

TASMANIAN PALLIATIVE CARE AWARDS 2024
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2024

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]

Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to our 2024 Tasmanian Palliative Care Awards.

I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose Country we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of Country. I recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, and waters.

It is a pleasure to host these awards again for another year. As your Patron, I am proud to support our palliative care sector in Tasmania. The Orange Heart launched this year symbolises care and friendship. I am glad to see so many here this afternoon wearing this emblem.

Some of you were here when we launched the Orange Heart and National Palliative Care Week for 2024 with the theme "Matters of life and death". As an important service to the community, the week had the aim of connecting people with doctors, nurses, social workers and volunteers – "the people at the heart of quality palliative care"¹.

These are, of course, the people whom we shall recognise with awards today. We shall honour 22 finalists and overall winners across eight categories, including an inductee to the 'Joy Coghlan' Tasmanian Palliative Care Honour Roll.

These Awards recognise and acknowledge the various disciplines associated with palliative care. They also recognise and celebrate all palliative care workers, volunteers, and your programs. They acknowledge the intimate, dignified and life-affirming contribution each of you provides to our Tasmanian community.

¹ <https://palliativecare.org.au/npcw/save-the-date-for-national-palliative-care-week-2024/>

We are all aware that Australia's growing ageing population is likely to require substantially increased levels of palliative care and end-of-life care. This demonstrates the importance of recognising those who have excelled in palliative care, and the value of your work today and into the future.

May I congratulate all the finalists. You are all highly meritorious representatives of our various palliative care sectors. I also thank the many individuals who make up our palliative care sector.

May I also recognise your supportive families and friends, many of whom are here today to share in this important ceremony.

Thank you.

David ... [*invites Venéy Hiller to the lectern*]