

**GENERAL SIR JOHN MONASH FOUNDATION  
STAND-UP LUNCHEON TO ACKNOWLEDGE  
TASMANIAN SCHOLARS AND KEY SUPPORTERS  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
DRAWING ROOM, WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2024**

Good afternoon, everyone. I warmly welcome you all here today to acknowledge Scholars of the John Monash Foundation Scholarship Program and to thank key supporters of the General Sir John Monash Foundation.

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

Sir John was one of Australia's greatest leaders both in military and in civilian life. Sir John had a commitment to community and education. He once said, "*...equip yourself for life, not solely for your own benefit but for the benefit of the whole community.*"<sup>1</sup> This philosophy is reflected in criteria of the prestigious Scholarship in his name. Sir John Monash scholars all have the qualities of commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and community service.<sup>2</sup>

Of the 264 Australians awarded a John Monash Foundation Scholarship and the opportunity to pursue post graduate studies overseas,<sup>3</sup> nine only are Tasmanians. Two of those scholars were intending to join us here today. I understand that regrettably both have become unwell. They are:

- Anita George was a 2012 John Monash Scholar and completed a Master's of Public Affairs at Sciences Po University, Paris; and
- Catherine Stubberfield was awarded her scholarship in 2010, and completed a Master's in Human Rights and Democratisation, studying both at the European Inter-University Centre in Venice and at the University of Strasbourg.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.monash.edu.au/about/who/history/sir-john-monash.html> accessed 26th May 2014

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.johnmonash.com/about-us/mission-statement> accessed 5 June 23

<sup>3</sup> Email correspondence Katharine Dix Corke to Mr David Owen, Official Secretary 11 Jan 2024

<sup>4</sup> Email correspondence Katharine Dix Corke to Paula Chatwood DOS

May I also acknowledge the collaborative efforts of the supporters of the General Sir John Monash Foundation. Your support provides the opportunity to build a brighter and more promising future for our State of Tasmania and for Australia.

Thank you for joining us for lunch, and I look forward to speaking with you all.