

Chapter 3

GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

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Chapter 3

GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

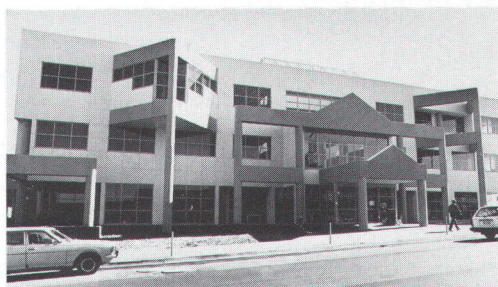
Since 1 January 1901, Australia has been a federation of six States. In 1911 two territories, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory, were transferred to the Commonwealth from New South Wales and South Australia.

Government is exercised in three jurisdictions:

- Commonwealth Government, with powers derived from a written constitution and centred in Canberra, the national capital;
- State Government with residual powers (powers not reserved for the Commonwealth) which in Tasmania is centred in Hobart;
- Local Government with authority derived from State acts.

The main responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government are:

Foreign affairs and diplomatic representation; maintenance of the armed forces; customs and excise; posts and telegraphs; control of broadcasting and television; control of civil aviation; repatriation of ex-servicemen; immigration; industrial arbitration for national industries; control of coinage and currency; overseas trade promotions; employment service; pensions; national health benefits; federal territories and overseas dependencies; census and statistics; meteorological service; federal courts and police; control of banking; collection of sales and income taxes; housing assistance and defence service homes; scientific and industrial research; management of state and national debt; light-houses and navigation.



Burnie Council Chambers

Photo: Mercury

The Tasmanian Government provides the greater number of community services including, transport, education, health, community welfare, housing, consumer affairs, forestry, fisheries, fire, police, emergency, agricultural and farming services. The Tasmanian Government is also responsible for prisons, courts, libraries, probation, racing and gaming, and labour and industry.

Local Government is mainly responsible for the maintenance of: parks, recreational and sporting facilities, roads and cemeteries, and provides town planning, sewerage, water, waste disposal and public health services.

During the two years to December 1989 the main political event within Tasmania was a State election on 13 May, nine months early. The result was 17 Liberals, 13 ALP and 5 Independents producing a change of government.

3.1 COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

Legislative power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Commonwealth Parliament which consists of the Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II (represented by the Governor-General), the Senate and the House of Representatives.

3.1.1 The Governor-General

Under the Commonwealth Constitution, ultimate executive power is vested in the Crown and is exercised by the Governor-General as the direct representative of the Sovereign. The present Governor-General is His Excellency the Honourable William George Hayden, AC, who was sworn in on 16 February 1989.

3.1.2 Commonwealth Parliament

The Senate

Since 1984 each State has been represented by twelve Senators and, in addition, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory have been represented by two Senators each since the election of 13 December 1975. Each Senator's term is normally six years, as half the Senate seats come up for election every three years. However, in the case of a double dissolution of both Houses, half the Senators are elec-

ted for a six-year term (the first six elected in each State) and half for a three-year term.

In Senate elections each State is an electorate. Electors are required to cast a vote for every candidate standing within the State in order of their preference or for a Party or group. Election of members is carried out in accordance with the principles of proportional representation by the single transferable vote.

Senator Michael Tate Minister for Justice

Michael Tate was elected to the Senate in 1977. After serving on a number of committees including Regulations and Ordinances, Scrutiny of Bills, Constitutional and Legal Affairs, National Resources, and several Senate Select Committees he became Minister for Justice and Special Minister of State in 1987.



Prior to his election to the Senate, he was a lecturer in Law and Dean of Faculty at the University of Tasmania.

3.1 TASMANIAN SENATORS, JULY 1990

<i>Senator</i>	<i>Office address</i>	<i>Party affiliation</i>	<i>Year of retirement</i>
Archer, B.R.	111 Wilson Street, Burnie, 7320	Liberal	1993
Aulich, T.	52 Tamar Street, Launceston, 7250	ALP	1993
Bell, R.	18 Gregory Street, Sandy Bay, 7005	Aust. Democrats	1996
Calvert, P.H.	3 Brooke Street, Hobart, 7000	Liberal	1996
Coates, J.	16 Victoria Street, Hobart, 7000	ALP	1993
Devereaux, J.R.	14 Rosny Hill Road, Rosny Park, 7018	ALP	1996
Harradine, R.W.B.	Marine Board Building, 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, 7000	Independent	1993
Newman, J.	11 Elphin Road, Launceston, 7250	Liberal	1996
Sherry, N.J.	59 Best Street, Devonport	ALP	1996
Tate, M.C.	Marine Board Building, 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, 7000	ALP	1993
Walters, M.S.	Marine Board Building, 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, 7000,	Liberal	1993
Watson, J.O.W.	42 St John Street, Launceston, 7250	Liberal	1996

If a vacancy occurs in the Senate, the appropriate State Government nominates a replacement, of the same political affiliation, who sits for the remainder of the term.

The House of Representatives

The founders of the parliamentary system, when designing the House of Representatives, envisaged a legislative body representing the national interest. The party holding a majority of seats in the House of Representatives, therefore controlling the House, provides the Government. The federal election of March 1990 returned the Labor Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Robert Hawke for a fourth term.

Australia is divided into 148 single-member electorates. All five Tasmanian seats were held by the Liberal Party from November 1975 until July 1987 when Duncan Kerr (ALP) replaced Michael Hodgman in Denison.

Election of members is carried out in accordance with the principles of the absolute majority through use of preference voting. If a vacancy occurs, it is filled by holding a by-election. Elections must be held at least every three years.

Representation in the House of Representatives is based upon the general principle of having, as nearly as practicable, electorates with equal numbers of electors. This is provided by regular electoral redistributions.

1990 House of Representatives and Senate Election

On 16 February 1990 the Prime Minister announced an election for the House of Representatives and the Senate for 24 March.

The election resulted in the Labor party retaining Denison with the Liberal party retaining the other four Tasmanian seats.

In the Senate the Liberal Party won three seats, the ALP won two seats and the other seat went to the Australian Democrats.

3.2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERSHIP BY STATE

New South Wales	51
Victoria	39
Queensland	24
South Australia	13
Western Australia	13
Tasmania	5
Northern Territory	1
Australian Capital Territory	2
Total	148

3.2 TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT

3.2.1 Historical Summary

In its short history, Tasmania has experienced several forms of government; beginning with autocratic rule, it graduated to responsible self-government as a British colony and finally surrendered some sovereign powers to take its place as an original Australian State.

3.3 TASMANIAN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

<i>Member</i>	<i>Office address</i>	<i>Party affiliation</i>	<i>Electorate</i>
Burr, M.	Cnr Brisbane and George Streets, Launceston, 7250	Liberal	Lyons
Goodluck, B.	Marine Board Building, 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, 7000	Liberal	Franklin
Kerr, D.	115 Collins Street, Hobart, 7000	ALP	Denison
Miles, C.	TGIO Building, 75 Wilson Street, Burnie, 7320	Liberal	Braddon
Smith, W.	65 Cameron Street, Launceston, 7250	Liberal	Bass

The evolution of the system of bi-cameral responsible government within a federal system falls into five distinct phases:

1803-1825: The island was part of the colony of New South Wales and its lieutenant-governors and commandants were subordinate to the Governor in Sydney.

1825-1851: On 14 July 1825, Van Diemen's Land was created a separate colony with a Lieutenant-Governor directly responsible to the Secretary of State in London. A nominated Legislative Council was established.

1851-1856: The passage of the *Australian Constitution Act 1850* by the Parliament in London was followed by the establishment of a new Legislative Council in which 16 members were elected and eight were nominees of the Lieutenant-Governor. The newly constituted Council first sat on 1 January 1852.

1856-1901: By the *Constitution Act 1854*, two houses of parliament, the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were established, both houses being elected. The first Parliament sat on 2 December 1856 (the first year in which the island was officially called Tasmania); representatives of the Crown carried the title of Governor.

1901: The Tasmanian Constitution was limited by the establishment of the Commonwealth Constitution. In effect, the Parliament of Tasmania may make laws operative within the State upon all matters not within the exclusive power of the Australian Parliament but, on those matters for which the Australian Government may also legislate, the Tasmanian law may be superseded by the passing of an act by the Commonwealth Parliament.

Tasmania's legislature consists of the Queen, represented by the Governor, and two houses of parliament, the Legislative Council (upper house) and the House of Assembly (lower house).

3.2.2 The Governor

The Governor of Tasmania is the representative of the Sovereign in the State and exercises the powers of the Crown in State matters. The Queen appoints the Governor on the advice of the Premier, generally for a five-year term. Powers and duties of the Governor are similar to those of the Governor-General.

On all official State occasions, he performs the ceremonial functions as the representative of the Queen. The Governor summons and prorogues parliament; in special circumstances he

3.4 SUCCESSION OF GOVERNORS, ACTING GOVERNORS, ADMINISTRATORS, FROM 1924

Name	Designation	Term of office	
		From	To
Sir James O'Grady, KCMG	Governor	23.12.24	23.12.30
Hon. Sir Herbert Nicholls, KCMG	Lieutenant-Governor	23.12.30	4. 8.33
Sir Ernest Clark, KCMG, KCB, CBE	Governor	4. 8.33	4. 8.45
Hon. Sir John Morris	Administrator	4. 8.45	24.12.45
Admiral Sir Hugh Binney, KCB, KCMG, DSO	Governor	24.12.45	8. 5.51
Hon. Sir John Morris, KCMG	Administrator	8. 5.51	22. 8.51
Rt. Hon. Sir Ronald Cross, Bart, KCMG, KCVO	Governor	22. 8.51	4. 6.58
Hon. Sir Stanley Burbury, KBE	Administrator	4. 6.58	21.10.59
Rt. Hon. Lord Rowallan, KT, KBE, MC, TD	Governor	21.10.59	25. 3.63
Hon. Sir Stanley Burbury, KBE	Administrator	25. 3.63	24. 9.63
Lt-General Sir Charles Gairdner, GBE, KCMG, KCVO, CB	Governor	24. 9.63	11. 7.68
Hon. Sir Stanley Burbury, KBE	Administrator	11. 7.68	2.12.68
Lt-General Sir Edric Bastyan, KCMG, KCVO, KBE, CB	Governor	2.12.68	30.11.73
Hon. Mr Justice Green	Administrator	30.11.73	5.12.73
Hon. Sir Stanley Burbury, KCMG, KCVO, KBE	Governor	5.12.73	30. 9.82
Hon. Sir Guy Green, KBE	Lieutenant-Governor	1. 4.82	30. 9.82
Sir James Plimsoll, AC, CBE	Governor	1.10.82	8. 5.87
Hon. Sir Guy Green, KBE	Lieutenant-Governor	9. 5.87	18.10.87
General Sir Phillip Bennett, AC, KBE, DSO	Governor	19.10.87	



*His Excellency
General Sir Phillip
Harvey Bennett,
AC KBE DSO,
Governor of Tas-
mania.*

*Photo: Depart-
ment of Defence
Public Relations*

may dissolve it after considering the advice of his Premier. Bills which have passed all stages in parliament are submitted to the Governor for his assent although there are some subjects which are specifically reserved for the Royal Assent (e.g. a Bill granting land or money to the Governor). He opens each session of Parliament by outlining the legislative program of the government, but takes no other part in the sittings of either House.

His executive powers include the appointment of ministers of the Crown, judges and other important State officers but not those whose appointments may be made by certain statutory corporations. By appointing ministers of the Crown, the Governor creates the Executive Council of the day and he is required by his instructions to be guided by the advice of this body. Should he feel it necessary to act against the advice of the Executive Council, he may do so, but the reasons for such action must be immediately reported to the Queen.

Tasmania's present Governor is H.E. General Sir Phillip Bennett, AC KBE DSO who was sworn in as Tasmania's 30th Governor on 19 October 1987. He was born in Perth, Western Australia, on 27 December 1928 and started his military career at the Royal Military College Duntroon. On 13 April 1984 he was promoted to General and appointed Chief of the Defence Force. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for service in Vietnam in 1968-69 and is a companion of the Order of Australia and Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

3.2.3 The Cabinet and Executive Government

In Tasmania, as in the other States and the Commonwealth, executive government is based on the system which was evolved in Britain in

the 18th century, and which is generally known as 'Cabinet', or 'responsible' government. Its essence is that the head of the State (in Tasmania, the Governor) should perform governmental acts on the advice of his ministers; that he should choose his ministers of State from members of parliament belonging to the party, or coalition of parties, commanding a majority in the popular House; that the ministry, the Cabinet, so chosen should be collectively responsible to that House for the government of the country; and that the ministry should resign or advise an election if it ceases to command a majority there.

The Cabinet system operates chiefly by means of constitutional conventions, customs or understandings, and through institutions that do not form part of the legal structure of government. In law, the executive power of the State is exercised by the Governor who is advised by the Executive Council which he himself has appointed.

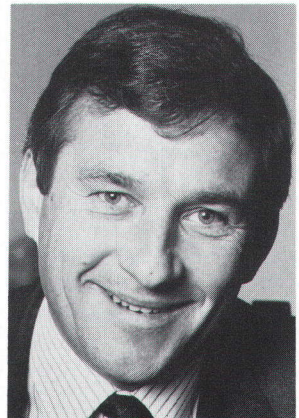
Premiers

The present Premier of Tasmania is The Honourable Michael Field who, as leader of the Australian Labor Party assumed office after securing an agreement with five independents following the resignation of Mr Robin Gray.

Michael Walter Field was born on May 28 1948, at Ulverstone, Tasmania. He has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Tasmania. Prior to entering Parliament, he was a teacher and a Community Development Officer.

He was first elected to the House of Assembly in 1976 for the Braddon electorate and three years later he became Minister for Transport, Main Roads, Construction and Local Government.

Between 1982 and 1989, while in Opposition, he held a number of shadow portfolios. In 1986 he was elected Deputy Leader of the Opposition and in late 1988 he became Leader of the Opposition.



Premier Field

3.5 PREMIERS FROM 1939

Name of Premier	Term of office	
	From	To
A.G. Ogilvie (a)	22. 6.34	10. 6.39
E. Dwyer-Gray	11. 6.39	18.12.39
R. Cosgrove	18.12.39	18.12.47
E. Brooker	18.12.47	25. 2.48
R. Cosgrove	25. 2.48	26. 8.58
E.E. Reece	26. 8.58	26. 5.69
W.A. Bethune	26. 5.69	3. 5.72
E.E. Reece	3. 5.72	31. 3.75
W.A. Neilson	31. 3.75	1. 12.77
D.A. Lowe	1.12.77	11.11.81
H.N. Holgate	11.11.81	26. 5.82
R.T. Gray	26. 5.82	3. 7.89
M.W. Field	3. 7.89	

3.2.4 The House of Assembly

The Tasmanian Lower House comprises 35 members elected for a term of four years from five seven-member electorates.

Electoral System

Tasmania uses proportional representation known as the Hare-Clark system in elections for the Assembly.

- Party groups are identified on ballot papers.
- Candidates' positions within groups are rotated so that in 'preferred' positions all candidates appear on the same number of ballot papers.
- A valid vote must show at least seven preferences.
- To secure election, candidates must gain a quota - the total first preference votes divided by eight, plus one vote.
- On polling day, no media advertising and no soliciting of votes near the polling booth is permitted.
- The constituencies are the same five divisions used for House of Representatives elections.

3.6 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AS AT MAY 1989

Electoral division	Member's name	Party affiliation
Bass	Armstrong, L. J. E.	Ind.
	Beswick, R. J.	Liberal
	Cox, J. G.	ALP
	Holgate, The Hon. H. N.	ALP
	Madill, F.L.	Liberal
	Patmore, The Hon. P. J.	ALP
Braddon	Robson, N. M.	Liberal
	Bonde, W.B.	Liberal
	Cornish, R.	Liberal
	Field, The Hon. M.W.	ALP
	Groom, F. R.	Liberal
	Hollister, D. L.	Ind.
Denison	Rundle, A. M.	Liberal
	Weldon, The Hon. M. W.	ALP
	Barker, J. S.	Liberal
	Brown, R. J.	Ind.
	Crean, D. M.	ALP
	Gibson, C.A.	Liberal
Franklin	Groom, The Hon. R. J.	Liberal
	Jackson, The Hon. J. L.	ALP
	White, The Hon. J. C.	ALP
	Aird, The Hon. M. A.	ALP
	Bates, G.M.	Ind.
	Bladel, The Hon. F. M.	ALP
Lyons	Cleary, T. J.	Liberal
	Evers, N. C. K.	Liberal
	Hodgman, P. C. L.	Liberal
	Wriedt, The Hon. K. S.	ALP
Lyons	Avram, Duke of, J. C.	Liberal
	Braid, I. M.	Liberal
	Gray, The Hon. R. T.	Liberal
	Llewellyn, The Hon. D. E.	ALP
	Milne, C. A.	Ind.
	Page, G. R.	Liberal
	Polley, The Hon. M. R.	ALP

Officers of the House of Assembly

Speaker - The Hon. M.R. Polley
 Chairman of Committees - Dr D.M. Crean
 Clerk - Mr P.T. McKay
 Clerk Assistant and Sergeant-at-Arms -
 Mr P.R. Alcock

1989 State Election

"When it [the final result] is known I will consider what advice I offer to his Excellency the Governor, whether my government forms a minority government or I advise him to ask whether the Leader of the Opposition and the other parties involved can form a government" - Mr Robin Gray, election night, May 14, 1989.

Six weeks later, Mr Gray took up the latter option but only after a dramatic period following what was an historic election.

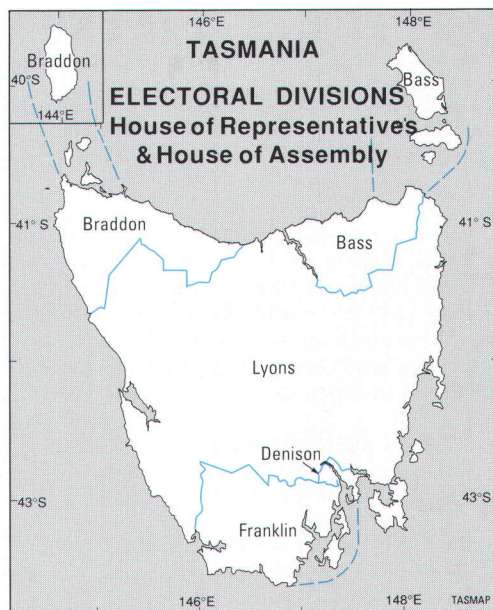
3.7 PARTY DISTRIBUTION OF VOTES IN ELECTORATES (%)

Elect- orate	Australian		Lib- eral Party	Inde- pend- ents
	Labor Party	Democrats		
Bass	37.45	1.13	47.30	14.12
Braddon	29.86	-	57.45	12.69
Denison	36.93	1.07	38.35	23.65
Franklin	38.28	1.54	40.12	20.06
Lyons	31.03	0.73	51.41	16.82
Statewide	34.71	0.90	46.92	17.48

Mr Gray seemed confident of securing another term as Liberal Premier when he announced a May 13 election, some nine months early. However, the poll resulted in the election of 17 Liberals, 13 Labor and a record five Independents a "hung parliament", with the most likely outcome predicted to be a minority Liberal government.

One feature of State elections in Tasmania is the frequency with which sitting members are replaced. Liberal Minister Peter Rae lost his seat as did former Opposition Leader, Neil Batt. Also defeated were Messrs Chris Batt, Greg Peart, Bob Mainwaring and Mrs Gill James. New members to the Parliament were Messrs Jim Cox, Dr David Crean, Michael Aird, Rev. Lance Armstrong, Mrs Dianne Hollister and Mrs Christine Milne.

The Liberals were still in power and three days after the election Mr Gray sent a letter to Independents, Dr Bob Brown and Dr Gerry Bates seeking a meeting. A day later Mr Field also held talks with the Independents in a bid to form a minority government. As these talks pro-



ceeded, the Liberals withdrew from negotiations, leaving the Independents with the option of securing an arrangement with the Labor Party or sitting on the cross-benches allowing the continuation of a minority Liberal government. Following several days of protracted negotiations, the five Independents and the parliamentary Labor Party signed an 'Accord' which ensured the Labor Party majority support in the parliament, just as Mr Robin Gray and his Cabinet, including Dr Frank Madill who replaced Mr Peter Rae, were sworn in as a minority government. [The parliament had been prorogued until June 28.] Claiming that anything could happen in the four weeks prior to the opening of parliament, Mr Gray and his Ministers set about the process of government. The Independents announced their intention to move a no-confidence motion against the Liberal Government on the resumption of parliament.

Public meetings in Ulverstone and Hobart were held in support of the Government while in Hobart more than 1500 people packed the City Hall to support the 'Accord'.

However, on June 23, a dramatic new turn occurred. A Mr Tony Aloji of Melbourne was arrested and charged with attempted bribery and conspiracy to bribe. It was alleged that Mr Cox (ALP) was offered a \$110 000 payment to cross the floor and vote with the Liberal Party. Five days later, Mr Edmund Rouse, a leading busi-

nessman, was also charged with offering a bribe.

On June 28 the new Parliament met amid speculation about the action of the Premier, Mr Gray, in the event of a successful no-confidence motion in the Liberal Government.

The first test was the election of a Speaker. With the support of the five Independents, Mr Michael Polley (ALP) was elected and Dr David Crean (ALP) was elected Chairman of Committees. After the traditional address by the Governor, and afternoon tea, Dr Brown (Independent) moved an amendment to the address in reply:

That the motion be amended by adding -

'WE FURTHER RECORD

(1) That neither the Premier, the Honourable Robin Gray, nor his Government has or has ever had the confidence of this House; and

(2) That the member for Braddon, the Honourable Michael Field, has and will continue to have the confidence of this House.

Accordingly, this House calls upon the member for Lyons, the Honourable Robin Gray to resign his commission as Premier forthwith and respectfully requests His Excellency the Governor to ask Mr Field to form a government forthwith.'

At 7 a.m. the next morning, Dr Brown's motion was finally passed, following which it was delivered to the Governor. During the afternoon the Governor held discussions with Mr Gray, Mr Field, and each of the Independents, Drs Brown and Bates, Rev. Armstrong, Mrs Hollister and Mrs Milne. In the early evening Mr Gray tendered the resignation of his government and at 8 p.m. Mr Field was sworn in as Premier, to head an ALP government in an alliance with the five Independents.

3.2.5 The Legislative Council

The Legislative Council has the tradition of being a non-party house; in 1985 the composition of the house was 18 Independents and one Labor Party representative. The leader for the Government in the Legislative Council therefore cannot rely upon a vote taken on party lines to ensure the passage of any government bill. Contrary to the House of Assembly where parties usually dominate to ensure the passage of Gov-

ernment legislation, no such certainty exists with legislation through the Council. As a result it is not unusual for legislation to be amended or even rejected. Where conflict occurs between the two Houses, 'managers' are appointed from each House to meet and attempt to resolve the dispute. Occasionally, even such 'Managers Conferences' fail to resolve the differences.

3.8 MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, JULY 1989

<i>Electoral division</i>	<i>Member's name</i>	<i>Year of retirement</i>
South Esk	Archer, The Hon. R.C.	1992
Derwent	Batt, The Hon. C.L. (a) (b)	1991
Mersey	Braid, The Hon. H.W.	1990
Westmorland	Chellis, The Hon. D.O.	1991
Russell	Fletcher, The Hon. A.W.	1993
Newdegate	Ginn, The Hon. R.W.	1993
West Devon	Hiscutt, The Hon. H.J.	1995
Meander	Hope, The Hon. R.T.	1991
Tamar	Loone, The Hon. J.A.	1995
Buckingham	Lowe, The Hon. D.A. (c)	1992
Pembroke	McKay, The Hon. P.C.	1995
Cornwall	McKendrick, The Hon. R.L.	1990
Huon	Meyer, The Hon. A.Y.	1990
Hobart	Petrusma, The Hon. H.	1994
Gordon	Schulze, The Hon. P.R.	1994
Macquarie	Shaw, The Hon. G.A.	1992
Queenborough	Stopp, The Hon. E.J.C.	1995
Monmouth	Wilson, The Hon. S.J.	1993
Launceston	Wing, The Hon. D.G.	1994

(a) Endorsed by the Australian Labor Party; all other members are Independents.

(b) Deputy Leader for the Government.

(c) Leader for the Government.

Officers of the Legislative Council

President - The Hon. G.A. Shaw
 Deputy President and Chairman of
 Committees - The Hon. R.T. Hope
 Clerk - Mr R.J.S. McKenzie
 Usher of the Black Rod - Mr D.T. Pearce
 Second Clerk-Assistant - Ms W.M. Peddle

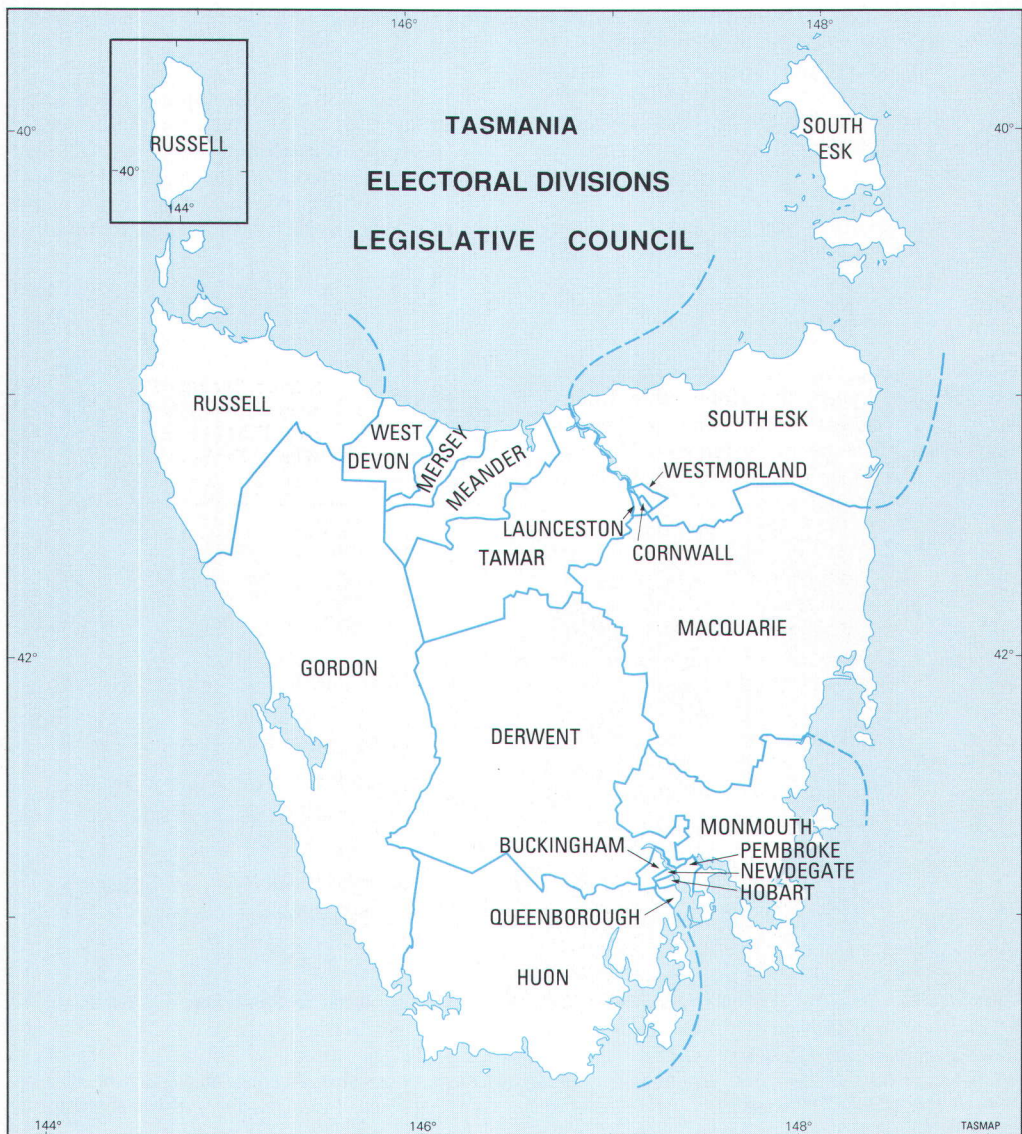
Following conflict between the two Houses of Parliament over a money bill during 1924 and 1925, the Constitutional Amendment Act 1926 was passed. This Act defined the relations between the two Houses especially with regard to the passing of money bills.

- The Legislative Council retains the right to reject any bill, including a money bill.
- The Council is specifically prevented from amending bills to raise revenue for the ordinary annual services of the Government and bills imposing land and income tax.
- It can suggest to the House of Assembly that amendments be made but the adoption or rejection of such amendments is at the discretion of the Assembly.

Apart from the above specific exception, the Council retains the right to amend money bills, e.g. those dealing with loan funds or probate. The House of Assembly is given the sole right to initiate bills for the raising of revenue and the imposition of taxes. Finally, the powers of the two houses are declared equal in all matters except for these specific exceptions.

Legislative Council Elections

Members of the Legislative Council are elected by 19 single member electorates for six-year terms by preferential voting. Elections are held



every year to elect three members except for every sixth year when four members are elected.

As for the Assembly, candidates' names are rotated on the ballot papers. To be elected a candidate must obtain 50 per cent of the valid votes plus one, including preferences. A valid vote must show at least three preferences.

Rotational elections were held for the electorates of Gordon, Launceston and Hobart in 1988 and for Queenborough, Tamar, West Devon and Pembroke in 1989. Retired mining engineer and a former warden of Queenstown, Mr Peter Schulze topped the Gordon poll on primaries from a field of five candidates and was elected after the distribution of preferences. In Launceston, the sitting member and former mayor, Mr Don Wing won a landslide victory from two other candidates. Mr Hank Petrusma, the sitting member for Hobart was returned unopposed.

Deloraine sporting identity and community worker, Mr John Loone, won the seat of Tamar on preferences, ahead of five other candidates. Sitting member, Mr Hugh Hiscutt was returned

in West Devon on first preferences. In the south, Mr Peter McKay, retained Pembroke and Mr John Stopp was returned in Queenborough.

3.2.6 Departments

The system of responsible government in Tasmania requires that the executive power of the State shall be exercised by the Cabinet; in exercising this power, the Ministers of the Cabinet are held responsible for the actions and administration of government departments and other governmental authorities which have been created to put into practice the laws made by parliament, to give effect to the decisions of the ministry, and to advise the ministry on matters of policy.

Following the commissioning of the Labor government led by Mr Field, the public service was radically restructured with more than 50 departments, authorities and agencies reshaped into 18 super departments. Among the major changes were the merger or amalgamation of:

- the Mental Health Services Commission into the Department of Health;



Tasmania's Parliamentary Cabinet

H. Holgate, J. Cox, J. Jackson, D. Crean, J. White, M. Polley, M. Field, D. Llewellyn, F. Bladel, M. Weldon, M. Aird, C. Batt, P. Patmore, K. Wriedt

Photo: Mercury

Ministers, Portfolios and Responsibilities as at August 1989

The Hon. M.W. Field Premier, Minister for Finance and Treasurer, Minister for State Development and Minister for Public Administration

Audit Department His Excellency The Governor's Establishment	Department of Finance Tasmanian Development Authority Tasmanian Gaming Commission	Department of Premier and Cabinet Department of Public Administration Super. Accumulation Fund Board
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The Hon. P.J. Patmore Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Attorney-General and Minister for Education and the Arts

Department of Justice MAIB	Schools Board of Tasmania Office of the Ombudsman	Museum and Art Gallery Department of Education and the Arts
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The Hon. M.A. Aird Minister for Environment and Planning, Minister for Employment, Industrial Relations and Training and Minister Assisting Premier on Youth Affairs

Department of Employment, Industrial Relations and Training Department of Environment and Planning	Training Authority of Tasmania Tasmanian Industrial Commission
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The Hon. F.M. Bladel Minister for Administrative Services and Minister Assisting Premier on Status of Women

Department of Administrative Services

The Hon. H.N. Holgate Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation

Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation Licensing Board of Tasmania	Tasmanian Racing Directorate
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The Hon. J.L. Jackson Minister for Community Services, Minister for Parks, Wildlife and Heritage

Trustees of the Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage	Department of Community Services
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The Hon. D.E. Llewellyn Minister for Primary Industry and Minister for Forests

Forestry Department Egg Marketing Board	Department of Primary Industry Inland Fisheries Commission	Dairy Industry Authority Tasmanian Grain Elevators Board
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The Hon. M.W. Weldon Minister of Resources and Energy and Minister for Construction

Department of Construction Hydro Electricity Commission	Department of Resources and Energy Hobart Regional Water Board
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The Hon. J.C. White Minister for Health, Minister Assisting the Premier on Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs

Department of Health	Mental Health Services Commission	Boards of Public Hospital Districts
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The Hon. K.S. Wriedt Minister for Roads and Transport and Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Transport Department Tasmanian Fire Service	Department of Roads and Transport Metropolitan Transport Trust	Department of Police and Emergency Services Tasmanian Ambulance Service
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- the Departments of Agriculture and Sea Fisheries into the Department of Primary Industry;
- the Departments of Mines and Rivers and Water Supply and the Hydro-Electric Commission into the Department of Resources and Energy;
- the Department of Sport and Recreation with Tourism; and
- the Town and Country Planning Commission and the Department of the Environment to create a new Department of Environment and Planning.

3.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As at 31 December 1989, local government in Tasmania is administered by the councils of 40 municipalities and the six cities of Hobart, Launceston, Glenorchy, Devonport, Burnie and Clarence. Each council is responsible for the provision of many of the services necessary for the organisation and welfare of the community which it represents.

In Tasmania there are only two categories of local government, a municipality or a city. Before a municipality can petition to become a city, it must have had, for five years before the petition, an average population of not less than 20 000.

For any of a number of reasons, the Minister administering the Local Government Act may consider it necessary to recommend suspension of the elected councillors and the appointment of a commission, or in certain cases, an administrator to carry on municipal government in a particular municipality.

A councillor must be an elector of, and either reside or carry on business in, the municipality. Councils may comprise six, nine, 12 or 15 councillors. The Warden, Deputy Warden and Treas-

urer are elected by the council members on an annual basis. The electors of Hobart elect the Lord Mayor and in Glenorchy, Devonport, Burnie and Clarence the electors elect the Mayor. However, the Mayor of Launceston is elected by Council members. The office of warden is comparable with that of the mayor of a city or the president of a shire in other States.

Clarence became Tasmania's sixth, and second largest city, when it was proclaimed on November 24, 1988. Councillor, and Warden, Alan Sproule became the city's first mayor.

On January 1, 1989, Launceston marked its centenary as a city. The first city mayor was Ald. David Scott; its mayor in 1989 was Ald. Jimmy Tsinoglou. In 1889 it had a population of 19 412 which, 100 years later, had grown to 66 000 with the incorporation of Lilydale and St Leonards.

In local government elections, Mrs Cathy Edwards became the first elected Mayor of the City of Clarence, and Tasmania's second female mayor after the election of Alderman Doone Kennedy as Lord Mayor of Hobart in 1988. In Launceston Alderman Tsinoglou became the first mayor of Launceston to serve three terms.

3.4 REFERENCES

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