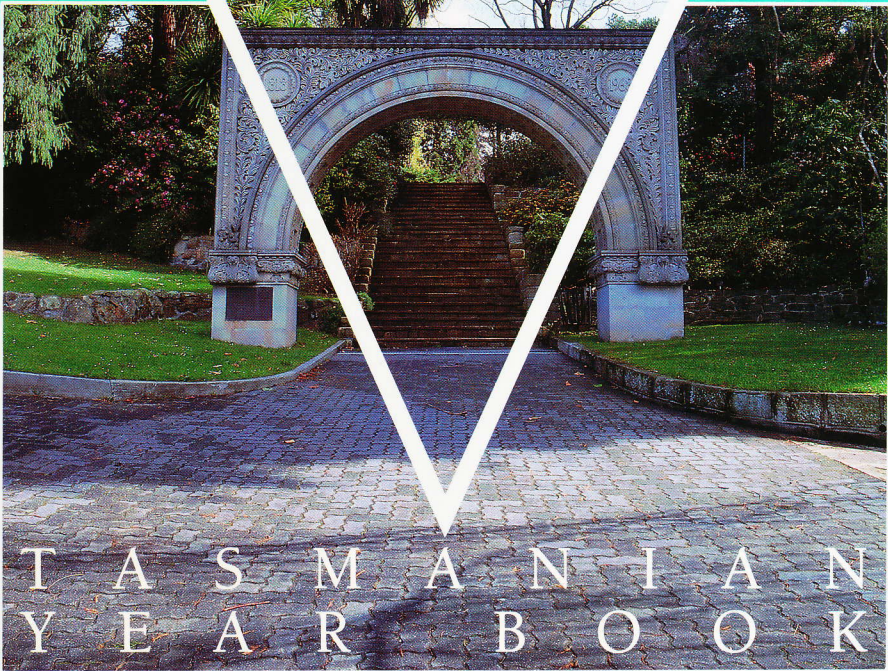


1992



T A S M A N I A N
Y E A R B O O K



*Frontispiece: Stone arch, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, Hobart.
(photo: Martin Walch)*

TASMANIAN YEAR BOOK
1992

TASMANIAN OFFICE

**TASMANIAN
YEAR BOOK**

No. 23: 1992

JOHN POLLARD

ACTING DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

ABS Catalogue Number 1301.6

National Library of Australia card number and ISSN 0082-2116

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Proudly Printed in Australia by Globe Press, Melbourne, Victoria

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GENERAL INFORMATION

SYMBOLS

The following symbols, where used, mean:

ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification
n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.e.i.	not elsewhere included
n.p.	not available for separate publication but included in totals where applicable
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
-	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of the series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Where reference is made to Acts of the Commonwealth or State Parliaments, the year quoted refers to the year in which the principal Act was passed; all subsequent amendments are inferred.

VALUES AND MEASURES

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or cents (c).

LOCAL NAMES OF CERTAIN REGIONS

Tasmanians describe certain regions in a manner confusing to strangers; nevertheless this book employs local usage in most contexts. The chief peculiarities are:

North-West Coast: The *north* coast from approximately Port Sorell, west to Cape Grim is called the *North-West Coast*.

North-East Coast: The *north* coast from approximately Low Head, east to Cape Portland is called the *North-East Coast*. With most of the north coast referred to as either 'north-west' or 'north-east' the term 'north' is rarely applied to this coastal region.

West Coast: The Tasmanian *West Coast* may also refer only to the mining settlements of Queenstown, Rosebery, etc. In other contexts, the user may be thinking of inland mountains and rainforests rather than of a coastline.

Midlands: The true *Midlands* are probably the Central Plateau but the Tasmanian term means the rural area east of the Plateau and lying along the axis of the Hobart-Launceston road (the *Midland Highway*).

PREFACE

The Tasmanian Year Book has been produced since 1967: annually until 1986; later becoming biennial. Since its inception the Year Book has been an invaluable source of reference information about the State of Tasmania, providing a permanent record of the economic and social developments of the time. Subjects covered by its chapters include Tasmania's physical environment, its history and structure of government as well as details of the wide range of economic and social statistics collected by this Department. It is designed to be readily understood by all those who wish to acquire a broad knowledge of the State as well as those who have a particular practical use for the statistics.

In order to assist this understanding, the contents of statistical tables are supplemented in most cases with accompanying text, and numerous graphs and diagrams. For the user who requires time series of statistics, a collection of summary tables is included at the back of the book. This edition of the Year Book (the twenty-third) includes a special article on lichens by Dr Gintaras Kantvilas from the Herbarium, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. As far as possible, the latest available statistics and significant developments which occurred over the years 1990 and 1991 have been included in each chapter. More detailed, and in many cases more up-to-date, statistics of the various topics covered by this book may be obtained by reference to the list of related publications included at the end of each chapter. Copies of these publications are available for sale from the Tasmanian Office of the ABS, which is located at 175 Collins St, Hobart; or may be obtained by writing to the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician, GPO Box 66A, Hobart 7001. The Australian Bureau of Statistics also provides an Information Service, which can supply statistical information and advice about publications, classifications and definitions, and where necessary, alternative sources. Contact the Information Officers by telephoning (002) 205800. If your requirements go beyond the simple use of published statistics, then one of the Information Consultants may be able to help by designing a special table for you, and perhaps supplying the data by electronic means. A Statistical Consultant can design a sample survey for you; provide advice on questionnaire design, and analyse your survey results. They will provide expert advice and accurate information to meet your requirements. All publications of the ABS are held in the Office library which is open to the public for reference purposes. In addition, our recent Library Extension Program has ensured that a wide range of ABS publications is located at each State and Regional library within Tasmania.

The collection of official statistics in Tasmania has a long history. Before the appointment of the first Government Statistician in Tasmania in 1867, statistics had been published in the official 'Blue Books' compiled by the Colonial Secretary during the period 1822-1855, and in volumes entitled *Statistics of Tasmania* after self-government was granted.

By the *Commonwealth and State Statistical Agreement Act* 1924, the Tasmanian Parliament ratified an agreement for the establishment of an office in Tasmania of the Australian Bureau of Statistics to meet the statistical needs of the State Government. Provision was made for the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician, a Federal Government officer, to hold, at the discretion of the State Government, the title of (State) Government Statistician. The first officer appointed in this way was L.F. Giblin, D.S.O.M.C., who had previously been the State Government Statistician. (It was not until the late 1950s that similar arrangements were made in the other Australian States.)

John Pollard
Acting Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is grateful to persons, departments, companies and organisations listed below for their co-operation in contributing to this edition of the Year Book. At the Bureau's invitation they provided material and advice and substantially helped make this edition possible.

- Chapter one:** Julia Clark, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.
- Chapter two:** Bureau of Meteorology; Dr Gintaras Kantvilas, Tasmanian Museum Herbarium; Forestry Commission Tasmania; Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage, Department of Environment and Planning.
- Chapter three:** Tasmanian Parliamentary Library; Clerk of the Legislative Council; Department of Premier and Cabinet; Electoral Department; Government House.
- Chapter four:** Department of Community Services; Department of Justice; Department of Police and Emergency Services.
- Chapter five:** Department of Treasury and Finance.
- Chapter six:** Department of Environment and Planning.
- Chapter seven:** Department of Employment, Industrial Relations and Training (State); Department of Employment, Education and Training (Commonwealth); Department of Social Security.
- Chapter eight:** Julia Clark, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery; Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation; Tasmanian Institute of Sport; Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board; Christa Johannes, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.
- Chapter nine:** Department of Employment, Education and Training; Australian Maritime College; University of Tasmania; Queen Victoria Museum; State Library of Tasmania; Education Department.
- Chapter ten:** Department of Health Housing and Community Services (Commonwealth); Department of Health (State); The Menzies Centre for Population and Health Research.
- Chapter eleven:** Department of Community Services; Department of Social Security; Tasmanian Council of Social Services; Centacare; Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- Chapter twelve:** Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation; National Trust of Australia (Tasmania); Launceston City Council.
- Chapter thirteen:** Department of Primary Industry; School of Agriculture and Horticulture.
- Chapter fourteen:** A. G. Sagona, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, Chisholm Institute.
- Chapter fifteen:** Department of Primary Industry; Australian and Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics.
- Chapter sixteen:** Hydro-Electric Commission.
- Chapter seventeen:** Tasmanian Development Authority.
- Chapter eighteen:** Australian Property Group; The Royal Australian Institute of Architects, (Tasmanian Chapter).
- Chapter nineteen:** Department of Transport and Communications; Australia Post; Department of Roads and Transport; Telecom Australia; Australian National Railways Commission.
- Chapter twenty-one:** Dr Alf Hagger, University of Tasmania's Centre for Regional Economic Analysis.