

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

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GOOD NEIGHBOUR COUNCIL OF TASMANIA COLLECTION

Migrants, Tasmania

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INTRODUCTION

The Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania was established by the Federal Government as part of its plan for a national Good Neighbour Movement. The Movement was designed to welcome and help migrants, who arrived in large numbers after the Second World War.

The *Mercury* of 2 November 1949 reported that a meeting of church and welfare organisations had been held in Hobart to form a Good Neighbour Council, with the national co-ordinator of the Movement present. Two days later a meeting to establish a Council in the north of the State was held in Launceston. The constitution of the Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania was adopted at a meeting in Launceston on 28 July 1951.

The Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania was supported by Federal Government funds, with a modest grant from the State Government. It was concerned with contacting, welcoming and helping new arrivals, drawing on existing services to form a network of voluntary assistance to newcomers, while remaining non-political and non-sectarian.

Branches were established in Hobart and Launceston in 1950 and subsequently in a number of towns around the State. The branches maintained collections of household goods to lend to new arrivals and lent money from a Distress Fund to those in need of temporary financial aid. Migrants, particularly women at home, were assisted to learn English. Migrants were encouraged to become Australian citizens and their contribution to the community was publicised through art and craft exhibitions, dance performances, concerts and scholarships.

The Council conducted conferences and seminars which examined problems encountered by migrants, prepared publications for intending migrants, new settlers and volunteers and established information resource collections.

Albert Schluter was elected President of the Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania in 1977, the first non-locally born president in the Council's 27 year history.

The Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania marked its silver jubilee in 1975 with statewide celebrations. That year a Federal Government report unfavourable to the Movement was released, which ultimately led to the Good Neighbour Movement losing its Federal Government funding in June 1980. The Movement was replaced by Migrant Resource Centres. However the Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania continued to function, providing a voluntary service. In 2002 the Launceston Branch focused on the needs of elderly migrants, conducting a day centre at 13 Frederick Street every Friday and holding day trips and outings. The Burnie Branch operated a drop-in centre. Both branches functioned under the umbrella of the Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, which had a postal address in West Moonah. Tasmania was the only State in which the Good Neighbour Council Movement still existed.

The records were donated to the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in June 2000.

1. Legal Records

1/1	Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, constitution	1951
1/2	Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, branch constitution	1966
1/3	Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, constitution and rules (typed and printed copy)	1977
1/4	Correspondence etc concerning constitution; meetings of constitution subcommittee	1970-1978

2. Minutes of Meetings

2/1	Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, minutes of meeting of President, Commonwealth Migration Officer and Secretary, 21 November 1954	1954
2/2	Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, minutes of State Executive Committee, 26 November 1954-18 July 1958, 22 August 1963	1954-1958, 1963
2/3	Minutes of meetings of State Executive Committee, 14 July 1966-12 December 1969 (pasted in book)	1966-1969
2/4	Minutes of meetings of State Executive Committee, 13 February 1970-12 July 1974 (pasted in book)	1970-1974
2/5	Minutes of meetings of State Executive Committee, 9 August 1974-27 June 1981 (includes minutes of AGM 14 October 1978, 13 October 1979, 4 October 1980 and annual report 1979/80) (pasted in book) (see also 5/2)	1974-1981
2/6	Minutes of annual meetings, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978 (see also 5/2)	1963-1978
2/7	Minutes of meetings of State Council, 18 June 1955, 22 June 1968, 28 June 1969, 2 May 1970, 13 March 1971, 10 July 1971, 15 July 1972, 10 March 1973, 14 July 1973, 15 March 1975, 12 July 1975, 17 June 1978	1955-1978
2/8	Hobart Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1972-1980
2/9	Launceston Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1973-1976
2/10	Burnie Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1966-1976
2/11	Clarence Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1975-1978
2/12	Devonport Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1972-1978

2/13	George Town Branch, minutes of general meetings	1974
2/14	Glenorchy Branch, minutes of general and annual meetings	1974-1977
2/15	Gowrie Park Branch, minutes of general meetings	1969

3. Correspondence

3/1	Executive correspondence	1972-1977
3/2	President's correspondence	1970-1979
3/3	Secretary's correspondence	1972-1979
3/4	Correspondence re publicity	1970-1977
3/5	Re migrant employment	1974-1979
3/6	Re citizenship ceremonies	1975-1976
3/7	Re ethnic groups	1974-1978
3/8	Re migrant education; women unionist course; home tutor scheme	1973-1978
3/9	Re migrant student scholarship	1973-1980
3/10	Re Australian Jaycees Five Outstanding Young Australians Awards 1979	1978-1979
3/11	Re 1970 Migrants' Art Exhibition; notices; catalogue	1970
3/12	Re 1973 Migrant Art and Craft Exhibition, entry forms; catalogue	1973
3/13	Re 1975 craft exhibitions; correspondence re Silver Jubilee celebrations; catalogue of 13-16 October 1975 exhibition	1974-1975
3/14	Re 1979 Migrant Art and Craft exhibition; entry forms (form includes migrant's date of arrival in Australia); catalogue etc	1978-1979
3/15	Letters of appreciation	1965-1977
3/16	Correspondence with State Immigration Officer	1974-1976
3/17	Correspondence with Department of Immigration	1967-1978
3/18	Correspondence with Australian Department of Social Services	1975-1978

3/19	Re affiliated organisations	1972-1979
3/20	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Movement of Australia	1975-1977
3/21	Enquiries, UK	1972-1976
3/22	Enquiries, non British	1974-1978
3/23	Enquiries, USA	1974-1978
3/24	Re missing persons	1970-1980
3/25	Re <i>Newcomer's guide</i> booklet	1973-1976
3/26	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Council of NSW	1976-1979
3/27	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Council of NT	1977
3/28	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Council of SA	1977
3/29	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Council of Vic.	1974-1978
3/30	Correspondence with Good Neighbour Council of WA	1976
3/31	Hobart Branch correspondence	1973-1981
3/32	Launceston Branch correspondence	1974-1978
3/33	Burnie Branch correspondence	1975-1978
3/34	Clarence Branch correspondence	1975-1979
3/35	Devonport Branch correspondence	1973-1978
3/36	George Town Branch correspondence	1974-1978
3/37	Glenorchy Branch correspondence	1974-1977
3/38	Gowrie Park Branch correspondence	1969
3/39	Ulverstone Branch correspondence	1974-1977

4. Annual Reports

4/1	State annual reports: Annual report, 1962; year book 1965/66; annual report 1965/66 and year book 1967; minutes of State annual meeting 1967 and year book 1968; State annual meeting 1968, reports and programme; minutes of State annual meeting 1968, year book 1969; State annual meeting,	1962-1999
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annual reports, programme, agenda 1969; minutes of 16th State annual meeting and 1970 year book; State annual meeting, annual reports, programme, agenda 1970; 1971 year book and minutes of 1970 State annual meeting; year book 1972 and minutes of 1971 State annual meeting; State annual meeting 1971, annual reports, programme, agenda; annual report 1971/72; year book 1973 and minutes of 1972 State annual meeting; annual report 1972/73; year book 1974 and minutes of annual general meeting 1973; annual report 1973/74; annual general meeting 1975, annual report; annual report 1975/76; annual reports 1976/77-1984/85; annual reports 1986/87-1988/89; annual report 1990; annual reports 1992/93-1995/96; annual report 1998/99

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|-----|---|-----------|
| 4/2 | Reports of State conferences, 26 November 1961; 15 May 1965; 25 June 1966; 27 May 1967; 23 March 1968; 29 March 1969; 30 May 1970; 20 May 1972; 12 May 1973; 29-30 March 1974; 24 April 1976; 16 April 1977; 11 March 1978 | 1961-1978 |
| 4/3 | Reports of regional conferences, 12 November 1955; 9-10 November 1956 | 1955-1956 |
| 4/4 | Branch annual reports:
Hobart Branch, 1972-1980; Launceston Branch, 1973-1977; Burnie Branch, 1973-1978, Clarence Branch, 1976-1978; Devonport Branch, 1974-1978; George Town Branch, 1974-1975; Glenorchy Branch, 1973-1977; Ulverstone Branch, 1975-1978 | 1972-1980 |

5. Financial Records

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|-----|---|-----------|
| 5/1 | Minutes of Finance/Finance Advisory subcommittee (pasted in book) | 1967-1974 |
| 5/2 | Minutes of Finance Advisory subcommittee (includes minutes of Executive Meetings, annual general meetings 1980-86) (pasted in book) | 1974-1980 |

6. Publications

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| 6/1 | <i>Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania newsletter</i> , November 1965-November 1978 (incomplete) | 1965-1978 |
| 6/2 | <i>Newcomer's guide to the Tasmanian community</i> , third edition 1971, fourth edition 1976, fifth edition 1983 | 1971-1983 |
| 6/3 | Margot Parker, <i>Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania: publicity secretary's handbook for good public relations</i> | nd |

- 6/4 Gillian Winter, *The hand of friendship: a history of the Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania 1949-1992*, Hobart, 1993

7.Attendance Books

- 7/1 Roll book, Hobart meetings 1962-1979
- 7/2 Attendance book, Hobart meetings? 1964-1976
- 7/3 Attendance register, general/annual meetings 1968-1978

8.Newspaper Cuttings

- 8/1 Tasmanian newspaper cuttings, 1957, 1962-63 (pasted in scrap book) 1957-1963
- 8/2 Tasmanian newspaper cuttings (loose) 1968-1979
- 8/3 *Saturday Evening Mercury* cuttings (pasted in scrap book) 1970-1971
- 8/4 Tasmanian newspaper cuttings (pasted in scrap book) 1977-1980

9.Miscellaneous Items

- 9/1 Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, staff file 1965-1979
- 9/2 Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, notices 1950-1979
- 9/3 Migrant arrival lists, nos 127-256 (incomplete set) 1971-1977
- 9/4 Good Neighbour Craft Exhibition, book of duplicate entries 1975
- 9/5 Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, loan book (re household items) 1968-1970
- 9/6 Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania, Distress Fund 1955-1971
- 9/7 List of Good Neighbour Council branches, 1952-1970; itinerary for J T Massey's visit, 5-17 May 1958; *Mercury* cuttings etc re Sergio Guidici, 15 December 1959, 10 February 1960; registration form for Good Neighbour information seminar 1974; 'Migrant women and integration', summaries of talks at 1978 Good Neighbour seminar 1952-1978
- 9/8 AKB Racieski, ed. *10th anniversary of Polish Carpathian group in Australia 1947-1957*, Polpress, Richmond, Vic., 1957

printers, 1957

9/9 'Poles in Tasmania-twentieth anniversary', typed notes by T Kempa, W Frelek 1967

9/10 Daphne Crooks, *Survey into migrant needs in Tasmania* 1980

10.Tapes

10/1 Tape recording, 'By G Sollors at Devonport, 9 October 1971' on lid of tin; 'tail end of State conference, Devonport 1975' on piece of cardboard inside tin 1971,1975

10/2 Tape recording, 'Proceedings of State conference, Burnie 25 Nov 1961' on box lid; 'record of GNC State Conference 25/6/66' on sheet of paper inside tin 1961,1966

11.Ephemera

11/1 Miscellaneous posters 1970-1975

11/2 Miscellaneous ephemera 1967-1978

OTHER SOURCES

The State Library of Tasmania holds some Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania annual reports and newsletters

Launceston Reference Library, Local History Collection, news cutting file 'Good Neighbour Council of Tasmania'