

AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS (TASMANIA) 2025
ADDRESS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
PRINCES WHARF 1, HOBART, WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2024

Good evening, everyone.

It is my great pleasure to join you tonight for this important celebration of achievement and community. My co-host, our Deputy Premier of Tasmania, Guy Barnett, and I look forward to hearing more about our nominees and presenting awards.

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

Tonight, we recognise outstanding individuals who contribute to our State with unwavering dedication and commitment. The Australian of the Year Awards celebrate personal achievement, commitment and contribution to our community. Our nominees are role models. They are leaders, advocates, and champions. Their stories remind us that you can change lives through ground-breaking research, dedication to the welfare of others, advocating for the causes of our most vulnerable, or inspiring others.

Our Tasmanian nominees join some 137 others, who are being recognised nationwide. And those selected tonight will join all State and Territory finalists with the announcement of the national awards on 25 January 2025.

All our nominees have been put forward by our community. May I quote National Australia Day Council CEO Mark Fraser: "The Tasmanian nominees for 2025 are an extraordinary group of people".

May I congratulate all our nominees and thank them for their contributions. We are proud of each of you.

Thank you.