disarmament in Hobart in the largest anti-nuclear march seen in the city. Work in Tasmania's West Coast mines and HEC sites stopped as a result of a meeting of more than 400 striking unionists at Burnie. Launceston hockey player Penny Gray was selected in the Australian women's team for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Mr Richard Southee was appointed Master of the Supreme Court. The Legislative Council voted 11-6 to defeat a Government move to relate MP's pay rises to public sector wage movements. The State Government unveiled a model and topographical map of its controversial \$30 million irrigation scheme for South-West Tasmania. A Hobart general practitioner, Dr Boughey, was sentenced to life imprisonment after being found guilty of murder.

May

Tasmania's first test-tube baby, a boy, was born. The State Government won its battle against the Legislative Council to link parliamentary salaries to rises awarded to its public servants. The Mt Lyell Mining and Railway Co. announced it would cut back its workforce by 50. The State Government agreed to investigate development of the historic Abt railway at Queenstown as part of a drive to boost tourism on the West Coast and increase employment. The Premier said the Government would do everything in its power, including direct financial help to extend the life of the Mt Lyell mine at least until alternative sources of employment could be found for the mine's workforce. A three month search for the Tasmanian Tiger began at a secret site in the Central Highlands. APPM stood down 460 employees as production at its Burnie mill continued to slow down because of a two-week old dispute. The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre began a campaign of direct negotiations with big Tasmanian companies for land rights.

June

The Wrest Point Convention Centre was opened. Mr Alby Broadby, the member for Gordon, was elected President of the Legislative Council. The Federal Government announced that it would give Tasmania \$26 million to buy a West German replacement for the *Empress of Australia*. Brambles Industries Ltd and the State Government announced they were to begin a joint shipping service between Burnie and Melbourne. Fire caused \$1 million worth of damage to the Supavynyl Products factory at Bell Bay. Mr Pearsall was elected Deputy Premier following the retirement of Mr Max Bingham. Fire caused approximately \$1 million damage to Hobart's historic Theatre Royal. Mrs Carmel Holmes entered parliament as a result of Mr Bingham's resignation. Mr Hawke and Mr Gray signed an agreement for \$270 million compensation to Tasmania for the loss of the Gordon-below-Franklin power scheme. Fire severely damaged the old Hobart Railway Station. Nurses began a 24 hour strike, the first ever by Tasmanian nurses. The Premier announced a \$6.9 million road building project to make Queenstown the gateway to the South-West World Heritage area.

July

Approximately 450 men were stood down at the Savage River iron ore mine and the Port Latta pelletising mill as a result of an indefinite strike by members of the Federated Drivers and Firemen's association. Hobart barrister, Mr Peter Underwood, was appointed to the newly created position of seventh Judge of the Supreme Court of Tasmania. The State Government announced plans to spend \$6 million of dam compensation funds on upgrading the Hobart Airport. The National Companies and Securities Commission started the biggest investigation in Tasmania's corporate history into share transactions between the two takeover bidders for the big Tasmanian hotel chain, Four Seasons Ltd. The overseas vessel *Nils Holgersson* was named as the definite replacement for the ageing ferry *Empress of Australia*.

August

The Director of Environmental Control, Mr J.F. Pottinger retired. Hobart's Macquarie and Murray Streets intersection was declared the most historical and prestigious commercial city intersection in Australia. Metal alloy producer Temco Pty Ltd announced plans for a \$57 million upgrading at its Bell Bay processing plant. Two men and a woman were killed instantly when a light plane and a glider it was towing, crashed near Woodbury.

Michael Grenda of Launceston became Tasmania's first Olympic gold medalist as a member of Australia's cycling team which was the 4 000 metre teams pursuit in Los Angeles.



The State Government announced it would hand over all Aboriginal remains held in the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery in Hobart and the Queen Victoria Museum at Launceston. Mr Peter Patmore (ALP) replaced Mr Michael Barnard in the House of Assembly. The Federal Budget included tax cuts, increased social welfare benefits and a ten per cent tax on wine.

September

Shipping company William Holyman and Sons announced its intention to drop its Hobart and Burnie freight services and centre its operations on Devonport as its port of call. It was announced that the last stage of the Pieman River power development scheme would be called Reece Dam after former Tasmanian Premier, Mr Eric Reece. The State Budget included the introduction of \$5 000 per job subsidy designed to create work for 2 000 Tasmanians, as well as a record allocation for a capital works program of \$561.2. The State Government agreed to tighter restrictions on shop trading hours. Mr Neil Robson (Bass) announced his resignation from State Cabinet and was succeeded by Mr Brendan Lyons. Tasmania's first mobile breath analysis units were brought into use.

October

The *Empress of Australia* was stranded in Devonport due to industrial action forcing 320 passengers to seek alternative transport to Melbourne. The Federal Government provided \$3 million for the upgrading of Hobart Airport. Mr Hawke announced 1 December as the date for the next Federal election.



Carolyn Hurd, Miss Tasmania 1985

November

Hobart experienced 28 millimetres of rain in an hour causing thousands of dollars damage to low lying areas in and around Hobart. Following objections by professional planners and architects in Hobart to the design, size and appearance of the proposed \$50 million international hotel, Premier Gray requested that the architects who designed the hotel develop an alternative design to 'address public concern'.

December

The Launceston and St Leonards Councils amalgamate and be replaced by an administrator. On Christmas Eve, the Senate election was declared with Senators Aulich, Townley, Coates, Devlin, Archer and Watson being returned and Senator Sanders to take his seat from July 1985. The Liberal Party retained all 5 House of Representatives seats. The Launceston International Velodrome, costing \$6 million was officially opened. A crewman went missing off *Yahoo II* and was presumed drowned whilst competing in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. It was the first time in the 40 year history of the race that a life had been lost other than by natural causes. Heavy seas caused a record number of retirements. Line honours went to *Lion New Zealand* and the winner on handicap was *Indian Pacific*.

JANUARY 1985

12 World Rowing Championships
Tasmania won the right to host the world open and lightweight rowing championships at Lake Barrington in October 1990.

14 State Industrial Commission
The full-bench of the new State Industrial Commission sat for the first time.

Baldock not to Coach St. Kilda
State Labor back-bencher, Mr Darrel Baldock, dropped plans to coach VFL club St. Kilda in the 1985 season.

17 Bank Robbed
The East Devonport branch of the LBS Statewide Bank was held up and robbed of more than \$9 000.

23 Batt Announces Return to State Politics
Former Deputy-Premier, Mr Neil Batt, announced his return to State politics.

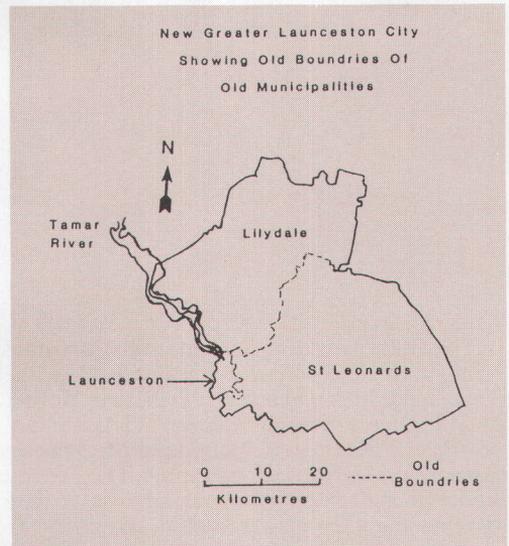


24 Cascade Gains Control of Four Seasons
Cascade Brewery Co. Ltd gained control of the Tasmanian Four Seasons accommodation chain.

JANUARY STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	10.2
Retail Sales (\$m)	106.7
Value of Building Approvals (\$m)	21.3

30 Launceston Amalgamation
State Government announced that it would legislate to amalgamate the municipalities of St Leonards and Lilydale with the City of Launceston to create a new greater Launceston City of over 60 000 people—the largest local government area in Tasmania in terms of population.



31 Writ Against Thermal Power Station
The Northern Midlands Environmental Protection Committee issued a Supreme Court writ on the Hydro-Electricity Commission in an effort to hinder survey work on the proposed coal-fired thermal power station at Conara.

Company Merger

Two of Tasmania's largest firms, Webster Limited and Holyman's, Monds and Affleck, announced an agreement to merge.

Test-Tube Triplets

A Hobart woman gave birth to Tasmania's first test-tube triplets, believed to be only the fourth set of triplets born in Australia under the in-vitro fertilisation program.

Federal Government Rejects Plea to Keep Mt Lyell Afloat

The Federal Government rejected an 11th hour plea from the State Government for a \$5 million injection to keep the Mt Lyell copper mine from closing down at the end of 1985.

FEBRUARY

1 MX Missile Tests

Tasmanian anti-nuclear activists condemned the Federal Government's decision to allow United States' MX test missiles to be targeted off Tasmania's coast.

2 AIDS

An action committee was formed by homosexuals in Hobart to monitor the effects of the AIDS virus.

3 'Macbyrne' wins Hobart Cup

The \$55 000 Benson and Hedges Hobart Cup was won by 'Macbyrne'.



4 MX Missile Tests

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, withdrew Australia's support for the United States' MX nuclear test.

21 Municipal Rationalisation

Premier Gray committed State Government to further municipal rationalisation.

New Sports Complexes

Federal Government announced international sports complexes for Tasmania: \$2 million hockey centre for Hobart and a \$1.2 million netball centre for Launceston.

FEBRUARY STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	9.2
Retail Sales (\$m)	99.9
Value of Building Approvals (\$m)	26.9

22 Woodchipping Environmental Impact Statement

The draft environmental impact statement into the future of the woodchip industry was released.

23 Lost Poppies

A truck lost a load of crushed opium poppy heads between Hamilton and Latrobe.

25 Small Hydro-Electric Schemes

Premier Gray hinted at development of small hydro-electric power schemes in preference to coal-fired thermal station on environmental grounds.

Woodchipping Environmental Impact Statement

Conservationists criticised deficiencies in woodchipping environmental impact statement.

26 RSI

State Government established advisory committee to cut Repetitive Strain Injury in Public Service which costs it \$12 000 per week.

38 Hour Week for Retail Motor Employees

2 000 Tasmanian retail motor employees won 38 hour week: Australian first for this industry.

Floor Collapses

Hobart Technical College Floor collapses injuring two.

Hobart Council Split

Hobart City Council Alderman Hurburgh split Council. He alleged some aldermen unnecessarily stalled \$20 million worth of projects.

Redevelopment of Launceston Community College

Launceston Community College plan for \$15.4 million redevelopment unveiled.

27 'Scruples' wins Launceston Cup

Six year old gelding 'Scruples' won \$45 000 Launceston Cup.

Bingo Centre Opens

Tasmania's first Bingo Centre opened in Hobart.

28 Credit Protection

Uniform national credit protection laws on contracts under \$20 000 began in all States except Tasmania where the State Government said it would 'wait and see' before legislating.

Launceston's Southern Outlet Opened

Stage 1 of Launceston's southern outlet (7.4 km costing \$20 million) was opened. The ceremony was boycotted by four St Leonards councillors protesting against northern council amalgamation.

MARCH

2 Confidential Documents Found at Tip
Confidential State Government documents revealing family, financial and medical details of individuals were found strewn across the Exeter tip.

5 Opening of Devonport Bike Track
Devonport's \$186 000 bikeway and walking track from the city centre to olympic pool opened.

7 Redevelopment of Wynyard Airport
\$6 million upgrading of Wynyard Airport agreed to with joint funding by State and Commonwealth Governments.

10 Francevic Wins at Symmons Plains
New Zealander Robbie Francevic won the third round of the Australian Touring Car Championship at Symmons Plains raceway.

Track Official Killed at Symmons Plains

A woman track official was killed and three others injured when a car crashed into a marshals box at Symmons Plains raceway.

11 Mersey General Hospital Redevelopment
Plans for the \$10 million redevelopment of the Mersey General Hospital at Latrobe were unveiled by the Minister for Health, Mr John Cleary.

13 Australian Newsprint Mills Development
Australian Newsprint Mills unveiled a \$21 million plan to develop the former APM forest concession in the Huon.

MARCH STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.9
Retail Sales (\$m)	106.7
Value of building approvals (\$m)	29.2
Consumer Price Index (% increase, Mar qtr)	1.6
Tasmania's Estimated Resident Population	440 800

OBITUARIES

1. Prominent horticulturist, Mr Frank Walker died at the age of 70.
2. Mr Reginald Barker, former general manager of Electrolytic Zinc Company's Risdon Plant, died at the age of 58.

Racing Industry Boost

The State Government announced that \$8 million will be injected into the racing industry over the next six years.

14 'Intrigue' Selected in Admiral's Cup Team

Tasmanian yacht 'Intrigue', skippered by Don Calvert, was selected in Australia's Admiral's Cup Team.

15 Municipal Amalgamation

Hobart's metropolitan councils challenged the State Government's handling of the municipal amalgamation issue by lobbying members of the Legislative Council to block the controversial legislation.

16 Woods' World Record

Victorian cyclist, Dean Woods, broke the world 4 000 metre record with a time of 4.34.65 at the Launceston Velodrome.

19 Trustee Banks Bill

State legislation gave Tasmania's two trustee banks more freedom to compete fully against trading and foreign banks.

22 AIDS Case

Health authorities confirmed Tasmania's first AIDS case.

23 'Abel Tasman'

The Tasmanian Government formally took possession of the new Bass Strait ferry 'Abel Tasman' (formerly 'Nils Holgersson') at a handing over ceremony in West Germany.

24 Last 'Drive-ins' Close

Tasmania's two remaining drive-in cinemas at Elwick and Mowbray closed.

25 Smithton-Zeehan Road Link

The State Government revealed details of a \$22 million West Coast road link between Smithton and Zeehan.

Hobart's New International Hotel

The revised design for Hobart's controversial hotel unveiled.

APRIL

2 The Mayor of Launceston Resigns
 The Mayor of Launceston, Alderman Don Wing MLC, resigned because he was excluded from voting on the municipal amalgamation issue in the Legislative Council because it was ruled that he had a pecuniary interest in this matter.

State's Tax Share Cut

Premier Gray rejected outright the Commonwealth's proposed \$40 million cut in Tasmania's share of Commonwealth taxes.

OBITUARY

Prominent Hobart businessman, Mr John Cox, died at the age of 83. Mr Cox was a director of the printing company, Cox Kay Pty Ltd which was established by his grandfather in the 1890s.

10 Dairy Farmers in Protest
 Hundreds of angry dairy farmers and their supporters packed the Burnie Town Hall to hear the Federal Minister for Primary Industry, Mr John Kerin, explain his controversial plan to restructure the dairy industry. The Minister was greeted by jeering and heckling throughout the meeting.

Municipal Amalgamation Legislation Passed

The controversial Northern municipal amalgamation legislation was passed by the Legislative Council.

15 Shopping Centre Approved
 A \$23 million shopping centre for Glenorchy was given Council approval.

16 US Warship Visits Hobart
 The nuclear powered cruiser 'USS Texas' dropped anchor in the Derwent River.

APRIL STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.4
Retail Sales (\$m)	108.7
Value of building approvals (\$m)	24.9

19 Forest Rally
 Tasmania's first forest rally attracted 1 200 people to Hobart's Franklin Square. After a lunchtime march through the City's streets the protestors gathered to call for the preservation of Tasmania's forest heritage.

24 Devereux Withdraws
 ALP State President, Mr John Devereux, withdrew from the Party's endorsed Franklin lineup.

28 Oceanographic Vessel Arrives
 The new \$12 million oceanographic research vessel, 'Franklin', arrived in Hobart for work with the CSIRO's oceanographic section.

29 Boon Off To England
 Launceston's David Boon left for England on the four month Ashes Tour. He was one of 17 Australians named in the Cricket Team.

WOODCHIP DISPUTE

April witnessed a protracted woodchipping industry dispute. The Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen's Association (FEDFA) picketed the Triabunna Tasmanian Pulp and Forest Holdings' woodchip mill in protest at the underpayment of log fallers by a contractor. The log fallers disassociated themselves from the actions of the FEDFA. A blockade prevented the supply of logs to the mill which was forced to stand down 54 production employees. As the dispute widened a further 56 production staff were stood down at Australian Pulp and Paper Mill's Longreach plant. Police were called to Triabunna to prevent a full-scale confrontation between pickets and truck drivers. Another 24 maintenance staff at Triabunna were stood down.

The 24-day strike ended on 20 April after FEDFA talks with the ACTU. The dispute had cost \$2 million and had forced 800 other workers to be stood down.

30 Archbishop of Canterbury Visits Hobart
 The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, visited Hobart.

MAY

1 CSIRO Marine Laboratories Opened
Hobart's new \$13 million CSIRO Marine Laboratories were officially opened by the Minister for Science, Mr Barry Jones.



Building Worker's Strike

More than 3 000 building and construction workers went on strike for the day to warn the State Government that it did not approve of Queensland Premier Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen's anti-union stand.

5 Aboriginal Remains Cremated
More than 300 Tasmanian Aboriginals attended the cremation of skeletal remains of their ancestors at Oyster Cove.

14 Mini-Budget
Federal grants and benefits to Tasmania were slashed by \$12.6 million in a mini-Budget; the biggest cut involved the axing of the 10% Commonwealth air fare subsidy for travel between Tasmania and Melbourne.

17 Aboriginal Protest
100 chanting and placard-waving Aboriginals invaded the Premier's Department and Launceston public buildings demanding land rights.

21 Renison Strike
150 men were stood down at the Renison tin mine in a row over the proposed use of contract labour.

MAY STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.6
Retail Sales (\$m)	116.6
Value of building approvals (\$m)	35.2

'Abel Tasman' Dispute

May news was dominated by the bizarre happenings surrounding the new Bass Strait ferry, 'Abel Tasman'. A brief description of these happenings and the events which led up to them, in chronological order, follows:

1984:

June

Federal Government agrees to fund replacement for Bass Strait ferry, 'Empress of Australia'.

July

'Nils Holgersson' named as replacement ship.

Aug.

State Government announces that it will run ship by itself.

Sept.

Government sets March 1985 as starting date for service provisional on successful negotiations with unions.

Oct.

Fare structure announced.

Dec.

Ship renamed 'Abel Tasman'; ANL announces that 'Empress of Australia' up for sale next March.

1985:

Feb.

Bad weather in West Germany holds up refitting work on 'Abel Tasman'; ANL agrees to 'Empress of Australia' extension until May.

March

Government announces promotional tour. Resolution of dispute with radio operators clears way for start of voyage from West Germany.

April

Ship laid up in West Germany and crew sacked.

May

Conditions on board the ship described as 'close to anarchy' by the ship's master, Captain James. Tasmanian Police were sent to West Germany but were powerless to evict stewards. Tasmanian Government sought formal delegation of Commonwealth powers for the Tasmanian Police in dealing with the crisis. The Tasmanian Government requested that the 'Empress of Australia' service continue until the end of June 1985 because it was clear that the 'Abel Tasman' would not be in Australia in time to continue the service. The Commonwealth Government repeatedly rejected the request.

It was revealed that the State Government was seeking private ownership of the ship. On 19 May the 'Abel Tasman' finally left West Germany for Tasmania.

JUNE

2 Last Voyage of 'Empress of Australia'

The Bass Strait ferry, 'Empress of Australia' made its farewell voyage from Devonport. During its 13 year service it had made 4 600 trips to Tasmania, and carried more than 1.6 million passengers.

6 Renison Dispute Ends

A 16 day-old dispute at the Renison tin mine ended.

11 Tasminex Investigation

National Companies and Securities Commission announced an investigation into Tasmania's former boom nickel company, Tasminex N.L. after substantial changes in the Company's shareholding.

12 Tasmanian Tiger Skeleton Found

The first complete skeleton of a thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) was found in a cave at Lune River.

State Mini-Budget

A State Mini-Budget to save \$8.5 million in 1985-86 was brought down by Premier Gray. The cuts were mainly aimed at the State Public Service.

'Abel Tasman' Promotion Scrapped

State Cabinet scrapped the controversial promotional cruise by the 'Abel Tasman' because of disruptions it would cause to the Bass Strait ferry service.

17 E.Z. to Modernise Plant

The Electrolytic Zinc company announced that it will spend \$80 million modernising its Risdon plant to increase productivity.

19 Salmon Die

10 000 Atlantic Salmon died at the Department of Sea Fisheries Laboratories in Taroona. Two Tanks, in which the salmon were growing were drained of water.

Insurance Frauds

ALP State Opposition called for an inquiry into alleged frauds with insurance claims involving the Tasmanian Government Insurance Office.

26 Stewards Sacked

The State Government sacked two black-listed stewards from the 'Abel Tasman' for the second time within a week.

28 HEC West Coast Workforce Cuts

The HEC announced that it will cut its West Coast workforce by 340 over the next 12 months on completion of the 192 megawatt Lower Pieman power scheme.

30 Tamar Pub Closes

One of Launceston's original waterfront pubs, The Tamar, opened since 1838, closed its doors for the last time.

JUNE STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	9.5
Retail Sales (\$m)	105.7
Value of building approvals (\$m)	56.4
Consumer Price Index (% increase June qtr)	2.3
Tasmania's Estimated Resident Population	442 100



JULY

5 Radio Telescope

The University of Tasmania appealed to the Planning Appeals Board against the Clarence Council's decision to refuse the installation of a radio-telescope on the University's farm at Richmond.

8 Car Repairs Slammed

The State Labor Opposition Spokesman on legal matters, Mr Peter Patmore, claimed that some sections of the vehicle repair industry were encouraging shoddy and dangerous workmanship. He asked that the State Government regulate Tasmania's motor vehicle repair industry to counter unscrupulous dealings by insurance assessors and repairers.

9 Police Commissioner Black Bans ABC

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Max Robinson, black banned the ABC from any police co-operation. The ban followed a report by the 'National' on what it claimed to be fraudulent practices involving the police and the tow truck and vehicle repair industry.

Repatriation Hospital

The Federal Government announced that it will hand over Hobart's Repatriation Hospital to the State after it had been substantially upgraded.

11 Tertiary Fee Proposal Condemned

A Federal Government proposal to introduce fees for tertiary education was condemned by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania.

New ASIO Head

A Tasmanian-born aeronautical engineer, Mr Alan Wrigley, was appointed Head of ASIO.

JULY STATISTICS—TASMANIA

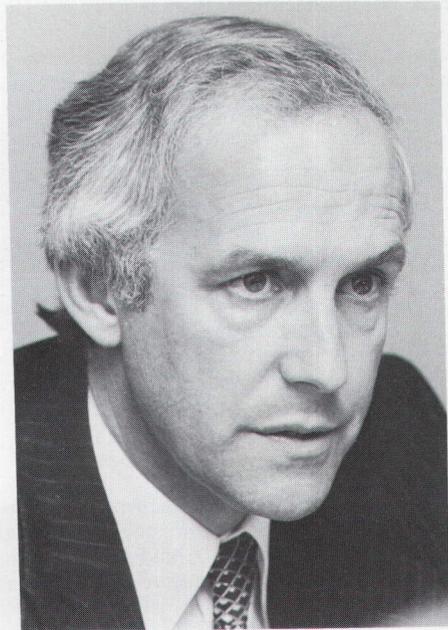
Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.5
Retail Sales (\$m)	109.4
Value of building approvals (\$m)	33.8

15 Queenstown Warden Resigns

Queenstown's Warden, Mr Bruce Dilger, resigned on principle after Council refused to change the name of the new Municipality, which will be amalgamated with Gormanston Municipality, to Lyell. After his resignation, there was turmoil as no other Councillor would accept nomination as Warden. He reluctantly resumed as Warden on 22 July.

18 Lowe to Contest Legislative Council Seat

Former State Labor Premier, Mr Doug Lowe, announced he would quit the House of Assembly and contest the Legislative Council seat of Buckingham in May 1986.



23 AIDS

The Minister for Health, Mr John Cleary, confirmed that six people, including a school-age child, in Tasmania were found to have AIDS antibodies in their blood.

30 Public Service Unions Slam State Cuts

A meeting in Hobart of 1 000 State Public Servants unanimously rejected the Tasmanian Government's implementation of cuts to public sector employment.

AUGUST

1 Police Chief in News

Tasmania's Police Commissioner, Mr Max Robinson was criticised by the Ombudsman for his Department's refusal to allow the Animal Liberation group to hold a button day because they were considered to be a political lobby group.

Mr Robinson publicly supported controversial moves to introduce phone-tapping as a major strengthening of criminal intelligence gathering.

He also lifted his three-week black ban on the ABC after he was satisfied that there was no truth in 'kick-back' allegations made on the ABC's 'National'.

2 Allied Fisheries Raided

Federal and State Police raided homes and offices in Launceston as part of the National Crimes Authority's investigation into the Allied Fisheries group, one of the Country's largest fishing organisations.

6 Devonport's New Jet Service

Ansett Airlines announced new jet services through Devonport Airport. Ansett's wholly-owned subsidiary, Air New South Wales, would commence direct Fokker F28 flights to Melbourne and Sydney from 17 August.

11 Admiral's Cup

Australia finished fourth overall in the 1985 Admiral's Cup. Tasmania's 'Intrigue', the most successful of Australia's yachts, finished tenth overall on the individual boats' point score.

12 Launceston's Telephones Collapse

The Central Launceston telephone system collapsed for the second time in four days, causing community condemnation of Telecom for the service it provides to the City.

Woodchip Draft Environmental Impact Study

A Federal report on the Tasmanian woodchip draft environmental impact study condemned the study as inadequate and called for more environmental conditions to be placed on the State's woodchip export licences.

13 105 Year Old's Birthday

One of Tasmania's oldest citizens, Mrs Lucie Harper, of Burnie, celebrated her 105th birthday.

15 Railway Plan

Premier Robin Gray described the Commonwealth railways plan for a \$60 million funding over the next three years as a massive confidence trick as \$53 million of this is the forecast losses.

19 Scallop Fishermen in Battle

Victorian and Tasmanian scallop fishermen disputed rights to rich scallop beds, recently found off Tasmania's north-east coast. A few days later the beds were closed indefinitely by the Federal Minister for Primary Industry, Mr John Kerin.

21 Federal Budget

Only three minor new civil works projects, worth \$520 000 were approved for Tasmania in the Federal Budget.

AUGUST STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.6
Retail Sales (\$m)	110.6
Value of building approvals (\$m)	28.8

Electrona Silicon Plant

August news highlighted the controversial development of a \$34 million silicon metal plant at Electrona. The State Government and the Kingborough Council were on a collision course as the Kingborough Council voted to re-zone the area which forced the Government in 1986 to introduce legislation overriding the Council's decision. The future of the plant seemed unsure until May 1986.

SEPTEMBER

2 Boon Appointed Tasmanian Captain
Australian Test Batsman, David Boon was appointed Tasmanian cricket captain.

3 Bonney Announces Retirement
Mr Ray Bonney, Liberal, Braddon, announced that he would not stand for re-election.

4 Hodgman Withdraws from Deputy-Leadership
Mr Michael Hodgman, Federal Member for Denison, withdrew his nomination as deputy-leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party.

Bad Petrol

Poor quality petrol in Tasmania caused not only discontent amongst motorists but three accidents as well. The petrol was originally destined for the American market and was of lower volatility than petrol normally sold during winter in Australia.

7 Tasmania Day Announced
The State Government declared that 24 November will be known as Tasmania Day.

SEPTEMBER STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	9.9
Retail Sales (\$m)	106.6
Value of building approvals (\$m)	22.4
Consumer Price Index (% increase Sept. qtr)	2.2
Estimated Resident Population	443 000

16 Derwent Park Abattoir Closes
Tasmania's largest meat exporter, Richardson's Meat Industries, closed its Derwent Park abattoir. However, most of the 75 meatworkers were transferred to the company's Bridgewater plant.

Launceston City Manager Resigns
Launceston City Manager, Mr Jim Yaxley, resigned just days before the new city-elect, with Mr Don Wing as Mayor, took office.

17 Tasmanians Lose Portfolios
Senator Peter Rae and Mr Michael Hodgman were dropped from Mr Howard's Opposition front-bench. Senator Brian Archer became the Opposition's new spokesman for science and matters pertaining to the Special Minister of State.

Launceston's Big Bill
The Launceston City Council faced a million dollar plus bill for severance pay after the amalgamation of some northern municipalities.

18 State Budget
The State Budget gave pay-roll tax relief, assistance to some farmers and promised 2000 more jobs.

Australian Football Finals

- TANFL — Glenorchy defeated Clarence
- NTFA — Launceston defeated North Launceston
- NWFL — Penguin defeated Smithton

25 Statewide Football
The anxiously awaited Evers' Report into Tasmanian football recommended a 10-team, State-wide competition.

OCTOBER

2 Redundancy Payouts

State Government announced it was seeking legal advice on the redundancy payout to two former Council Clerks, alleged to total more than \$600 000. (The State Government later backed down.) The total cost of the redundancy scheme, after the amalgamation of St Leonards and Lilydale Municipalities with the City of Launceston, was in excess of \$4 million.

Comalco Aluminium Slump

The Comalco aluminium smelter at Bell Bay announced that it would cut its workforce by 130 over the next twelve months to enable it to remain competitive in a depressed world aluminium market.

4 Police Upset at ABC

The Tasmanian Police Association claimed that allegations of police corruption on the ABC 'National' had been based on unsubstantiated, emotive, non-factual reporting and innuendo.

OBITUARY

Mr Arthur Ambrose, MBE, former Managing Director of the Ambroses retail chain died in Smithton at the age of 85.

OCTOBER STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	9.0
Retail Sales (\$m)	118.4
Value of building approvals (\$m)	32.8

18 Gianetta Ivey, Miss Tasmania
Gianetta Ivey, 22, of Devonport was crowned Miss Tasmania.



22 Robson in Strife

Mr Neil Robson, Bass Liberal, who had been questioned earlier in the month about a brief-case which had been sent from Switzerland in a diplomatic bag, found himself in the news again about allegations of producing a gun (a starting pistol) in the Premier's suite and pointing it at a journalist from the 'Examiner' newspaper.

23 Statewide Football Competition Surprise

The inclusion of East Launceston in the State-wide football Competition and not Launceston was a surprise to football followers.

29 Woodchip Export Licences

The Federal Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment, Mr Barry Cohen, formally gave his advice on the renewal of export licences. In his proposal, the Tasmanian Woodchip industry may not have to pay export royalties to the Commonwealth, be locked out of some forest areas and be made more publicly accountable. The State Government and Industry leaders were critical of these moves.

30 Hodgman Seeks Endorsement

Mr Peter Hodgman, MLC, announced that he would be seeking Liberal endorsement to contest a House of Assembly seat in Franklin.

NOVEMBER

3 Rae to Contest State Election
Senator Peter Rae announced that he would resign from the Federal Parliament to contest Bass for the Liberal Party at the 1986 State Election.

16 Haros Dumped
The State Liberal Party dumped Mr Gabriel Haros MHA, from its Denison team at the 1986 State Election. Mr Haros decided to stand as an independent Liberal.

24 Tasmania Day — Calvert Tasmanian of the Year
Mr Don Calvert, Skipper of Admiral's Cup contender 'Intrigue', was named Tasmanian of the Year.

OBITUARY

Mr Horace Strutt, one of Tasmania's most respected members of the racing fraternity, and past speaker of the Tasmanian House of Assembly died at the age of 81.

8 Woodchip Debate
The Australian Democrats sought to pressure the Federal Government into maintaining a hard line in the issuing of woodchip export licences. The Federal Government refused to strike a deal with the Democrats. Meanwhile in Hobart, hundreds of log hauliers mounted a massive protest at proposed restrictions on the State's timber resources. This protest coincided with a visit to Hobart by the Federal Minister for the Environment, Mr Barry Cohen.

14 Milk Dumped
200 000 litres of milk were emptied into paddocks as the result of a strike at United Milk Tasmania Ltd's East Devonport factory.



NOVEMBER STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	8.7
Retail Sales (\$m)	121.8
Value of building approvals (\$m)	27.6

26 Submarine Contracts
Tasmania seemed assured of winning a share of the \$2.5 billion contract to build six new submarines for the Royal Australian Navy.

27 Doctors' Threat
Doctors in Tasmanian public hospitals threatened to resign unless the State Government exempted them from impending legislation which would bring them under the direct control of the Department of Health Services.

DECEMBER

1 LGH Staff Shortage

Extreme staff shortages at the Launceston General Hospital created stress for staff and patients. The shortages prevented the admission of patients scheduled for elective surgery.

7 Launceston Fire

Arsonists were believed to be responsible for a fire which gutted the historic Pilgrim Uniting Church hall in Launceston.



10 Storms in North East

Heavy rain was dumped over Tasmania, culminating in one of the wettest weeks ever recorded in the State. The North East was soaked, Pyengana was hit by the worst thunderstorms experienced in 100 years. Some farmers welcomed the rain although some minor flooding was reported.

11 Nut Chairlift

State Cabinet approved the construction of a chairlift on the Nut at Stanley.

13 New World Record Price for Wool

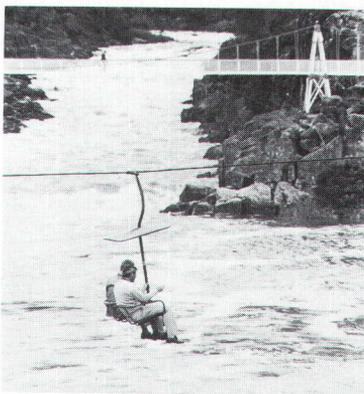
A Japanese buyer paid a record 17 500 cents/kilogram for a 90 kg bale of super-fine wool from the Kelvin Grove Stud at Nile.

14 Influenza Germ

Launceston doctors treated 178 children, believed to have come into contact with a deadly influenza germ which had calimed the life of a three-year-old girl.

17 First Qantas Flight

Qantas joined the Tasmania-New Zealand link with its first flight from Auckland to Hobart.



South Esk River in flood

YACHTING RESULTS

Sydney-Hobart: Sydney maxi-yacht, 'Apollo', took line honours with the NSW yacht, 'Sagacious', the winner on handicap. The provisional winner on handicap, 'Drake's Prayer', was penalised after protest because of rule breaches at the start of the race.

Melbourne-Hobart: The Victorian yacht, 'Flying Colours', took line honours with the Tasmanian yacht, 'Solandra', the handicap winner.

Melbourne-Hobart: The Tasmanian yacht, 'Adam's Apple', took line honours with the 10-metre, Victorian yacht, 'Savage', the winner on handicap.

DECEMBER STATISTICS—TASMANIA

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force)	9.1
Retail Sales (\$m)	161.3
Value of building approvals (\$m)	20.1
Consumer Price Index (% increase, Dec. qtr)	2.0

1.11 REFERENCES

- BARRETT, W. R. *History of Tasmania to the Death of Lieutenant-Governor Collins in 1810* (H. T. Whiting, Hobart, 1936)
- BENNETT, S. & B. *Biographical Register of the Tasmanian Parliament 1851-1960* (Australian National University Press, Canberra, 1980)
- CLARK, C. I. *The Parliament of Tasmania, An Historical Sketch* (Government Printer, Hobart, 1947)
- CLARK, J. *The Aboriginal People of Tasmania*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, 1983
- COULTMAN SMITH, B. *Tales of Old Tasmania* (Rigby, Adelaide, 1976)
- FENTON, J. *A History of Tasmania, from its Discovery in 1642 to the Present Time* (J. Walch & Sons, Hobart 1884; reproduced by Melanie Publications, Hobart, 1978)
- FINKEL, G. *Tasmania, 1803-1900* (Thomas Nelson, Melbourne, 1976)
- GIBLIN, R. W. *The Early History of Tasmania, 1642-1804* (Methuen & Co., London, 1928)
- GOODRICK, J. *Life in Old Van Diemens Land* (Rigby, Sydney, 1977)
- GREEN, F. C. (ed.) *A Century of Responsible Government, 1856-1956* (Government Printer, Hobart, 1956)
- HARTWELL, R. M. *The Economic Development of Van Diemen's Land, 1820-1850* (Melbourne University Press, 1954)
- LEVY, M. C. I. *Governor George Arthur, A Colonial Benevolent Despot* (Georgian House, Melbourne, 1953)
- ROBSON, L. I. *A History of Tasmania, Vol 1.* (Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1983)
- TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT, J. REYNOLDS (ed.) *The Discovery of Tasmania, 1642, Selections from Doctor J. E. Heeres' Translation of Tasman's Journal Aug-Dec 1642*, Tasmanian Tercentenary Celebrations publication (Government Printer, Hobart, 1942)
- TAYLOR, H. G. *The Discovery of Tasmania* (Cat & Fiddle Press, Hobart, 1973)
- TOWNSLEY, W. A. *The Struggle for Self-Government in Tasmania, 1942-1856* (Government Printer, Hobart, 1951)
- TRIEBEL, L. A. and BATT, J. C. *The French Exploration of Australia, With Special Reference to Tasmania* (Government Printer, Hobart, 1957)
- TURNBULL, C. *Black War, The Extermination of the Tasmanian Aborigines* (Landsdowne Press, Melbourne, 1948)
- WALKER, J. B. *Early Tasmania, Papers Read Before the Royal Society of Tasmania During the Years 1888 to 1899* (Government Printer, Hobart, 1950)
- WEST, J. *The History of Tasmania Vols 1 and 2* (Henry Dowling, Launceston, 1852; reproduced by the Libraries Board of South Australia, 1966)
-