



# THE BULLETIN 466

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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## For Your Diary

- 01 JUL–25 SEP  
[\*RSNSW Display:\*](#)  
[\*Chau Chak Wing Museum\*](#)
- 05 OCT  
[\*1307<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open\*](#)  
[\*Lecture\*](#)
- 12 OCT  
[\*Joint RSNSW-University\*](#)  
[\*of Sydney Business School\*](#)  
[\*Public Lecture\*](#)
- 03 NOV  
[\*RSNSW and Learned\*](#)  
[\*Academies Forum 2022\*](#)



### Patron of The Royal Society of NSW

Her Excellency The Honourable  
Margaret Beazley AC QC  
Governor of New South Wales

## 1306<sup>TH</sup> OGM AND OPEN LECTURE

### Is Fairweather an Australian artist? And does it matter?

Wednesday, 7 September 2022, 6:30 PM



#### Claire Roberts FAHA

Associate Professor of Art History  
University of Melbourne

#### Nicholas Jose

Novelist and Emeritus Professor  
University of Adelaide

Venue: [\*Zoom webinar\*](#)

Entry: No Charge

Enquiries: [\*via email\*](#)

All are welcome.

See [\*page 4\*](#) for more information

## From the President

At our 1305<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting, I was delighted to announce that Council voted unanimously by Special Resolution at its 20 July 2022 meeting to admit **Dr Catherine Foley** AO PSM, FRSN FAA FTSE HonFAIP FInstP as a Distinguished Fellow



of the Society. After an illustrious research and translation career in solid-state physics and its applications, combining quantum physics and material science, Dr Foley became the first dedicat-

ed Chief Scientist of the Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organisation (CSIRO) in 2018 and Australia's Chief Scientist in 2021. Cathy has also made significant contributions in Australia and internationally not only in science and technology but also as President and executive member of several peak bodies in the areas of education, science, and technology and through her advisory roles for numerous research and teaching institutions. She is a strong champion for STEM and an inspiration to the next generation of leaders. Since her election as FRSN in 2011, Cathy has contributed to the work of the Society, most recently as keynote speaker at the RSNSW and Learned Academies Forum in 2021. Please join me in congratulating our new DistFRSN.

Continuing the theme of acknowledging excellence, nominations for all the Society's Awards opened on 1 July and will close on 30 September 2022. Many of these awards are among the oldest and most prestigious in Australia. [Full details for each award, including the procedure for nomination](#), are available. A nominator does not need to be a member or fellow of the Society. I encourage you to play an active role in ensuring we can celebrate the achievements of the best and brightest, young and older, in fields that span the sciences and humanities.

Three winners of the 2021 Awards will be presenting their work to the Society in coming months. **Professor Geraint Lewis**, 2021 Pollock Memorial

Lectureship winner, will deliver the Open Lecture on 23 November 2022 on the topic '[Most of our universe is missing! Adventures in the dark side of the cosmos](#)'.

**Professor Richard Trethowan**, 2021 Poggendorff Lectureship, will deliver his lecture on '[A plant breeder's perspective on food security and climate change](#)' at the University of Sydney on 30 November 2022. [Professor Rose Amal](#), 2021 winner of the James Cook Medal, will present the Open Lecture at the last OGM for 2022 on 7 December. Details of her presentation will be available on the Society's website and social media sites soon.



I urge you to play an active role in the life of the Society via whichever social media site(s) you use. Our online presence continues to expand. We have just added a link on our website to our [LinkedIn channel](#), alongside the links to our YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter accounts. The aim is to create as many convenient ways as possible for our members to connect with the Society and each other, to increase the visibility of the Society, and to extend the reach of our lectures to a much wider and younger community. It's working. You can see the analytics for [our YouTube Channel](#) showing a sizeable and rising following. The same applies to Facebook, Twitter and, I trust, will apply to LinkedIn. Note also that the Society was featured on the ABC Science Show at the beginning of Science Week in a segment '[Royal Society of New South Wales celebrates 200 years](#)'.

After considerable discussion about ways to increase attendance at our face-to-face events in Sydney, the Executive Committee is implementing a trial of no-charge registration for our [5 October OGM and Open Lecture](#). You will still need to register to attend. The trade-off for the potential increase in attendance is that there will be no catering provided. The current \$35 registration fee is used

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almost entirely to cover catering and related venue costs. The 'hidden gem', [The Library Bar](#), is open from 4–10 PM for pre- or post-event catering. Given that this is a trial, I encourage you to provide feedback about your experiences to me or the Secretary.

I end this column on a sad note by recording recording the [tragic death of Emeritus Professor Robin King FRSN FTSE and his wife, Penny King](#) on 25 July. Robin was a great contributor to many organisations including Engineers Australia, the Academy of Technology and Engineering and the Society. He served as Secretary of the RSNSW



and Learned Academies Forum from 2019–2022 and attended many Society events including our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary Garden Party at Government House where this photograph was taken. Several members of the Society attended their funeral and will be involved in the planning for a memorial event for them later this year.

We continue to work for the Society and for NSW because we understand the need to enhance authentic and authoritative public discourse on a wide range of topics that are crucial to our future. I look forward to your seeing you in person or online very soon.

Dr Susan M Pond AM FRSN  
President, Royal Society of NSW

## Welcome to new members

The Royal Society of New South Wales warmly welcomes the following new member to the Society's ranks, effective from 3 August 2022.

### Fellows

- Professor Sarah Brough
- Professor Miroslav Filipovic
- Professor Gernot Heiser
- Emeritus Professor Iven Klineberg
- Professor P David Marshall
- Professor Paul McGreevy
- Professor Andrew Parfitt
- Professor Jane Quinn
- Professor Des Richardson
- Professor Allen Ross
- Professor Margaret Somerville
- Professor Elizabeth Sullivan
- Professor Pall Thordarson
- Professor Sheryl van Nunen
- Professor James Wallman
- Professor Glenn Wightwick

### Members

- Mr Quang Ly

## Is Fairweather an Australian artist? And does it matter?

Claire Roberts FAHA  
Associate Professor of Art  
History  
University of Melbourne

Nicholas Jose  
Novelist and Emeritus Professor  
University of Adelaide



**Date:** Wednesday, 7 September 2022, 6:30 PM

**Venue:** [Zoom webinar](#)

**Entry:** No Charge

**Enquiries:** [via email](#)

*All are welcome.*

### Summary

After a life of wandering, including extended periods living in China, Bali and the Philippines, the Scottish-born artist Ian Fairweather (1891–1974) settled on Bribie Island off the coast of Queensland. Working in a self-made house constructed from bush materials Fairweather created works that prompted a leading Sydney critic to name him ‘our greatest painter’. In her new book *Fairweather and China* (2021), Claire Roberts seeks to reposition Fairweather as a key transcultural figure, connecting British, European, Chinese and Australian art histories.

### About the speakers

Claire Roberts is an art historian and curator specialising in modern and contemporary Chinese art and cultural flows between Australia and Asia. She is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Melbourne and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Claire received her PhD from the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University (2006). Her most recent books are *Fairweather and China* (2021), *Ian Fairweather: A Life in Letters* (edited with John Thompson, 2019), *Photography and China* (2013), and *Friendship in Art: Fou Lei and Huang Binhong* (2010).

Nicholas Jose has published novels, short stories, essays and non-fiction and was general editor of the *Macquarie PEN Anthology of Australian Literature*. He recently co-edited *Antipodean China: Reflections on Literary Exchange* (2021) and *Everything Changes: Australian Writers and China — A transcultural anthology* (2020). He was Cultural Counsellor at the Australian Embassy Beijing, 1987–1990 and Harvard Chair of Australian Studies, 2009–2010. He is currently Emeritus Professor of English and Creative Writing at The University of Adelaide and Adjunct Professor, Writing and Society Research Centre, Western Sydney University.

## From the Archives: Birthday Greetings from our Distinguished Fellows

by Bruce Ramage (Secretary)

As foreshadowed in the July column, the next instalment of birthday wishes is from our Distinguished Fellows.

### Peter Baume AC

One learns wonderful things in the Royal Society of New South Wales, things that one would never otherwise consider learning. The people are a delight to know and are so diverse. May the third century be as rich and rewarding as the last two have been.



### Robert Clark AO

As a multidisciplinary learned Society underpinned by the principles of a liberal democracy, RSNSW has over its 200-year history been a forum for the free exchange of ideas advancing a just, sustainable, innovative and secure Australian society. Whilst it has a long history, the Society actively looks to the future to address the pressing issues of the day and is a force for good in Australian life.



### Barry Jones AC

Science has been central to the exploration and development of Australia, and Enlightenment values, observing, collecting, recording and interpreting data about flora, fauna and geology was a passionate commitment of Cook, Banks, Solander, Spöring, Parkinson, Baudin, Flinders and, later, Darwin and Hooker. Of course, there was a terrible downside: disease, Indigenous dispossession and massacres, and



introduction of inappropriate European farming techniques. And we have been very late to recognise the value of Indigenous science: agriculture, diet, navigation, medicine, water management, fire control.

For two hundred years the Royal Society of New South Wales, has played a vital role in research, dissemination and advocacy. In my period as Australia's Minister for Science (1983–90), I was passionate in trying to add new items to the political agenda — not always successfully — climate change, the ozone layer, preserving Antarctica and the Great Barrier Reef, transitioning to a post-carbon economy, the digital economy, emergence of the Third Age, the genetic revolution. Science, and even curiosity, seemed to fall off the political agenda for a decade, and research institutions were under threat.

Now, in my 90<sup>th</sup> year, what I projected in *Sleepers, Wake!* (1982) seems oddly prescient and I expect our research commitment will improve rapidly.

Always grateful for your support, I salute your achievement and wish you well for the next century (if we make it!).

### Kurt Lambeck AC

I congratulate the Royal Society of New South Wales on reaching the distinguished age of 200 years. During these years it has gone through many forms and witnessed much of Australia's history, emerging all the stronger for at a time when knowledge is becoming increasingly fragmented between and within disciplines, yet its implications less well understood by the broad community and policy makers. Today, the RSNSW through its diverse membership, comprises a major pool of expertise to play an important role in disseminating new knowledge with its consequences, notably at the interfaces of the sciences, arts and humanities, and to provide knowledge-based advice at the State level, and through working with similar national bodies,



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across state boundaries. I look forward to seeing the Society prosper in the years ahead to the benefit of our nation.

### Eugenie Lumbers AM

I am very happy to be joining in this celebration the Royal Society of NSW. For 200 years from its beginnings in 1821 as The Philosophical Society of Australasia, it has promoted knowledge and enquiry into science, philosophy, the humanities and the arts. I am proud of the achievements of the RSNSW.

I believe that new regional branches of the RSNSW like the Hunter Branch can further educate and inform the broader public on how to survive the changing economic decline of the coal industry, embrace the ancient science and culture of our Indigenous communities and enjoy those rewards that come from thinking and doing and in the words of the RSNSW motto '*omnia quaerite*' — question(ing) everything.

### Sir Anthony Mason AC

The Bicentennial celebrations are a long history of outstanding achievement by the Society in implementing its vision through knowledge and enquiry.

I trust that the Society's good work will continue well into the future.



### George Paxinos AO

Science, which our Society champions, once was called to enrich human life. It rose to the task. It is now called to help human life survive what science enabled — the internal combustion engine, plastics, nuclear weapons, overpopulation. May our Society and science rise to the task again.

### Sir Fraser Stoddart

Greetings to the RSNSW on its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary from one of its members on his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### Jill Trehella

In these challenging times, it is vitally important to have organisations like the Royal Society of NSW dedicated to promoting what is possible to achieve through shared knowledge and understanding. On the occasion of this historic bicentennial year for the Society, I am pleased to send best wishes as we reflect on its proud history and look forward to a continuing positive influence in our community.



## Report: Program Committee

by Christina Slade (Chair, Program Committee)  
and Lindsay Botten (Webmaster)

During August, two events were held in Sydney on successive evenings. The 1305<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting and Open Lecture was held online on Wednesday 3 August 2022 and included a fascinating exploration by Professor Kathy Belov AO FRSN FAA (Professor of Comparative Genomics and Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Sydney) and Dr Elizabeth Deane FRSN into forty years of research into marsupial immunology. Their presentation, titled ‘Marsupials: their secrets are all in their genes’, which is now available on our [YouTube channel](#), examined the role that technology, and particularly modern genomics methods, play in unravelling the secrets of marsupials — with a particular focus on understanding the causes of, and finding solutions for, facial tumour disease in Tasmanian Devils and chlamydia in Koalas.

The following evening, Thursday 4 August, saw Scientia Professor Michelle Simmons AO FRS DistFRSN FAA FTSE of UNSW Sydney and Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology, presented the fifth lecture in the *Ideas@theHouse* series at Government House, Sydney. Her presentation, titled ‘Manufacturing at the atomic scale’, delivered to a face-to-face audience of 83 and an online audience of over 40, traced the fascinating journey towards the building of a quantum computer by the manipulation of atoms, and revealed the globally unique technology developed by her and her team to build electronic devices with atomic precision. In the presentation, which is now available on the Society’s [YouTube channel](#), Professor Simmons, who is a global leader in the field of quantum computing, spoke of now to design and manufacture atomic-scale components into the circuitry of a quantum computer and their demonstration of the world’s first atomically manufactured integrated circuit — a key step along the pathway towards a commercially useful quantum processor.

It is pleasing to report that our following on [YouTube](#) is growing well, with the channel now having almost 200 subscribers. A number of recent events have attracted strong audiences, with the July OGM presentation by Emeritus Professor Hugh White AO FASSA of the Australian National University on ‘This is going to be different: Learning to live with Chinese Power’ having now received more than 2,000 viewings. At the time of the preparation of this report, the August OGM by Professor Belov and Dr Deane had received almost 90 viewings, while the *Ideas@theHouse* presentation by Professor Simmons had received almost 170 viewings. Also of note are recordings of the Society’s Clarke Memorial Lecture (‘The changing tide of human populations: an infertility trap’) by Distinguished Professor John Aitken FRSE FRSN FAA FAHMS of the University of Newcastle, and the presentation by Professor Ben Eggleton FRSN FAA FTSE of the University of Sydney at the April OGM (‘New frontiers in smart sensor technology for a healthier, safer and sustainable future’) which have respectively received more than 220, and more than 170, viewings.

Looking towards future events, the 1306<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open Lecture will be held online on Wednesday, 7 September and will feature art historian, Associate Professor Claire Roberts FAHA of the University of Melbourne, and novelist, Emeritus Professor Nicholas Jose of the University of Adelaide, in conversation on the topic of [‘Is Fairweather an Australian artist? And does it matter?’](#). For October, there are two lectures scheduled. The first of these is the 1307<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open Lecture, to be held face-to-face at the State Library of NSW on Wednesday 5 October, in which leading economists, Dr Don Russell, Chair of AustralianSuper, Ms Jane Drake-Brockman, University of Adelaide, and Emeritus Professor Robert Marks FRSN, the Society’s Journal Editor, will present [‘The Global Economy and Australia’s Outlook: Geoff Harcourt’s contribution to the theory of productivity growth’](#). On Wednesday 12 October, the Society and the University of Sydney Business School will jointly

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present a public lecture titled '[A New Way to Wealth: The Role of Social Response Capitalism](#)' by New York Times best-selling author and Founder of the AHC Group, Dr Bruce Piasecki. Registrations for each of the two October events are required through the links in the respective event notices.

The event program for the year in [Sydney](#), the [Hunter region](#), the [Southern Highlands](#), and in [Western NSW](#) is also available on the Society's website at the preceding links.

## Report: Hunter Branch

*by Philip Bolton (Honorary Branch Secretary)*

The Hunter Branch hosted its third Lecture for 2022 in Newcastle on 28 July. The Lecture, entitled 'The Intersection Between Science and Law' was given by Associate Professor Xanthé Mallett, a forensic scientist and criminologist based at the Newcastle Law School, University of Newcastle.

After acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land and paying respect to their elders past, present and emerging, the Chair of the Hunter Branch, Distinguished Emeritus Laureate Professor John Aitken FRSE FRSN FAHMS FAA, welcomed all in attendance and introduced Associate Professor Mallett. He noted that the Lecture was being given only days after *The World Day for International Justice* which is observed on 17 July each year. The audience of over 50 people were then treated to an informative and intriguing presentation which included consideration of advanced forensic techniques and the role they play in cases such as that of Kathleen Folbigg.



*Distinguished Emeritus Laureate Professor John Aitken introducing Associate Professor Xanthé Mallett*

Professor Mallett was able to give a unique perspective of the intersection between science and

law with her training and professional experience overlapping both the physical and behavioural sciences. Her presentation was ardent and illuminating, emphasising the importance of reliability and repeatability before providing a clear and comprehensible account of complex and advanced DNA technologies and the use of investigative genetic genealogy as forensic tools.

By describing the use of investigative genetic genealogy in the case of the 'Golden State Killer' in the United States of America and the use of a new digital facial image created from DNA technology to relaunch a fresh police appeal for information on a deceased man in Australia, Professor Mallett was able to exemplify that the use of science can shift the weight of evidence in unresolved legal cases.

In considering the Kathleen Folbigg case here in Australia, Mallett showed how genetic information identified many years after the death of the children in this case indicated they were suffering from rare genetic mutations that predisposed them to sudden death. Significantly, this raised questions about the prior legal finding with an unprecedented petition from over 90 national and international scientists for Folbigg to be pardoned. With the announcement of a subsequent inquiry into the Folbigg case, this exemplified the capacity of the scientific method and the use of new technologies to provide evidence impacting on legal decisions.

Mallett concluded the lecture by pointing out that science is not infallible and that while forensic science is ever evolving, the law, in contrast, is often static and slow in its response to change. The consequent challenge is to align the two so that there is an accurate attributing of the weight of evidence to ensure probability and not prejudice in legal matters.



by Anne Wood (Branch Secretary)

### Evidence for an 80-year on-off cycle in extreme rainfall and flood events in the Hawkesbury River and Lake George: Is a new 40-year flood-prone cycle commencing now?

Dr Michael Asten

*Retired professor of geophysics*

Dr Ken McCracken AO FAA



The August lecture was delivered in the large Carington Room at the Mittagong RSL. Dr Michael Asten had flown in from Melbourne to deliver the lecture and on his arrival was somewhat surprised to see 95 people flooding into the auditorium. This lecture could not have been better timed, with the release this week by NSW authorities of their inquiry into the recent floods including those on the Hawkesbury River. The inquiry was conducted by former chief scientist Mary O'Kane AC FRSN and former police commissioner Mick Fuller. Just days ago, calls were made by the NSW Premier for flood prone lands to no longer be used for housing development. Michael Asten opened his lecture quoting the same advice being offered by Governor Lachlan Macquarie (1810–1821) when the shanties and animals of the early settlers on the Hawksbury flood plain were similarly afflicted!

The flood level of the Hawksbury River at Windsor bridge is a rare instance in Australia where observational records extend back to 1799 CE. The catchment area is on the east side of the dividing range, with water flow being controlled in part by the Warragamba lake and dam. Depth levels of Lake George, an ephemeral lake located on the west side of the dividing range, have been recorded from 1820 CE. Asten has found that the occurrence of major floods on the Hawksbury shows correlation with the major peaks in depth of Lake George on a multi-decadal scale.

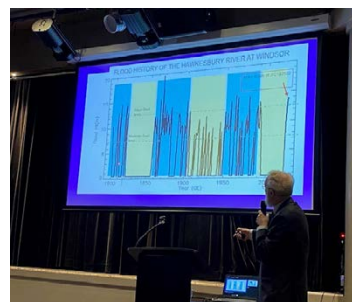
Both Asten and McCracken have looked widely for possible reasons why these bodies of water have behaved in similar fashion over many decades.

Recognition of this cyclic component in hydrological history led them to examine other observations of multi-decadal or centennial periodic phenomena in *global* studies. They began looking at the spectral peaks in the cosmic ray flux emitted from deep space but modulated by solar magnetic field phenomena. Previous work in this field has produced data which invites argument for the presence of the 11-year sunspot cycle, the 22-year magnetic field cycle, and the 87-year Gleissberg cycles, and the effect of these cycles on the pattern of El Niño-La Niña climatic variations.

Asten presented numerous graphs showing periodic behaviour for flooding on the Hawkesbury and at Lake George. The Hawkesbury has experienced 43 moderate to major floods since 1799, with approximate 40-year segments of greater or lesser flood frequency. Lake George shows similar obvious spacings with a range of 50–80 years. Also of note is that discharge levels of the Brahmaputra River in Bangladesh show similar 80-year cycles, data which Asten feels add credibility to the hypothesis that these long-term cycles are *global* in scope.

*Dr Michael Asten is a retired professor from Monash University, Melbourne. In 2021, he served as an Expert Reviewer for the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report on climate change. He has published 214 scientific papers and has various research awards from the Australian SEG, BHP and CSIRO.*

*Dr Ken McCracken in 2021 was awarded the COSPAR space science award for outstanding contributions to science. As well as receiving a medal, he was honoured by having a planet named after him. It is known as minor planet McCracken 8258.*



## Vale Emeritus Professor Robin and Penny King

The Royal Society of NSW records with great sadness the passing of one of its Fellows, **Emeritus Professor Robin King FRSN FTSE** and his wife **Penny** in a tragic accident that occurred on Monday, 25 July 2022.



On that day, Penny and Robin set out for a walk at the northern end of Moonee Beach on the Central Coast of NSW. They were doing what they most loved: walking in a beautiful place on a beautiful day. We will never know exactly what happened, but both passed that day and their bodies were recovered on nearby beaches. They are survived by Robin's sister and nephews in the UK, as well as their four children and eight grandchildren here in Australia. Their family is at peace knowing that they are resting together.

Robin King, who joined the Society as a Fellow in 2019, was a leader in Australia's engineering education sector, having held senior national positions with Engineers Australia, the Australian Council of Engineering Deans, as well as in several universities. Prior to his retirement, he was the Pro Vice-Chan-

cellor and Dean of the Division of Information Technology, Engineering, and the Environment at the University of South Australia, a position he held from 1997–2007. Before joining UniSA, he was an Associate Professor in Electrical Engineering at the University of Sydney (1989–1996), a Senior Lecturer at UNSW (1985–1989), and a Lecturer at the University of Southampton (1976–1985) and the University of Technology in Lae, Papua New Guinea (1972–1976).

In retirement, Robin was active in the work of the Australian Council of Engineering Deans, the Academy of Technology and Engineering, in which he was the Secretary of the NSW Branch, and the Royal Society of NSW, in which he served as Secretary of the RSNSW and Learned Academies Forum for some years. Both Robin and Penny regularly attended our monthly meetings and other events run by the Society. They will be sadly missed by their friends and colleagues in the Society and we extend to their family our sincere condolences.

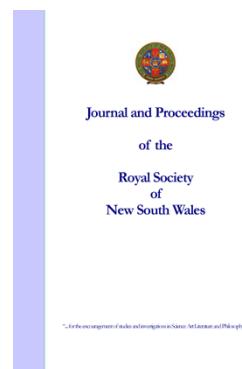
A memorial service commemorating the life and work of Robin King is planned, and information will be provided as it becomes available.

## June 2022 Issue of the *Journal* now available

The June 2022 issue of the *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of NSW* is now [available online](#). Paying subscribers will receive their hard-copy in the coming days and weeks.

The issue contains the addresses from last November's Royal Society of New South Wales and Learned Academies Forum 2021, '[Power and Peril of the Digital Age](#)'. Other highlights include two refereed papers by Simon J. Devitt and Christine N. Zdenek, a reprinted paper by Len Fisher and Anders Sandberg,

and a tribute to Geoff Harcourt AC FRSN by Peter Kriesler, Tim Harcourt, and Robert Marks.



## Images from the *Ideas@TheHouse* event



## Society's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary featured on the ABC Science Show

The Society's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary was [featured on the ABC Science Show](#), which aired on 13 August 2022. In the segment, the Society's President, Dr Susan Pond AM FRSN was interviewed by Robyn Williams AO, host of The Science Show, to discuss key events in the Society's 200-year history, including a range of matters about which she spoke



in [her speech to the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner](#), held on 24 June 2022 at the University of Sydney Great Hall.

The Science Show website notes that the 'Society's founders helped establish the University of Sydney in 1827, and later an early form of the Australian Academy of Science. The NSW Government gave the society a headquarters, Science House in the Rocks in Sydney. The building was threatened with demolition by a later government but was saved by bans imposed by the Builders Labourers Federation under Jack Mundy'.



## Society Fellow, Maria Kavallaris, honoured with President of Cyprus Medal

Society Fellow, Professor Maria Kavallaris AM FRSN FAHMS, has been acknowledged for her life's research in cancer biology and therapeutics by the awarding of a Republic of Cyprus President's Medal for Outstanding Contributions by the President, Mr Nicos Anastasiades, at the Presidential Palace in Nicosia, Cyprus on 28 July 2022.



Professor Kavallaris, who is Head of the Translational Cancer Nanomedicine Theme at the Children's

Cancer Institute and UNSW (Sydney), is an outstanding scientific leader who is internationally recognised for her research in cancer biology and therapeutics, and her innovation in driving interdisciplinary research in cancer nanomedicine. Amongst her achievements are the NSW Premier's Woman of the Year Award (2020) and the Eureka Prize for the Innovative Use of Technology (2021). She is also a finalist in this year's Eureka Prize for Outstanding Mentor of Young Researchers.

For further information about Professor Kavallaris's career and achievements, please see the articles in [Neos Kosmos](#) and the [Greek Herald](#).

## Sven Rogge FRSN appointed as new UNSW Dean of Science

The Council of the Royal Society of NSW extends its warmest congratulations to one of its Fellows, **Scientia Professor Sven Rogge FRSN**, who has just been named as the new Dean of Science at UNSW Sydney. He takes over as Dean from another RSNNSW Fellow, Professor Emma Johnston AO FRSN FAA FTSE, who is now the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) of the University of Sydney.



Professor Rogge is an internationally recognised experimental condensed matter physicist who has made major research contributions in the underpinning technology of silicon-based quantum computation. Previously, he served as the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) at UNSW and is currently the President of the Australian Institute of Physics.

Prof. Rogge grew up in Germany and a fascination with science from an early age led him to study physics at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. He then went on to obtain a PhD in Physics from Stanford University in 1997. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the Australian Institute of Physics, and is a program manager at the Australian Research Council's Centre for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology.

As an experimental physicist, his research focuses on quantum systems in a solid-state environment and their translation to applications in quantum materials and technology. His work on gaining atomistic insight into the interactions of quantum objects, such as atoms and qubits, is a key component in Australia's world-leading progress in quantum physics.

For further details, please see the [news release](#) on the UNSW Sydney website.

## List of proposed events for 2022

Kindly note that this is a provisional list and will be subject to change, due to the prevalence of COVID-19 during early 2022. Updates will be reflected in future issues of the Bulletin and on [our website](#).

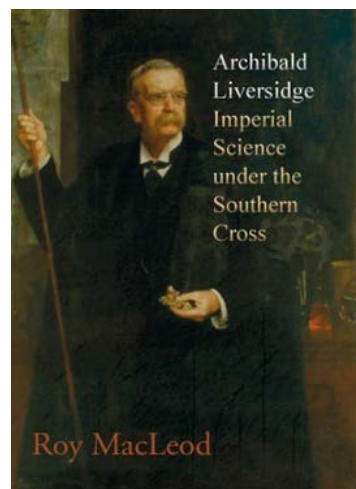
Date	Event
Wednesday, 7 September 6:30 PM AEST	<b>1306<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open Lecture</b> <b>Is Fairweather an Australian artist? And does it matter?</b> Claire Roberts, University of Melbourne and Nick Jose, University of Adelaide
Wednesday, 5 October 6:30 PM AEDT	<b>1307<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open Lecture</b> <b>An interactive discussion on the global economic outlook and Australia's place in the world</b> Dr Don Russell, Ms Jane Drake-Brockman, and Em. Prof. Robert Marks
Wednesday, 12 October 6:00 PM AEDT	<b>Joint RSNSW-University of Sydney Business School</b> <b>A new way to wealth: The role of social response capitalism</b> Bruce Piasecki PhD
Thursday, 3 November 9:00 PM AEDT	<b>Royal Society of NSW and Learned Societies Annual Forum</b> <b>Reshaping Australia communities in action</b> Richard Holden FES FASSA, UNSW; James O'Donnell, ANU; Kalinda Griffiths, UNSW; Maree Teesson AC FAHMS, University of Sydney; Elizabeth Elliott AM FRSN FAHMS, University of Sydney; Sally Redman AO, CEO Sax Institute Sydney; Bernie Shakeshaft, BackTrack Youth Works; David Schlosberg, University of Sydney; Angelica Kross; Louise Adams FTSE, Aurecon; Pasi Sahlberg Southern Cross University; Peter Shergold AC FRSN FASSA, Western Sydney University; Marcia Langton AO FASSA FTSE, University of Melbourne; Ariadne Vromen FASSA, Crawford School of Public Policy <i>et al.</i>
Monday, 14 November 8:00 AM AEDT	<b>Joint RSNSW-Law Society of NSW Public Lecture</b> <b>The U.S. Supreme Court: A rogue court in a fragile democracy</b> Linda Greenhouse
Wednesday, 23 November 6:30 PM AEDT	<b>1308<sup>th</sup> OGM and 2021 Pollock Memorial Lecture</b> <b>Most of our universe is missing!: Adventures in the dark side of the cosmos</b> Professor Geraint Lewis FRSN FLSW, University of Sydney
Wednesday, 30 November Time: TBA	<b>RSNSW Poggenorff Lecture 2021</b> <b>A plant breeder's perspective on food security and climate change</b> Professor Richard Trethowan, University of Sydney
Wednesday, 7 December 6:30 PM AEDT	<b>1309<sup>th</sup> OGM and Open Lecture</b> <b>Topic: to be advised</b> Scientia Professor Rose Amal AC FRSN FAA FTSE, UNSW Sydney



## Archibald Liversidge: Imperial Science under the Southern Cross

When Archibald Liversidge first arrived at Sydney University in 1872 as reader in geology and assistant in the laboratory, he had about ten students and two rooms in the main building. In 1874, he became professor of geology and mineralogy; by 1879, he had persuaded the senate to open a faculty of science. He became its first dean in 1882. In 1880, he visited Europe as a trustee of the Australian Museum and his report helped to establish the Industrial, Technological and Sanitary Museum which formed the basis of the present Powerhouse Museum's collection. Liversidge also played a major role in the setting up of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science which held its first congress in 1888.

One of his greatest contributions was to science education. He worked tirelessly to secure proper recognition of science in both secondary and tertiary education. In the preface of his book, Professor MacLeod comments: 'Liversidge remained confident that Australia's path would follow the route of the "moving metropolis", strengthened by the bonds that tied Australia to its British heritage. In that heritage lay his life, and through that heritage, flowed the genius of imperial science in New South Wales'. To order your copy, please complete the [MacLeod: Liversidge order form](#) and return it to:



The Royal Society of NSW (Liversidge book)  
PO Box 576  
Crows Nest NSW 1585  
Australia

or contact the Society:  
Phone: +61 2 9431 8691  
Email: [info@royalsoc.org.au](mailto:info@royalsoc.org.au)

## The Society and social media

The Society's presence on social media platforms is slowly but surely growing. Our [Facebook page](#), [LinkedIn channel](#), [Twitter feed](#) and [YouTube channel](#) continue to attract and engage followers and viewers, and we continue to build a repository of online events conducted recently on YouTube.

The icons on the right will take the reader to the platforms' respective pages, from where they can follow and subscribe to the Society, and be notified of new content.



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