

# LINN S C NEWS

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**NEW MEMBERS:** We welcome:

Mr John Illingsworth - Fields of interest: geomorphology, vegetation

Dr John Martyn - Fields of interest: geology, Sydney Basin geology, flora



**ARTICLE RECENTLY PUBLISHED in Volume 143, 2021**

Baird, I.R. and Benson, D. Population ecology of two endemic, fire-sensitive, Blue Mountains *Banksia* taxa (Proteaceae) in response to fire.

This article completes volume 143, 2021.

**All recent papers published in the *Proceedings* (from Vol. 133) are freely available from:**

**<http://ojs-prod.library.usyd.edu.au/index.php/LIN>**

**Earlier volumes are available from:** [www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/6525](http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/6525)

**Please check regularly the Society's home page for recently uploaded papers by going to "linneansocietynsw" then click "Journal (Proceedings)".**



**APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUNDS**

Application forms for all Research Funds may be obtained from the Society's Home Page  
« <http://linneansocietynsw.org.au> »

**Intending applicants: Please read instructions carefully.**

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**WILLIAM MACLEAY MICROBIOLOGY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUND**

Grants are available from the William Macleay Microbiology Scientific Research Fund to support original research in an Australian context within the field of Microbiology.

Applications will be accepted from postgraduate and Honours degree students at recognised Australian Universities who are undertaking full-time or part-time studies with a microbiological emphasis.

Applications are also encouraged from amateur or professional microbiologists, whether in employment as such or not, who can demonstrate a level of achievement in original research in Microbiology.

In awarding grants, the Council of the Society will assess:

- a) Realistic costing and timetable
- b) The quality of the project
- c) The applicant's ability to carry it out
- d) The likelihood that successful completion of the research will lead to publication or other useful dissemination of research results.

The total amount of Fund money available for awards in any year will depend on interest income received by the Fund over the preceding year and thus the maximum per application may vary from year to year. The current limits are: \$2,000 for Members of the Linnean Society of New South Wales and \$1,200 for non-members. Successful awards may be less than the amount requested when quality applications exceed money available.

The Society envisages that grants would normally be used for items such as travel within Australia, equipment, photographic and other expenses, but not for subsistence, travel to conferences, or thesis preparation.

Applications are not restricted to members, but other things being equal, members of the Society will be given preference.

The closing date for applications is March 1 in any year. In exceptional circumstances, emergency support may be available at another times. Please contact the secretary before submitting an application.

Applications should be made on the Fund's application form. Supporting documents should be added to the end and **the entire application should be submitted as a single PDF file.**

The application must include a short summary (up to 200 words) about the project, to be published in the LinnSoc News if the applicant is successful.

Any publication arising from work supported by the William Macleay Microbiology Scientific Research Fund should include an acknowledgement to that effect.

Any type material generated by studies supported by these grants should be lodged in the collections of an appropriate scientific institution.

An application form may be obtained from the website or from the Secretary of the Society.

The Council's decision in regard to the award or non-award of grants from the William Macleay Microbiology Scientific Research Fund is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

**Submit your signed application by email to: [secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au)**

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### BETTY MAYNE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUND FOR EARTH SCIENCES

The Betty Mayne Scientific Research Fund for Earth Sciences provides financial assistance to support short term original research projects in all aspects of the earth sciences.

Applications will be accepted from postgraduate and honours students, amateur or professional geologists who can demonstrate a level of achievement in original research in Earth Sciences.

Projects proposed for support do not have to be restricted to Australian locations or specimens, but, given the Society's interests in the natural history of Australia, they must demonstrate a strong Australian context.

In awarding grants, the Council of the Society will assess:

- a) Realistic costing and timetable
- b) The quality of the project
- c) The applicant's ability to carry it out
- d) The likelihood that successful completion of the research will lead to publication or other useful dissemination of research results.

The total amount of Fund money available for awards in any year will depend on interest income received by the Fund over the preceding year and thus the maximum per application may vary from year to year. The current limits are: \$2,000 for Members of the Linnean Society of New South Wales and \$1,200 for non-members. Successful awards may be less than the amount requested when quality applications exceed money available.

The Society envisages that grants would normally be used for items such as travel within Australia, equipment, photographic and other expenses, but not for subsistence, travel to conferences, or thesis preparation.

Applications are not restricted to members, but other things being equal, members of the Society will be given preference.

The closing date for applications is March 1 in any year. In exceptional circumstances, emergency support may be available at another times. Please contact the secretary before submitting an application.

Applications should be made on the Fund's application form. Supporting documents should be added to the end and **the entire application should be submitted as a single PDF file.**

The application must include a short summary (up to 200 words) about the project, to be published in the LinnSoc News if the applicant is successful.

Any publication arising from work supported by the Betty Mayne Scientific Research Fund for Earth Sciences should include an acknowledgement to that effect.

Any type material generated by studies supported by these grants should be lodged in the collections of an appropriate scientific institution.

An application form may be obtained from the website or from the Secretary of the Society.

The Council's decision in regard to the award or non-award of grants from the Betty Mayne Scientific Research Fund for Earth Sciences is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

**Submit your signed application by email to [secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au)**

### JOYCE W VICKERY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUND

Grants from the Joyce W. Vickery Scientific Research Fund are intended to support worthy research in those fields of the Biological Sciences that fall within the range of interests of the Society, especially natural history research within Australia.

Applications will be accepted from postgraduate and Honours degree students at recognised Australian Universities who are undertaking full-time or part-time studies with a biological emphasis.

Applications are also encouraged from amateur or professional biologists, whether in employment as such or not, who can demonstrate a level of achievement in original research in Biological Sciences.

In awarding grants, the Council of the Society will assess:

- a) Realistic costing and timetable
- b) The quality of the project
- c) The applicant's ability to carry it out
- d) The likelihood that successful completion of the research will lead to publication or other useful dissemination of research results.

The total amount of Fund money available for awards in any year will depend on interest income received by the Fund over the preceding year and thus the maximum per application may vary from year to year. The current limits are: \$2,000 for Members of the Linnean Society of New South Wales and \$1,200 for non-members. Successful awards may be less than the amount requested when quality applications exceed money available.

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The closing date for applications is March 1 in any year. In exceptional circumstances, emergency support may be available at another times. Please contact the secretary before submitting an application.

Applications should be made on the Fund's application form. Supporting documents should be added to the end and **the entire application should be submitted as a single PDF file.**

The application must include a short summary (up to 200 words) about the project, to be published in the LinnSoc News if the applicant is successful.

Any publication arising from work supported by the Joyce W. Vickery Scientific Research Fund should include an acknowledgement to that effect.

Any type material generated by studies supported by these grants should be lodged in the collections of an appropriate scientific institution.

An application form may be obtained from the website or from the Secretary of the Society.

The Council's decision in regard to the award or non-award of grants from the Joyce W Vickery Scientific Research Fund is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

**Submit your signed application by email to [secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au)**



### RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

Included with this issue of LinnSoc News (as a separate attachment) is your Renewal of Membership for 2022. Note that a discount is given if payment is received before March 31, 2022.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the society was unable to conduct its usual range of activities for Members. Next year, circumstances permitting, the Society is planning several activities, including scientific lectures and a field trip to Long Reef. Members will also enjoy discounted registration fees to the Natural History Symposium on the Northeast Sydney Basin which will take place later in 2022.

## Linnean Society of New South Wales

Minutes of the 146th Annual General Meeting, held in the Charles Moore Room, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 6:00pm

**CHAIRPERSON:** Dr Ian Percival

**PRESENT:** Sixteen members and friends (names recorded in the attendance book).

**APOLOGIES:** Dr Mike Augee FRZS, Prof. Anders Hallengren FLS

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the one hundred and forty-five Annual General Meeting, held on, October 21, 2020 were distributed. It was moved (R. King) and seconded (J. Pickett) that the minutes as circulated be accepted as a true record. CARRIED.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer Dr Ian Percival presented the audited financial report for 2020 and distributed notes to accompany the 2020 balance sheets.

It was moved (I. Percival) and seconded (R. King) that the audited accounts for 2020 and the Treasurer's report be accepted. CARRIED.

R. King thanked the Treasurer, Ian Percival, for maintaining the Society's finances in a strong and healthy state of affairs.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chairman reported on the affairs of the Society for the year 2021. Special thanks were given to the Editor, Michael Augee, competently assisted by Cr Bruce Welch for managing the Society's *Proceedings* through all stages of production. On behalf of the Society, the Chairman expressed appreciation for the work done by all Council members over the past year. The Chairman extended thanks to the Royal Botanic Gardens and Trust for providing room for the AGM.

It was moved (R. King) and seconded (B. Welch) that the Chairman's report be accepted. CARRIED.

**DECLARATION OF ELECTIONS:**

*Council*

As the number of nominations for Council did not exceed the number of vacancies (six), no voting was necessary. Having received no other nominations for Council, the following five retiring Council members were declared by the Chairman re-elected to Council for three years: John Barkas, Hayley Bates, John Pickett, Helen Smith and Karen Wilson. Doug Benson and Peter Olde were formally elected to Council and Ian Hill has been accepted as Casual Councillor until next year's AGM.

*President*

There being no other nominations, the Council nominee, Dr Ian Percival was declared elected as President of the Society for 2021. CARRIED.

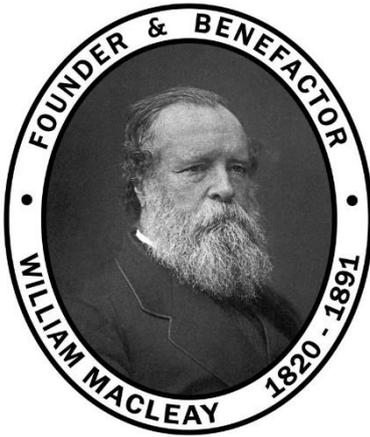
*Auditor*

There being no other nominations for auditors, it was moved (I. Percival, from the Chair) that the current firm, Phil Williams Carbonara, be retained for 2021. CARRIED.

A vote of appreciation from the audience was given to the President Dr Ian Percival for his leadership and his careful handling of the Society's funds (as Treasurer) during these very difficult times.

As there was no further business, Dr Ian Percival declared the meeting closed at 6:25pm.

*Presidential Address.* The Presidential Address for 2020 "***Mining, metals and the transition to a lower carbon future***" was delivered by the outgoing President Mr John Barkas.



## THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

### Notice of 2022 Annual General Meeting

The 147<sup>h</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 6pm on 23 March 2021 in the Charles Moore Room in Anderson Building, Royal Botanic Gardens, Mrs Macquaries Road, Sydney.

Members and guests are invited to join the Council of the Society for wine and light refreshments from 5:30pm.

Six members of Council are due to retire at this AGM:

Daniel Bickel, Jean C Herremans, Robert King, Ian Hill, David Keith and Bruce Welch and offer themselves for re-election.

Council recommends the election of Dr Ian Percival as President of the Society for 2022.

Council recommends the election of Mr Ian Hill as Councillor of the Society.

Council recommends the reappointment of the current auditors, Phil Williams Carbonara.

Further nominations are invited for vacancies on Council (6), the office of President, and Auditor.

Nominees must be financial Ordinary Members (a category which includes Life Members) of the Society.

The nominations must be signed by at least two financial Ordinary Members of the Society and countersigned by the nominee in token of their willingness to accept such office.

***Nominations must be received by the Secretary at PO Box 291, Manly NSW 1655 by 31 January 2022.***

At the conclusion of the AGM, the President, Dr Ian Percival, will deliver the Presidential Address on:

### **Recent scientific research into the Ordovician System in Australia**

#### **Abstract**

Rocks deposited during the Ordovician Period (486.9 to 443.1 million years ago) are widely distributed across Australia. In the western two-thirds of the present-day continent, Ordovician strata formed in predominantly shallow-water marine intracratonic rift basins, whereas in the eastern third, clastic sediments accumulated in deep-water marine settings, sometimes around volcanic islands with fringing limestones. In the Canning Basin of northern Western Australia, stratigraphic and petroleum exploration drilling has cored through a Tremadocian to Darriwilian carbonate and clastic succession over 1500 m thick. Conodonts from the carbonates have been extensively revised, underpinning a new biozonation constrained by radiometric ages from interspersed tuffaceous beds. These results are especially important in precisely dating the Floian–Dapingian interval. Dapingian conodonts from the Nambheet Formation in the Canning Basin closely resemble those described from the Horn Valley Siltstone in the Amadeus Basin of central Australia. Trilobites (including the largest genus known from Australia) have recently been documented from the overlying Stairway Sandstone and Stokes Siltstone in the Amadeus Basin. Ordovician research over the past decade has been most active in eastern Australia. Revision of graptolites from the classic Pacific Province in Victoria continues; there has also been renewed interest in documenting Ordovician graptolites from central and southern NSW. A detailed conodont biozonation spanning the late Tremadoc to early Sandbian has been established in deep-water cherts and siliceous siltstones from the Lachlan Orogen of central and southern NSW. The mid Katian record of corals from island-fringing carbonates of central NSW and the New England Orogen in northeast NSW has been substantially revised with updated identifications. Deeper water (Benthic Assemblage 4) lingulate brachiopods from the Lachlan Orogen of central NSW are now fully described, with several key taxa also known from allochthonous limestone in the Broken River Province of central north Queensland, associated with mid-Katian conodonts.

This talk will briefly review each of these discoveries and others made over the past decade. Fossil representatives of most major invertebrate phyla will feature, as well as early vertebrates and some of the most ancient microfloral remains known in the world. Something for everyone!

## SNIPPET FROM THE PAST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 31st JANUARY, 1883.

The President Dr. James C. Cox, F.L.S., in the Chair.

The President read the following address :

GENTLEMEN,—

In the annual address for 1881 I drew your attention to the unusually large and valuable donations and loans of books, eminently adapted to our pursuits, which the Society had received, and pointed out that this exceptional acquisition was due to the munificence of the Hon. W. Macleay. On the present occasion it again falls within my province to report the continuance by the same liberal donor of these favours to the amount of nearly £300. To the Vice-President and several others of our members, and to those foreign Societies with which we are in correspondence, we were likewise indebted for gifts of books, works of reference, journals and transactions, together presenting a marked and valuable addition to the shelves of our library. These volumes, combined with the previous copious and expensive collection of works, formed a compact library suitable and adequate to our present wants, and the members rejoiced in having at their command so valuable an auxiliary to study. I need not tell you, for you are already well aware of the sorrowful fact, that all our hopes have been disappointed, and that not a single volume of this prized collection now remains.

On the morning of the 22nd September last at a quarter to 5 o'clock I was roused from my sleep by the ringing of the large bell of the Garden Palace, and on looking out from the verandah to ascertain the cause of such an unusual disturbance, I at once perceived, to my amazement and horror, a small tongue of fire issuing from the side of the great dome, which you know was situated nearly in the centre of this spacious building, and under which the whole of our ill-fated volumes were arranged. This small tongue of flame, fanned by the wind, then blowing a gale from the westward, and fed by an abundant supply of dry and well-seasoned timber, of which the building was mainly constructed, rapidly enlarged into a huge, raging, and fiery furnace. So furious indeed was this mass of fire that I observed sheets of the corrugated galvanised iron being torn off the roofing and hurled aloft to a considerable height. Several of these, caught by the gale, were carried across the wide expanses of Elizabeth and Rushcutter Bays, while portions of others, passing over Darling Point, were even found at Glenyarrah, the grounds of the late Hon. S. D. Gordon. In less than three-quarters of an hour from the time I first saw the fire, the whole of the vast range (upwards of five acres) of the beautiful Exhibition Building and all its valuable contents were reduced to a heap of burning ashes, and thus perished within these few minutes every work on Natural History that we possessed, several hundred pounds worth of volumes of transactions, and every record of our meetings. Our pecuniary loss, irrespective of that portion which it will be difficult ever to replace, cannot be estimated at less than £3,000. Suffering under such a deplorable mishap it is soothing for us to feel that the sympathy incited by our misfortunes among our fellow labourers in science was universal and sincere, as testified by the many letters of condolence and offers of assistance which have already been received. It is a grateful task for me, as your President, to return thus publicly our hearty thanks to each and all for the kind and considerate feeling expressed for the great loss we have sustained. The President and Council of the Royal Society of New South Wales at once most liberally and thoughtfully placed at our disposal ample accommodation for the holding of our meetings, and for carrying on otherwise the business of the Society, until suitable arrangements could be made by us ; and the neighbouring Societies of Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand, have also greatly added to our obligations by their ready sympathy and earnest proposals of assistance.