

Conversations between generations

TMAG is full of conversations. Those of us who've attended Friends behind-the-scenes trips and talks with curators over the years, or who've taken children along to immersive shows like *Pattern Play*, have found ourselves participating in all kinds of stimulating discussions.

TMAG's new five year **Strategic Plan** actively seeks to enable conversations and experiences

"People are sometimes concerned, when we talk about change, that they might lose what they love about TMAG," said the Director of TMAG, Janet Carding.

"The new Strategic Plan describes ways we can make the museum feel more dynamic while retaining its powerful sense of history. We can innovate without losing a sense of history, a sense of what's special for you," she said.



FRIENDS

TMAG STRATEGIC PLAN RELEASED

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FRIENDS

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2016

TASMANIAN MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

that will turn all of us, young and old alike, into life-long museum lovers.

Many of us have watched with great interest as TMAG has changed and developed its physical spaces over the past five years. The Plan for the next five years should be equally fascinating, as we see TMAG further develop its strengths as a tourist destination, a collecting institution, a community hub, a focus for volunteering and an information source.

A welcome change will be the extension of TMAG's opening hours. After Boxing Day TMAG will be open on Mondays throughout summer, when cruise ships are in port, and on public holidays that fall on Mondays.

A hugely successful example of the innovation Janet described is the current exhibition, *Tempest* — a creative collaboration with MONA. This, and other partnerships such as upcoming collaborations with the Festival of Voices and Blue Cow Theatre, will position TMAG as a hub of Tasmanian life.

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TMAG Strategic Plan

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TMAG Director,
Janet Carding

Going digital — taking conversations about Tasmania to the world

Part of the new five-year Plan talks about the importance of digitising TMAG's collections, using digital technology and increasing TMAG's online presence.

"Digital technology will allow the most special things about Tasmania to be shared with people here and in other places," said Janet. "Tourists will be able to maintain a relationship with TMAG after they return home and researchers will enjoy unprecedented access to our collections."

The Rijksmuseum (www.rijksmuseum.nl) uses its website and other digital technology in a playful, yet sophisticated way, to allow visitors to plan their visit, or

to explore its collection online. Anyone can curate their own online collections from the Rijksmuseum and download high quality, copyright-free images of the works to use in any way they like. This sharing and re-imagining stimulates conversations with strangers across the world and inspires collaborations and new art.

When TMAG's collections are digitised, visitors can choose which Tasmanian stories are told and how these are shared, in ways limited only by their imaginations.

Find the Strategic Plan here: tmag.tas.gov.au > in the search field, type Strategic Plan.

Kids get their own Manifesto at TMAG

TMAG's **Kids in Museums Manifesto** spells out its commitment to making the TMAG welcoming and attuned to the needs of people of all ages. Item five on the Manifesto sounds as though it might have been written for the Friends: **Connecting generations. Grandparents are increasingly important in museum visits. Conversation between generations should be at the heart of what we do.**

"Kids really love coming to the museum with their parents and grandparents. The Kids in Museums Manifesto is part of cherishing this connection. If young people enjoy museums and galleries they'll have that love for life," said TMAG Director Janet Carding.

Read the Manifesto and share the love: <http://www.tmag.tas.gov.au/learning-and-discovery/families>



In Pursuit of Purity and Tranquillity: the Creative Journey of Professor Wong Shiu Hon, a Retrospective in Celebration of His 75th Birthday
心游清淨：黃兆漢教授 75 歲藝術回顧欣賞展

Here is a special invitation from our long-time Friends supporter Professor Wong Shiu Hon to attend his upcoming art exhibition.

**Sat 13 and Sun 14 August
10am-4pm
Boardwalk Gallery
Wrest Point**

All are welcome: free admission. Enquiries: chinese.art.soc@gmail.com or phone 0418 914 007

Recent Friends events



Snapshot Photography and Migrant Women



Where Science Meets Art: the Botanical Illustrations of Rod Seppelt



Pattern Play



Upcoming Friends events

The first of our Tempest Talks took place in June. We have two more scheduled, and you can book for both on our website now. Later in the year we will bring you more Tempest Talks centred on Shakespeare's play. Keep an eye on your inbox (or your mailbox) for invitations once details are finalised.

Tempest Talk 2: Wed 20 July Shipwreck archaeology in Tasmania by Michael Nash

One of the major themes in TMAG's Tempest exhibition is shipwrecks. And why not? There are more than 1000 shipwrecks scattered around the Tasmanian coastline. Maritime archaeologist **Mike Nash** will present an overview of the work that has been carried out to date, including wrecks such as the *Sydney Cove*, *SS Tasman* and *Brahmin*. Mike has published several books on the subject, including *Tasmanian Shipwrecks* (there are so many that it is published in two volumes), *Sydney Cove* and *The Bay Whalers*, available at the TMAG Shop.

Afterwards there will be a viewing of the Tempest shipwrecks gallery, and the TMAG Shop will be open after the talk, offering a 10% discount to Friends members, with the author on hand for signings.



Artefacts recovered from the *Brahmin* (Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service)

Tempest Talk 3: Thu 18 August The art of Tempest by Mary Knights and Jane Stewart

Dr **Mary Knights**, newly appointed Senior Curator of Art, will speak to the Friends for the first time, discussing Valerie Sparks' wallpaper installation in the Salon Gallery titled *Prospero's Island*. **Jane Stewart**, a familiar face to Friends members, will talk about another Tempest commission, Tacita Dean's ambitious chalk drawing on blackboard titled *When first I raised the tempest*. After the talks you will have the opportunity to view the works in the company of the curators.

If you would like to purchase a Tempest catalogue or other merchandise, the TMAG Shop will be open after the talks, offering a 10% discount to Friends members on all stocked items.



Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg (1740–1812), *A shipwreck off a rocky coast* (1760s), oil on canvas, 83 x 126.4 cm | Collection of the Art Gallery of New South Wales

Membership that rewards you



THE TASMANIAN MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY collects, houses and safeguards our natural and cultural heritage and provides an insight into other cultures.

The Friends are a group of people formed to bring the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery to Tasmanians and Tasmanians to TMAG. The Friends aim to help TMAG with our time, our talents and our money and to make more information available to the community about the TMAG and its collections. Part of the function of The Friends of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Inc. is to raise funds to assist with the purchase of significant items for the TMAG.

The Friends of TMAG are part of a wider Australian group with similar aims, the Australian Federation of Friends of Museums (AFFM).

You can read more about Friends on our website friendsoftmag.org.au

The Friends of the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery Incorporated

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Janet Carding, Director, TMAG

OFFICE HOURS

We are run entirely by volunteers so we can't staff our office on a fulltime basis. Our website friendsoftmag.org.au carries lots of information and we encourage you to use it for booking and paying for events. If you need to ask a question, an email to admin@friendsoftmag.org.au will get our prompt attention.

We almost always answer the phone at TMAG on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 and 12, so that's the best time if you need to call.

Views expressed in this newsletter reflect the views of the author and not necessarily those of the editor, the Friends of TMAG or TMAG.

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 In Graphic Detail


