

Lindisfarne

# Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter No. 2/2022



Her Majesty,  
Queen Elizabeth II  
1926 - 2022

# Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc. Committee

**President:** Ross Butler (PH: 6243 6862)

**Vice-President:** Penny O'Brien (PH: 0439 379 640)

**Secretary:** Susan Gardner (PH: 0418 289 732)

**Treasurer:** Noeline Heaven (PH: 6243 9216)

**Archive Officer/Display Manager:** Ann Curran

**Committee:** Geoffrey Cashion, Dorothy Cuthill, Margaret Harrison, Bernadette Peck, Kathie Schramm,  
& Alan Townsend

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

**Facebook Administrator:** Fran Read

## **PRESIDENT'S MISCELLANEOUS MUSINGS**

As is often the case for human beings, my brain, particularly at idle or semi-conscious moments, turns to musing upon our delightful part of the earth we call Lindisfarne. Included in that for me are the bits with the subsidiary names of Rose Bay and Geilston Bay.

And, why do I include the latter two bits, but not Montagu Bay? For me, the fundamental associative factor of my childhood was Lindisfarne Primary School. It encompassed the three bits. Montagu Bay – the area and the families – was not us. It had its own school.

It wasn't until my late teens and friendship with Montagu Bay boys of the Lindisfarne Rowing Club and the Lindisfarne Under 17 and Under 19 Football teams, that my sense of affinity expanded a little wider into the Eastern Shore.

This widening of my mental ambit continued through the inclusion from 1947 of the Clarence Football Club into the Tasmanian Football League. My father (a lifelong resident of Lindisfarne from

1910 to 1992) was a member of Clarence's Committee of Management until 1954. Going with him to football games in Hobart's suburbs and New Norfolk made me conscious of the special things about Lindisfarne. These included, of course, being able to exit the front garden of 24 Esplanade, cross the gravel road, slide down the fairly steep grassy bank under the shade of gum trees leaning at a 45 degree angle over a delightful clean, sandy beach between sandstone outcrops with pools of baywater shimmering with reflections of the trees upper leafy twigs, to paddle, dig, play and learn to swim. Between late childhood and early teens to explore by bike on safe gravel roads with very few cars Rose Bay, Geilston Bay and Risdon Cove, and to swim off Goyen's jetty and the ferry jetty halfway along Ford Parade.

Could our recreational opportunities have been any happier? No, I don't think so!

**Ross Butler (President L.H.S.)**

Front Cover: Queen Elizabeth II in the Wattle Dress  
designed by Norman Hartnell for her 1954 Australian  
tour.

## L.H.S. 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

This year our 30<sup>th</sup> has passed rapidly. We marked the occasion in early May with a visit to Government House for Afternoon Tea. Members of the Society were graciously welcomed by the Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker and her husband, Professor Don Chalmers, and we thoroughly enjoyed our visit to this beautiful building.



**Photo: L.H.S. committee and members at Government House with the Governor (centre) and her husband Professor Chalmers (far left).**

We further celebrated our anniversary at our May meeting. Councillor Beth Warren, our Guest Speaker, gave a fascinating talk about her childhood and early years growing up in Lindisfarne. Dorothy Cuthill, a member since the foundation of the Society and an active Committee member for many years, was honoured with Life Membership. Congratulations Dorothy, and thank you for all you do!



**L.H.S. President Ross Butler with Dorothy Cuthill (centre) and Cr Beth Warren cutting the anniversary cake.**

## **PHILIP SWEETINGHAM**

**2 January 1944 – 6 June 2022**



We were shocked and saddened by the sudden death in early June of Philip Sweetingham. Philip had been an enthusiastic member of the L.H.S. for many years, and for most of those he was active on our committee, serving as President from 2015-2019.

Philip, who grew up in Lindisfarne, loved the area, its history and its people dearly. He was a great advocate of the History Room which enabled awareness of the Society to reach more people. His encouragement led to many new members, many of whom took on an active role in the Society. We will long remember Philip's impact on the Society.

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I was, like so many of you, deeply shocked by the news of Philip's passing. Despite residing interstate now, I still relish being a part of the L.H.S., albeit in my remote capacity.

It was Philip who, in 2015, warmly welcomed me into the L.H.S. fold. The Society had just opened the History Room on Wellington Road and I became a room volunteer. Every Friday morning for the next 2 years I would be "on Duty" there together with Philip. More than anything, it was our chats that I look forward to the most. Anything and everything would be the topic of discussion, not just Lindisfarne or newsletter related. Philip was an attentive listener and had a genuine interest in not only my welfare, but that also of my children and elderly grandmother who also lived in the area.

By morning's end Philip would have put the finishing touches to his "word" ("Word From The President" article for the newsletter) or some other correspondence which he would then hand to me to type up, profusely apologising for his handwriting. (Though thankfully I never had any trouble deciphering it!) We would also enjoy a tea, and if it wasn't graciously brought into us by the wonderful ladies next-door at the Unicorn Opp Shop, Philip would not hesitate to make us a cup himself. And that's when he'd take out his sandwiches! (I couldn't help but think that

briefcase of his was nothing more than an oversized lunchbox!)

Philip, thank you for your company, your counsel and constant encouragement. Our time spent together will be fondly remembered.

**Becky (R. Johnson)**



**L to R: Philip, his wife Rosalie, Helaina Johnson and Rebecca Johnson. ANZAC Park, Lindisfarne  
25 April 2016**



## **JOYCE JONES**

**3 June 1923 – 6 September 2022**

Joyce lived most of her life in Lindisfarne, and would have seen many changes over the years.

Active in the community Joyce was a much-loved stalwart of St Aidan's Church and the Little Shop. She was also a long-time volunteer with the Meals on Wheels program, retiring from this activity only in her 90's.



Joyce Jones

## **REMINISCENCES & PERSPECTIVES ON LINDISFARNE**

The Historical Society acknowledges the impact Joyce, and members of her family, have had on the history of Lindisfarne. We have been happy to share many events and memories over the years.

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Whether you have lived in the area a short period of time, or for a lifetime, as a child or an adult, or both. What are your memories of the sights, sounds or smells?

Would you like to share them with the readers of our newsletters? Perhaps just a sentence or two, or longer as you please.

Write when the spirit moves and convey your offering to a member of our committee to be ready when the opportunity for printing arises.

**Ross Butler**  
**(President L.H.S.)**



Happy Birthday and all Good Wishes to L.H.S. Committee Member Kathie Schramm as she celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Pictured L to R: Dorothy Cuthill,  
Noeline Heaven, Kathie Schramm  
and Penny O'Brien.

**THE SERVICE & LEGACY OF**  
**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN**

by

**Reg Watson**

With the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we witnessed history. For most readers of our newsletter all we have known is The Queen! Suddenly to realise that she is no longer with us comes as a bit of a shock even though of course she had been frail for some time.

It was Winston Churchill, her first ever Prime Minister, who said that she will be the founder of a second Elizabethan era. Having reigned for seventy years, the era has become exactly that. She was, when alive, the only Head of State world-wide, to have worn a Second World War uniform, serving in that conflict when only a girl. She was, naturally, of that previous generation to take the matters of obligation, service and duty to heart. She believed in those old, but honoured virtues.

During her reign there were many times of extraordinary stress, family scandals and disappointments. The year 1992 she described as *annus horribilus* – meaning a horrible year. Who of us cannot forget an elderly lady suffering alone when inspecting the aftermath of the burning of her beloved Windsor Castle on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1992. And then there was the funeral of her husband of 74 years, in April 2021, sitting alone because of necessity in Westminster Abbey. How sad and how cruel it was. She did it without complaint.

In her oath taken 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953 she pledged, “The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God.” And what did she promise in her Coronation Oath? Among many things, was to serve the people and “to maintain the Law of God and the true profession of the Gospel”. She took her oath seriously. As a dedicated Christian her title of “Defender of the Faith” meant to her more than just mere words. It was a promise.

The Queen also had a delightful sense of humour and surely it was needed in times of difficulty. This is in contrast to King Philip II of Spain, of the Armada fame, when as recorded by historians he laughed but twice in his life.



Her Majesty the Queen during her visit to Tasmania in February 1954.

Who can forget of recent times Her Majesty's afternoon tea with Paddington Bear or her entrance to the London Olympics with James Bond in 2012 descending to the arena from a helicopter.



The now indelible image of the Queen in a sketch with Paddington Bear which was shown during her Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June 2022.

Photo: *The Guardian*

When the term "Queen" was used world-wide, all knew to which Queen it was referred, even though there are other queens in the world. Her passing had not just affected her loyal subjects in Great Britain and the Commonwealth, but throughout the world.

I have never seen such pouring out of grief or seen such huge respect given to one person and may I suggest we will never see the same ever again.

Oh, how much more can be said of this amazing woman?

I must add her connection to Tasmania. She first arrived here when only a young lady. She had accepted awesome responsibilities in February 1954 by visiting her realm of Tasmania which included the opening of the Tasmanian Parliament on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of that month. She was accompanied by her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, who incidentally visited Lindisfarne in March 2000 to unveil a naval plaque in Anzac Park which can be seen today.

She and Philip arrived Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February 1954 on the royal yacht, *Gothic* and were received by a royal salute of 21 guns from the Queen's Domain. The itinerary for the royal couple was relentless. First was the unveiling of the sesquicentenary memorial on the historic site of Hunter Island. The memorial was erected to commemorate the foundation of Hobart under Col David Collins in February 1804. Names of all those who arrived with him are carried on its reverse side and later included those who arrived with Lt



The Queen opening Tasmanian Parliament, the Duke of Edinburgh beside her, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1954.



**The Queen, and the Duke of Edinburgh take the Royal Salute from the porch of the Legislative Council before the opening of Parliament.**

**Photo: Parliament of Tasmania.**

John Bowen RN at Risdon in September 1803. Then on the Monday it was the opening of Parliament followed by an investiture at Government House. Later it was a State-wide visit to many centres, flying from Tasmania on the 25<sup>th</sup> from Launceston airport for Melbourne. It was an exhausting programme and one wonders how a young lady endured it physically. She was an incredible woman.

Now her reign is over and it will be hard to follow. It will be challenge to fill her very successful shoes. We hope and give our blessing to the new king, Charles III.

So how can we sum up her reign? Well, it was so pleasing that she enjoyed her platinum jubilee not long before her passing. She proved to be the longest reigning British Monarch, just one of the many records she broke. Her service is a reminder that the monarchy has endured and the monarchy stands at the apex of our system of constitutional law. Her reign prompted a new awareness for our young people, looking for stability and endurance. In any sense of a word, her time as monarch was an outstanding success.

As a monarch who believed most strongly that a higher Monarch reigned over her and that she was but a servant of the Most High, she gave her life to that knowledge. May the Lord welcome her with those immortal words recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, "Well done thou good and faithful servant".



**The memorial on Hunter Island in recent days, which the Queen unveiled on her visit in 1954.**

**Photo: Reg Watson**



**QUEEN ELIZABETH II** dazzled the 2,000 guests as she entered the Hobart City Hall for the State Reception on Saturday night. Her sparkling diamonds and glittering jewel-embroidered gown brought gasps from the spectators. The stately Queen is pictured walking through a laneway of guests, followed by the Premier (Mr. Cosgrove), Dame Gertrude Cosgrove, and the Duke of Edinburgh.

## 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](mailto:regawatson@gmail.com).

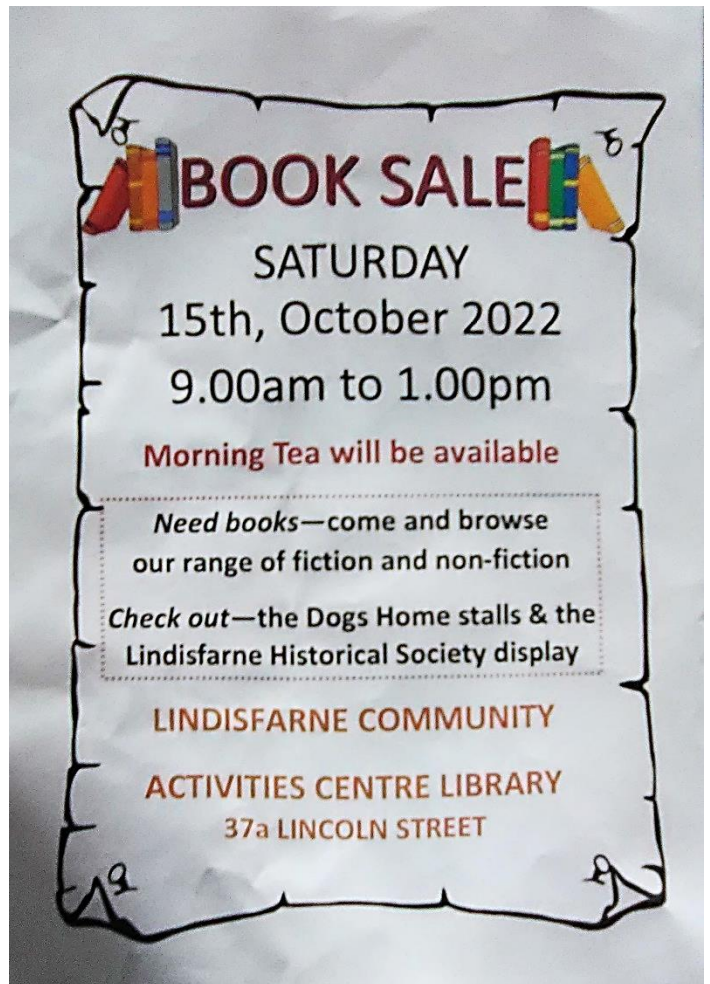
**ALSO:** Don't miss Reg's history column in the 'Eastern Shore Star' monthly newspaper.

## **L.H.S. Society Meetings 2022**

**Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7.30pm**

**Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm**

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



You can email the L.H.S. at:  
[lindisfarne.history@gmail.com](mailto:lindisfarne.history@gmail.com)



This Newsletter was kindly  
printed by the office of

Julie Collins M.P.

Member for Franklin

