

**HOBART CITY MISSION
FUNDRAISING EVENING TO MARK THE BIRTHDAY AND
PLATINUM JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 9 JUNE 2022**

[Vice-Regal Salute is played]

Please be seated.

Good evening and welcome to this special Platinum Jubilee fundraising event for our very special Hobart City Mission.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I stand for a future that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal stories, culture, language and history.

A decade ago in 2012 when Her Majesty The Queen celebrated her Diamond Jubilee to mark sixty years as Great Britain's Monarch, Her Majesty suggested that one way to celebrate her Jubilee might be to hold fundraising events for good causes.

That is exactly what we have done since then, here at Government House. We are very pleased to continue this tradition with Hobart City Mission as a patronage.

May I also mention that yesterday evening we hosted a fundraiser for Eat Well Tasmania.

These are both very positive and important community organisations for Tasmania.

As Governor, I extend my thanks to each guest who has purchased a ticket to be here this evening.

You will have seen from the booklet, that we are all in for a special musical treat. Ingrid Leibbrandt and Allison Farrow are gifted and exceptional musical

performers, individually and together – their performance will be all the more memorable being held in this Ball Room with its wonderful acoustic.

We shall then enjoy high quality fare prepared in our Kitchens, with much of the produce and wine grown here on the grounds. Our best winter produce is on show, thanks to the delicious menu planned, crafted and prepared by our Executive Chef, Ainstie Wagner, and her team. Thank you so much Ainstie and her team.

Thank you also to our Executive Butler, Leigh Millington, and his team for presenting the fare to us, and to all Government House staff involved to make sure this event is enjoyable for us all.

I was inspired in reading these words on the HCM website:

“Hobart City Mission, through our values and practices acknowledge the sovereignty of Tasmanian Aboriginals, the original owners of lutruwita (Tasmania). Tasmanians represent many cultures, social and economic backgrounds, all abilities, genders, sexualities and stages of life. We see strength in them all and embrace this diversity.

“Hobart City Mission understands that to truly meet diverse needs, we must model diversity, inclusion and healthy relationships at every level of our organisation, and we are committed to doing so.”¹

Your work not only directly helps thousands of Tasmanians, in very many ways, but also is a constant reminder that those who are struggling are not forgotten. HCM has been looking after the people of Hobart for a very long time now – 170 years to be precise, having been founded in 1852.

Tasmanian Governors have been closely associated with the Hobart City Mission, as patrons, almost since its inception. I would like to refer to one such association.

At the annual meeting of the Hobart City Mission in 1939 then Governor, Sir Ernest Clark led an appeal for funds to build new premises. He said, and I quote:

“There can be no question as to the need for this work, because human beings are not yet free from the ill-fortune which may dog the footsteps of any of us,

¹ <https://hobartcitymission.org.au/our-history/>, accessed 4 June 2022.

especially those who are living on a narrow margin of means ... Almost all of the really vast amount of work [of the Mission] is voluntary, and the community owes a real debt of gratitude to those devoted men and women who give their time to it ... To provide these workers with better premises, put your hand in your pocket and be assured that you are making one of the best investments you ever made in your life.”²

End of quote.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, that is exactly what you have done this evening; you have put your hands in your pockets and gifted precious dollars to Hobart City Mission this winter. As Governor and Patron of Hobart City Mission, I commend you and thank you for your generosity.

I also thank those who make Hobart City Mission what it is, such a great Hobart institution. Thank you, CEO Harvey Lennon and your Senior Management Team; thank you Board Chair John Minchin and your Board colleagues; and, special thanks to our dedicated and tireless Hobart City Mission volunteer family.

May I conclude and let us also reflect on the fact that this event marks seventy years on the throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. She continues to lead with exceptional devotion, dedication and dignity.

As this fundraising event is a way of celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, it is appropriate that we please stand briefly and join in a round of applause for Her Majesty The Queen.

[applause]

Thank you.

[David invites Harvey Lennon to respond]

² *Mercury*, Friday 5 May 1939, page 5.