

ROYAL SOCIETY OF NSW STATEMENT OF VALUES

In 1821 our founders, Dr James Bowman, Dr Henry Douglass, Judge Barron Field, Major Frederick Goulburn, Captain Francis Irvine and Edward Wollstonecraft Esq, with the patronage of Sir Thomas Brisbane, the sixth Governor of New South Wales, founded the first learned society in Australia. It was then called the Philosophical Society of Australasia and its purpose was the promotion and encouragement of studies and investigations in Science, Art, Literature and Philosophy. In December 1866 the Society became the Royal Society of New South Wales.

The Society exists to advance knowledge and to communicate it in the Society's publications and other media. The Society encourages researchers and leaders to present the outcomes of their investigations at the meetings, forums, conferences and other events organised by the Society. It provides a forum for the expression and transmission of ideas.

The Society upholds the principles of liberal democracy and encourages a non-discriminatory discourse and the free exchange of ideas that respect religious, political and cultural freedoms, seeing these as fundamental to Australian intellectual life.

RSNSW Ordinary General Meeting 7 November 2018