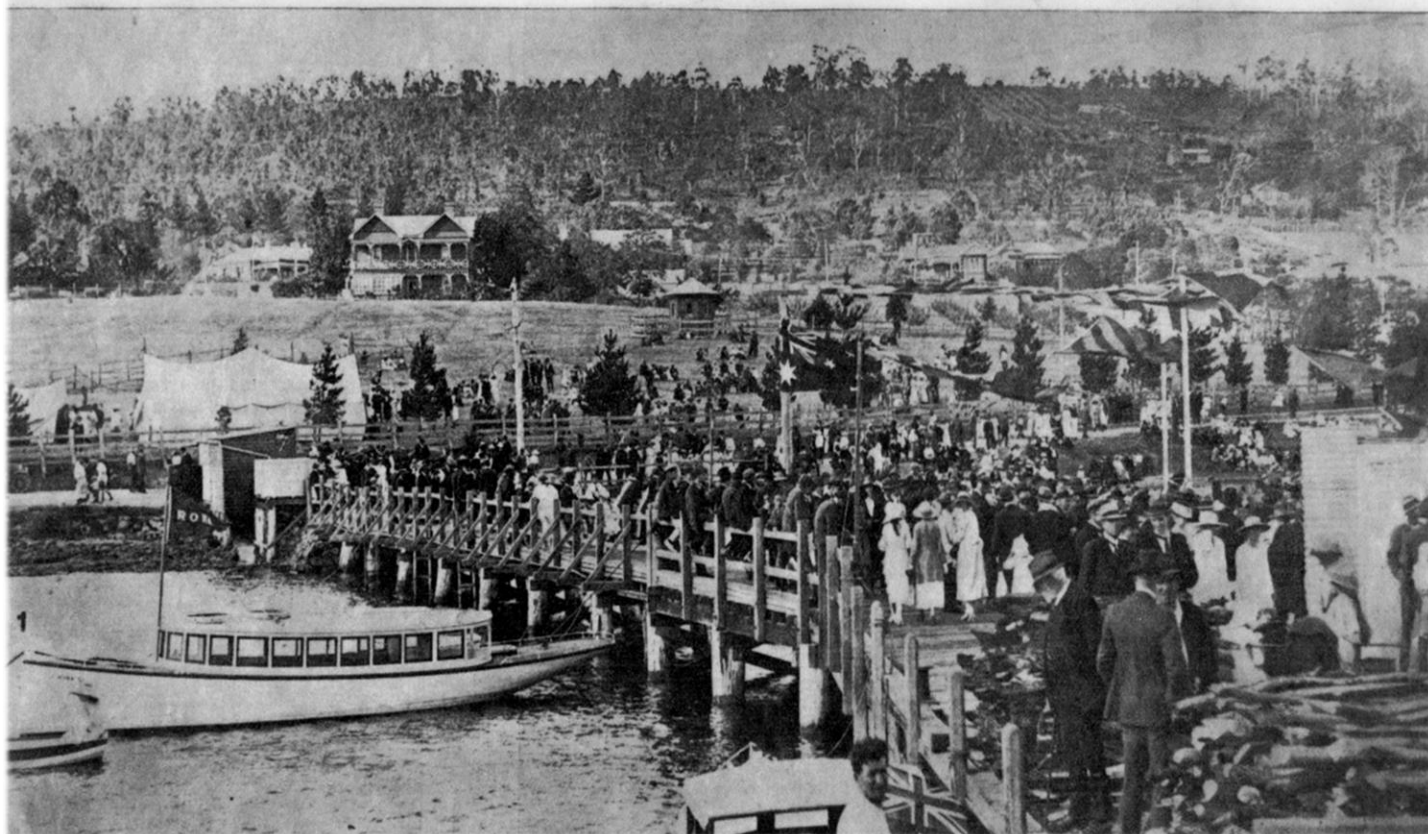


Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter No. 1/2021

Jan-Feb-Mar 2021

Lindisfarne Annual Regatta



Lindisfarne Regatta Crowds

26th February 1921

Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc. Committee

President: Penny O'Brien

Vice-President: to be advised

Secretary: Lyn Winters 6243 7261

Treasurer: Noeline Heaven 6243 9216

Archive Officer/Display Manager: Ann Curran

Committee: Geoffrey Cashion, Dorothy Cuthill, Don Maisch, Kathie Schramm, Philip Sweetingham and Alan Townsend

Fundraising Sub-Committee: Graham Burgess, Geoffrey Cashion and Noeline Heaven

Newsletter/Publishing Sub-Committee: Rebecca Johnson, Penny O'Brien and Reg Watson

Public Officer: Mr Ross Butler

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2021!

We began the year with a very pleasant afternoon meeting at the end of January, and we hope that this year meetings will not be cancelled as they were, by necessity, last year.

Our February meeting is our annual dinner to be held on February 24th at the Motor Yacht Club of Tasmania (M.Y.C.T.). This popular event was first held in 2011 and has gone from strength to strength.

Our March meeting will be the Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) and we encourage anyone who is interested to stand for the Committee. Subscriptions will be due at the AGM and remain at \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. We are waiving 2020 subs as we effectively had no meetings last year.

Despite not having the History Room we have managed to keep in contact with each other pretty well.

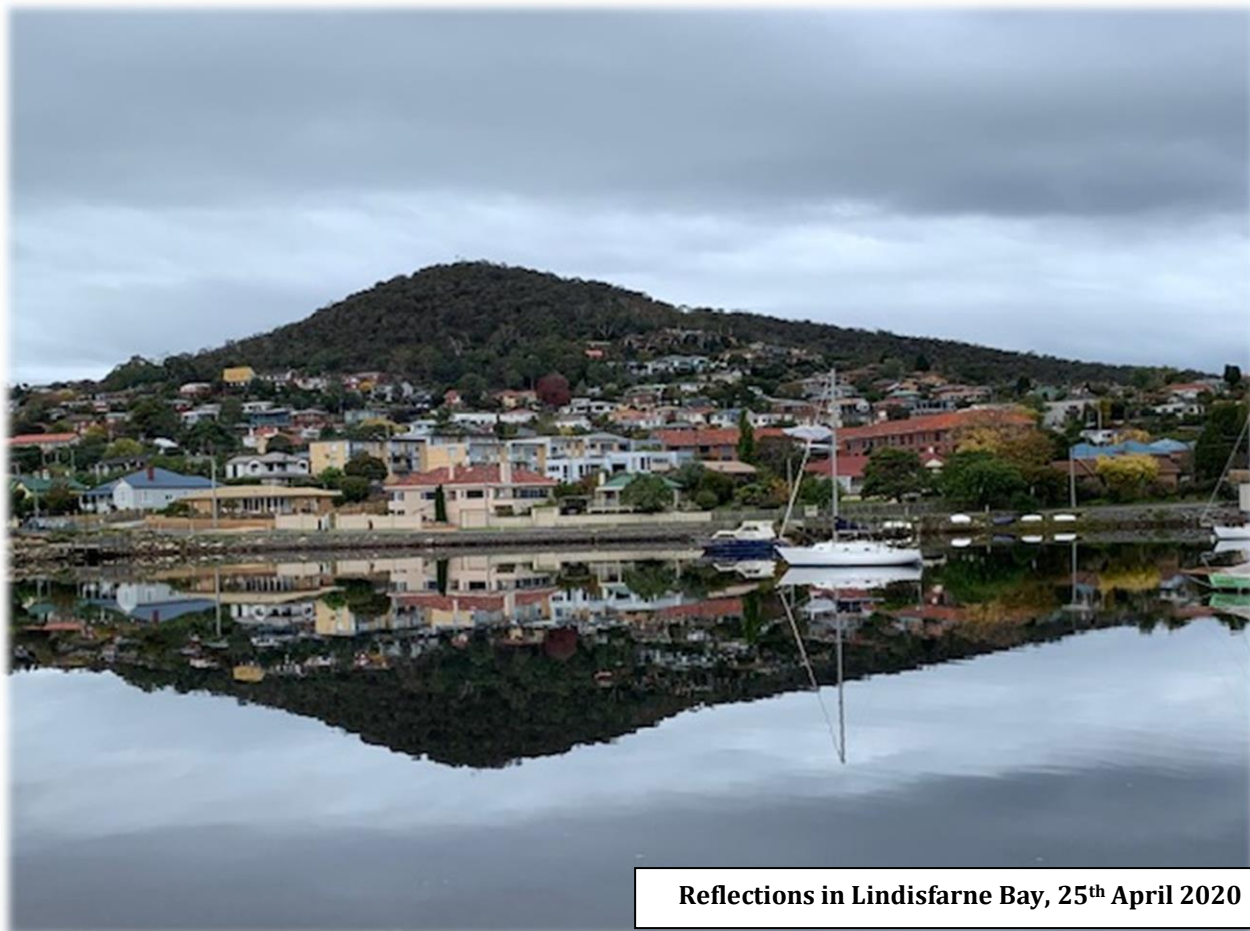
We keep our records at the Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre (L.C.A.C.) and we can arrange to meet you there if necessary. Getting back to a routine of monthly meetings will be so good and enable us to keep up the regular contact that is a large part of our Society.

Our 2020 calendar proved very popular – nearly 200 copies sold. We hope that if you have any old and interesting photos of Lindisfarne you will feel comfortable to share them with us. We don't need to have your originals of course, but it is always good to be able to add to our collection.

Some of you may have joined Alan Townsend, Clarence City Council Heritage Officer, on his informative walk around the village area.

Being on foot brings the opportunity to see so much more and we have so many beautiful homes still standing in the area.

We hope we will see you soon.



Reflections in Lindisfarne Bay, 25th April 2020

Society Meetings For 2021

Wednesday 24th February @ 6pm (Annual Society Dinner at MYCT)

Monday 29th March @ 2pm (AGM)

Friday 30th April @ 7.30pm

Monday 31st May @ 2pm

Friday 25th June @ 7.30pm

Monday 26th July @ 2pm

Friday 27th August @ 7.30pm

Monday 27th September @ 2pm

Friday 29th October @ 7.30pm

Monday 29th November @ 2pm

All meetings to be held at the **Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37a Lincoln St.**

Lindisfarne, unless stated otherwise.

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

REGATTA TIME

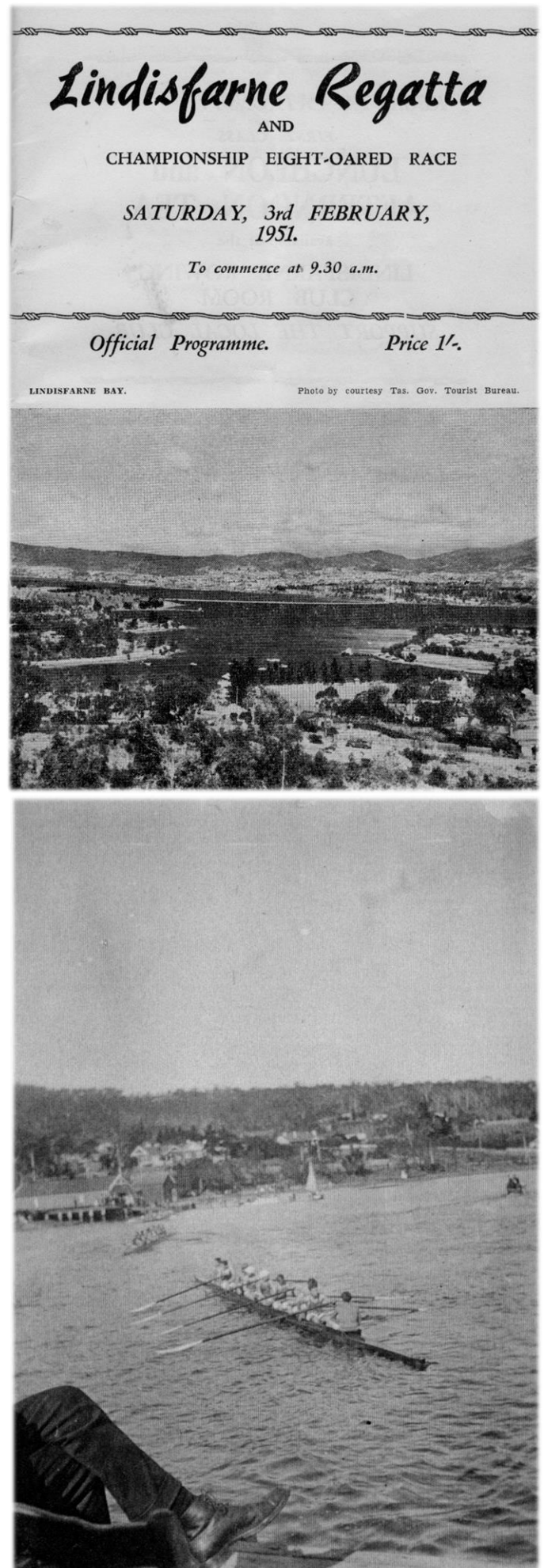
Were you aware Lindisfarne used to host its own Annual Regatta?

Seeing the Roulettes roaring above us in perfect symmetry this Regatta weekend sent thoughts back to the days when Lindisfarne had a very popular Regatta of its own. The Historical Society has a wonderful collection of pictures, and also several Lindisfarne Regatta Official Programmes from those days.

It seems the first ever Lindisfarne Regatta was held on Saturday 9th December 1905 in Lindisfarne Bay. The "Aquatic Carnival", as it was called at the time, was organised by the newly formed Lindisfarne Rowing Club to raise funds to build a rowing shed and slipway. It was attended by the Governor, Sir Gerald Strickland, and his wife, Lady Edeline, who arrived on board the harbour launch "Egeria". Also attending were the Mayor, Mr Crisp, other Hobart Parliamentarians, plus an estimated crowd of 500.

The Regatta became a big attraction, not just for locals, but for the many who crossed the Derwent to attend the annual event. Vessels of all kinds could be seen and ferries were kept busy bringing people across the river to attend this popular event which continued to be held until the early 1950's (our last programme is dated 1951) and attracted large numbers to Lindisfarne. Activities however were not limited to rowing events - swimming, diving, even chopping matches were held.

What a fun time it must have been for both locals and visitors alike!



LIVING IN LINDISFARNE WITH COVID-19

Reflections on an Unusual Time

2020 was a year like no other. So many times this has been said and how true those words are. When national attention in January 2020 was centred on the devastation wrought by the worst bushfires ever recorded in Australia's history, there was no thought that response and recovery efforts would soon take second place to the emergence of a novel coronavirus. We came to know this as COVID 19.

During the year, we had many new experiences: lockdown, self-isolation at home or mandatory quarantine in hotels for returning travellers, shop closures, cancelled events, social distancing, an emphasis on hand hygiene, the prospect of mask wearing, cashless payments, meeting our friends online via ZOOM platform, and so on. We learned a new language of COVID words, lockdown, social distancing and 'new normal', for example; we became familiar with new faces in daily COVID briefings on television, and armchair experts in epidemiology. We gained new respect for politicians and breathed sighs of relief that, in a crisis, they could put party politics aside and work cooperatively in a virtual national cabinet. We respected their acceptance of medical expertise and were reassured that their policy decisions were based on the best professional and relevant scientific knowledge available to them.

In the most restricted times, there were many things we missed. Our travel plans were abruptly halted; we could not visit family and friends; weddings and social events were cancelled or, like funerals, for example, numbers attending were

severely limited. But, we felt safe. As we watched infection and death rates rise alarmingly in so many countries overseas, affluent, developed ones included, we were grateful that, faced with adversity, Australians generally show a generosity of spirit and a willingness to comply for the common good.

So, how was life in Lindisfarne in 2020? These are some of my recollections:

- A spirit of kindness and generosity was evident. Esoteric and not easy to define, this was observable in patience, expressed understanding that our restrictions were necessary, smiles from passing walkers, more frequent phone calls just to say 'how are you', a feeling that we were indeed 'all in this together'.
- It is said that weight gain in 2020 was common: we had easy access to the pantry; gyms and pools, parks and playgrounds were closed. But in Lindisfarne we walked and walked as we had never been known to walk before. The sight of families, individuals, friends, dads pushing prams, kids on bikes, sometimes wobbly, dogs on leads, indicated willingness to embrace the changes we had to make and to look after ourselves as best we could. And, of course, going out to exercise in our neighbourhood was one of the few legitimate reasons to be away from our homes.
- When cafes were permitted to open, albeit for take away services only, our local ones did a sterling job. We took our

takeaway coffees to the park, enjoyed the fresh air and spoke to our friends across permitted social distances. If we were lucky there was space in the newly constructed 'gabezo' in Beltana Park, the 'gazebo' when the error in signage was corrected. For me, *Treats on Franklin* took the prize for the most attractive takeaway cups. Sporting bright floral patterns, these were too good to dispose of immediately: for me, they became planters for violas and pansies that brought smiles to faces when I entered a collection at the Hobart Horticultural Spring Flower Show.



- For quick and creative adaptation to changed circumstances, Motor Yacht Club of Tasmania, Lindisfarne, earned credit and commendation. Immediately after learning that lockdown meant that their dining room must close, staff met to

consider how they could manage this new challenge. Offering takeaway meals was their response. While sit-in dining was not possible, over 3000 meals were 'taken away', more than could have been served in the dining room. The meals were hearty, the pick-up service efficient, and the prices reasonable. A fine example of how working together and being willing to change could support a community in the most trying of circumstances.

- Like supermarkets everywhere, our local ones quickly installed hand sanitising machines, wipes for trolleys and baskets, floor signs to keep shoppers safely distanced. Some staff were assigned 'security' duties, not to keep the peace, but to ensure our behaviours promoted the safety of staff and customers alike.
- Restrictions on numbers at public gatherings meant that the ANZAC Day service in our local park was cancelled. The creative response of some residents

was poignant:
standing quietly outside their homes at dawn listening to a bugle played somewhere in the suburb; setting up tributes on footpaths and driveways.





- Residents who enjoyed gardening appreciated the opportunity to spend time outdoors tending their plants. Walking in the neighbourhood revealed attention to gardens, 'COVID projects' we might call them: new fences, garden beds, tree plantings. Those of us who still enjoy gardens and whose backyards have not been taken over by infill housing and concrete drives attested to the therapeutic and health benefits of gardening.
- In a rather whimsical way, many residents placed bears and soft toys in windows, visible to passers-by. Some residents changed their window displays from time to time to add interest and amusement for those who paused to admire. What did this bear placement ritual mean? Perhaps it was a distraction as we walked by, one

that entertained us and said 'we care and, yes, we are all doing our best to look after one another'. If nothing else, it was fun.



- We could not meet in groups so meetings, church services, sporting activities were cancelled, and numbers at funerals and weddings were restricted. We were not entirely isolated, however: we embraced new ways of getting together. Meeting our friends via ZOOM was not the same as face to face but mastering a new computer-based skill was an achievement, something to be proud of and to enjoy in these changed times.
- In a similar vein of learning and showing goodwill and adaptability, we accepted cashless payments. This was not without reluctance on the part of some but the cards came out, 'real' money stayed in our wallets, and we started a practice that may well continue as part of the 'new normal'.
- We could not see our grandchildren but, to a certain extent, we could follow their learning in ways not possible before COVID. We knew that learning at home was a challenge for many families when

parents needed to juggle their own 'working from home' while attending to their children's school activities. For grandparents, there was interest and pleasure in being asked to contribute to a project or review something completed on an online program we had never encountered. It was a time of learning for us all.

- Many people commented on the freedom they enjoyed during lockdown. We did not need a watch or a diary, except perhaps to remember the time of a ZOOM get together with friends and family or the online Church service. There was extra time to read, board games and jigsaws were brought out from the back of cupboards, and some people learned to cook for the first time.

There are so many ways in which we adapted, coped and even enjoyed the strange times of COVID-19. We looked forward to the future not knowing what that would be like. We called this the 'new normal'. One year later, our lives are back to 'normal' in so many respects and we are grateful that our efforts and acceptance of restrictions have kept us safe and in good health. We think carefully about how we communicate this good fortune to friends and family overseas whose lives have been 'turned upside down' and, in some instances, see little prospect of settling down 'any time soon'. We know, however, that life has not returned to the 'normal' we knew. Travelling overseas is not possible. We accept that plans to visit interstate may be changed in an

instant. The response to even a single case of COVID in any one of its variants is for State Governments to 'lockdown' hard. We might hear mid-flight that our borders are closed and we must isolate when we arrive home. Or, we might be fortunate enough to enjoy a visit to the Mainland and return home with no concerns. We must continue to use hand sanitisers and to observe social distancing, even when we feel the threat of infection here is low.

As we wait for vaccinations to roll out, we can enjoy life in Lindisfarne, its friendliness, fresh air and beautiful views from our homes, parks and walkways, its services and amenities. We can take our travel dollars to other parts of the state and perhaps discover new places or revisit old favourites. I hope that we will all support the vaccination program as it is rolled out. This can give us hope that we will remain well and exercise the choice to travel further afield, reconnecting with friends and families in other places. We could aim for our Lindisfarne community to achieve 100 percent vaccination of all eligible residents, capping a time when we rose to the challenge of confronting a global pandemic, embracing change and caring for one another.

By Jan Whelan

2 February 2021

Protecting yourself from coronavirus

Following this advice and practising hygienic respiratory etiquette can help slow the spread of COVID-19

- 1 Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- 2 Cover your cough and sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, then dispose of the tissue in a rubbish bin
- 3 If unwell, avoid contact with others (stay more than 1.5 metres from people)
- 4 Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces regularly
- 5 Stay home if you are feeling unwell

Practising good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene is the best defence against most viruses

Coronavirus is most likely spread from person-to-person through direct or close contact

For more information, visit www.health.tas.gov.au/coronavirus

Tasmanian Government

SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

Cough or sneeze into your arm

Use a tissue

Bin the tissue

Wash your hands

HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY

TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.

For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit health.gov.au

Australian Government

Advisory signs we are used to seeing everywhere nowadays!

HOBART TOWN FIRST SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

The annual Floral Tribute as organised by the Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association will be held once again Saturday 20th February from 11am at the Pioneer Memorial, Hunter Street.

The event dating back to the mid-70s was first organised by the then and first President, the late Richard Lord and has been held ever since. It is to commemorate the 1804 settlers who came with Colonel David Collins to Sullivan's Bay, also embracing those who arrived with Lieutenant John Bowen RN at Risdon Cove in 1803. All are invited to attend and if so desire, present a posy in memory of their ancestors.

A guest speaker will be in attendance besides dignitaries from various government bodies and representatives from the many historic societies. The Earl of Buckingham is the patron.

Inquiries:

President Reg Watson.

HTFSA reg@regwatson.com



REG WATSON



*Reg
Watson*

Reg Watson on Community Radio – 96.1FM

Rich & Colourful Tasmanian History

Reg's show is aired on Community Radio 96.1 FM once a month, on the third Saturday, from 3pm.

The programme consists of interesting historical snippets, interviews, book reviews, notices of what is going on around town in art and historic circles and great music.

Be sure to tune in!

Contact: regawatson@gmail.com.

ALSO: Don't miss Reg's history column in the 'Eastern Shore Star' monthly newspaper.

You can email the L.H.S. at:
lindisfarne.history@gmail.com

L.H.S. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Come along and have your say in the future of our Society.

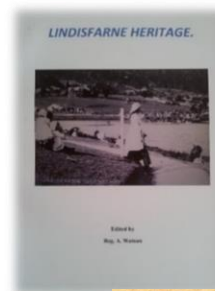
Are you interested in joining the Committee?

WHEN: Monday 29th March 2021 @ 2pm

WHERE: Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37a Lincoln Street, Lindisfarne.

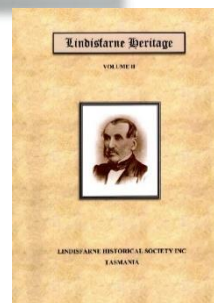
All are welcome to attend.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS



Lindisfarne Heritage, \$30

Special - \$25 ea



*Lindisfarne Heritage
Vol. II, \$35*

L.H.S Publications are available for purchase from the Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre Library, (opening times 10am – 2pm Mon-Fri, 10am – 12pm Sat), or at our meetings.



This Newsletter was kindly
printed by the office of

Julie Collins M.P.

Member for Franklin

