

First medical library in Tasmania

Sir John Ramsay Memorial Library

The Sir John Ramsay Memorial Library was established in 1943 as the first medical reference library in Tasmania. It is named in memory of Sir John Ramsay (1872–1944), a former surgeon superintendent and chairman of the board of management of the Launceston General Hospital. The library is housed within the Launceston General Hospital, Charles Street, Launceston. When the library was established, it incorporated the small collection of the northern branch of the British Medical Association (now the Australian Medical Association).

Members of the Ramsay family have continued to take an interest in and support the development of the library. Mrs Turnbull, Sir John Ramsay's daughter, is a current benefactor of the library, she recently donated six computers to the library to enhance access to electronic resources. In 1979, Dr Clifford Craig donated a large collection of historical books and pamphlets to the library.



The Sir John Ramsay Library, Launceston General Hospital

In 1981, the Launceston General Hospital joined the Australian MEDLINE network, and in 1987 the purchase of a microcomputer enabled the library to gain access to ABN and to automate some library procedures.

Delegates and colleagues visiting the state are always welcome to visit, have a cup of coffee and share ideas with their southern counterparts. You can contact the library staff by phone on 03 6332 7056, fax 03 6332 7058, or e-mail ramlib@dchs.tas.gov.au. ■

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