

The Gala Dinner, 24 June 2022

Programme



ROYAL SOCIETY
NEW SOUTH WALES

THE GALA DINNER
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

Friday 24 June 2022
The Great Hall
The University of Sydney



Thank you for joining us on this historic occasion
as we recall and pay tribute to the Society's past achievements.

We invite new friends here tonight, to join our members
on our journey as we soar into our third century ...



The Society acknowledges the Traditional Owners
of the land on which we meet today,
the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation
and pays respect to Elders, past, present, and emerging
and their connections to Country, knowledge, and community.

JOURNAL & PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
The Gala Dinner, 24 June 2022

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

A little over 200 years ago the good citizens of Sydney welcomed to the colony the sixth Governor of New South Wales, Sir Thomas Brisbane, who immediately accepted an invitation to become the President of The Philosophical Society of Australasia, the first learned society in the colony. It had been established on 27 June 1821 by a group of like-minded individuals who wanted to share intellectual pursuits a long way from cosmopolitan London and Edinburgh.

Through a series of iterations the Society became more influential and required greater certainty around its governance. In 1881 the Society was incorporated by an Act of the New South Wales Parliament which remains in force today.

The Society became a significant meeting place and home for some of the greatest thinkers and contributors to knowledge in Australia. The aviation pioneer Lawrence Hargrave, for example, published all his papers on heavier-than-air flight in the Society's *Journal & Proceedings* which has been published continuously since 1866.

The Society has broadened its scope in the 21st century, focusing on intellectual inquiry and the promotion of public interdisciplinary discussion across all areas of discovery and knowledge. The Society's Branches, first established in 1961, have expanded to enable it to better serve the whole of the State.



LAWRENCE HARGRAVE WORKING ON A BOX KITE AT POINT PIPER, SYDNEY, ABOUT 1910
COURTESY NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

(OPPOSITE) MONTAGE FROM THE ORIGINAL GLASS PLATE PHOTOGRAPH FROM HARGRAVE, LAWRENCE, AERONAUTICS, JOURNAL & PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF N.S.W., 32, 1898, 55-65

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Aunty Ann Weldon

OPENING REMARKS

Dr Susan Pond AM FRSN
President

ENTRÉE

PATRON'S ADDRESS

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

SECOND COURSE

AFTER DINNER ADDRESS

All aboard – choose your flight to the future
Dr Alan Finkel AC

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ADDRESS

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)

TRUMPET FANFARE

CEREMONIAL CUTTING OF THE BIRTHDAY CAKE

TOAST TO THE SOCIETY

DESSERT

Carillon and Organ
Amy Johansen

Trumpet
David Foster

JOURNAL & PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
The Gala Dinner, 24 June 2022

MENU

Tomato tarte tatin, caramelised onion

Zucchini salfrino tart, lemon labneh, red pepper pearls

Citrus cured ocean trout, watercress, cucumber,
red radish, crème fraîche, salmon pearls

—
Philip Shaw The Gardener Pinot Gris 2021 Orange NSW
KT Watervale Riesling 5452 2021 Clare Valley SA

Grain fed chicken ballotine, corn velouté, pomme fondant, thyme jus

or

Dry aged fillet of beef, Paris mash, truffle mushroom ragoût

—
Santa Duc Vin de Pays de Vaucluse 'Les Plans' 2017 Côtes du Rhône France
Glenguin Schoolhouse Shiraz 2018 Hunter Valley NSW

Croquebouche with berries

—
Veuve d'Argent Cuvée Prestige Blanc de Blancs Brut France

Tea and Coffee

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

1821–2021

- 1821** The Philosophical Society of Australasia was founded by six prominent citizens
- 1850** Revived as The Australian Philosophical Society by some of the original founders
- 1855** Renamed the Philosophical Society of New South Wales
- 1859** The first of the Society's annual *Conversazione* was held highlighting photography
- 1862** The Philosophical Society's *Transactions* commenced publication
- 1866** Queen Victoria assented to the name: The Royal Society of New South Wales
- 1875** The Society occupied its first permanent premises at 5 Elizabeth Street Sydney
- 1876** Discipline-specific 'Sections' and the Society's *Journal & Proceedings* commenced
- 1880** Professor The Hon John Smith MLC was elected the first non-Vice-Regal President
- 1881** The Society was incorporated by an Act of the New South Wales Parliament
- 1900** The first of the Society's Popular Science lectures was held, open to the public
- 1921** The Society celebrated its centenary with a series of special events
- 1931** Science House, with the motto 'vigour of mind prevails', was opened
- 1935** The first female members were elected to the Society
- 1953** Dr Ida Browne was elected the Society's first female President
- 1961** The first branch of the Society was established in the New England region
- 1971** The first annual science Summer School was held for senior high school students
- 1994** The Southern Highlands Branch of the Society was established
- 2011** The Society began its Annual Forums focusing on issues of community interest
- 2019** The Society's Hunter Branch was established
- 2020** The RoyalSocNSW YouTube channel was launched
- 2021** The Western New South Wales Branch of the Society was established

ENRICHING LIVES
THROUGH KNOWLEDGE AND INQUIRY



ENGAGE WITH US

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ANNIVERSARY DISPLAY

The Society thanks the Chau Chak Wing Museum team for curating the 200th anniversary display of Society-related objects from the Macleay Collections, echoing Society *Conversazione* of the 19th and early 20th centuries when scientific discoveries were exhibited to the public.

TRUMPET FANFARE

Fanfare for the Royal Society of New South Wales on its 200th Anniversary
composed by Dr David Hush FRSN

The Society acknowledges the generous support of the following individuals and organisations that have made The Gala Dinner possible

ANDREW & PAULA LIVERIS



JOINING THE 200 CLUB

From one bi-centenarian to another, congratulations on reaching this tremendous milestone. It is an exclusive club, not only those of us who have reached 200 years but also have had a positive impact shaping the State of New South Wales. Whilst we have maintained a staunch dedication to safeguarding the agriculture of the state, you have done an outstanding job cultivating the enquiring hearts and minds of so many.

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW – Michael Millner

On behalf of the Council and Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh I have the pleasure of sending warm greetings on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Society of New South Wales.

Royal Society of Edinburgh – John Ball

As President of the oldest learned society in the United States (founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743), it is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome the Royal Society of New South Wales to the company of bi-centenarians. In today's world, where evanescence rather than permanence so often seems the order of the day, reaching a 200th anniversary is no small accomplishment.

American Philosophical Society – Linda Greenhouse

The Royal Irish Academy is delighted to acknowledge the achievements of the Royal Society of New South Wales and wishes the Society continued success in the future.

Royal Irish Academy – Mary Canning

I congratulate the Royal Society of New South Wales on the occasion of its 200th anniversary. The links between our academies go back all the way through those years, and throughout that time we have both been fortunate to have some exceptionally talented Fellows in common, from those involved in the founding of the Society through to national academy presidents in both our countries, Nobel Prize winners, and some of the leading scientists of the present day.

Royal Society – Sir Adrian Smith

