

**RECEPTION TO MARK 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF HOBART
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE BALL ROOM, FRIDAY 2 AUGUST 2024**

VICE-REGAL SALUTE

Good evening, everyone. I warmly welcome you all to Government House to celebrate 100 years of the Rotary Club of Hobart. This is not only a milestone for your club, but also for our entire community.

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.

Rotary Hobart started in 1924 after an inspired visit from the Rotary Club of Melbourne. Over the years, the Rotary Club of Hobart has undertaken many projects that have had a lasting effect on our community. The Taroona Camp has welcomed thousands of children, and the Sixty and Over Club continues to provide valuable social opportunities for our elder citizens. During the 1967 bushfires, Rotary Hobart mobilised quickly to provide relief and support. Similarly, projects like the Snug Park Camp and the Rotary Blanket Appeal demonstrate Rotary's longstanding commitment to addressing community needs^{1,2}.

Importantly, youth programs are a cornerstone of Rotary Hobart's work. Initiatives such as the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program, the Windeward Bound Youth Leadership Challenge, and the Science and Engineering Challenge, provide valuable opportunities for young people to develop their skills, build confidence, and contribute positively to society^{3,4}. These programs

¹ <https://www.rotaryhobart.org>

² Correspondence Kate Domeney/Paula Chatwood 22 July 2024

³ <https://www.rotaryhobart.org>

⁴ Correspondence Kate Domeney/Paula Chatwood 22 July 2024

underscore your support for our youth and your dedication to nurturing our next generation of leaders.

A significant part of Rotary Hobart's activities has been fundraising. Over the past 30 years, events like Sail Day, the Magic Show, and the Art Show have raised substantial funds for various causes. The generosity of local skippers, businesses, and community members has enabled Rotary Hobart to support many projects, locally and internationally^{5,6}.

Looking to the future, Rotary Hobart continues to support and invest in our community. The upcoming Community Shed at New Town and the Peace Poles initiative are two examples of the club's planning to increase community engagement and promote peace and understanding⁷.

Rotary Hobart's commitment to provide \$100,000 in community grants and funding to mark this 100th year anniversary demonstrates your ongoing dedication to make a difference⁸.

Notwithstanding the challenges of attracting new members to community clubs, with younger generations often having other commitments and interests, Rotary Hobart perseveres, and has found new ways to involve and inspire people of all ages to serve our community.

These achievements are possible because of the dedication and commitment of your volunteers and members. Your support and efforts epitomise the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self" and your contributions have made Rotary Hobart a vital part of our community⁹.

In a moment, I shall have the pleasure as your Patron, on behalf of Rotary International President, Stephanie Urchick, to present your President, Mr Michael Haynes, with a letter of congratulations and a certificate to mark this milestone.

⁵ <https://www.rotaryhobart.org>

⁶ Correspondence Kate Domeney/Paula Chatwood 22 July 2024

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ <https://www.rotaryhobart.org>

⁹ <https://www.rotaryhobart.org>

May I conclude and congratulate you all on your 100th anniversary. May I also wish you every success for the next century of service, fellowship, and community spirit.

Thank you.

David ...

[David invites Michael Haynes to stage for presentation of letter and certificate.]