

**CEREMONIAL TREE PLANTING TO BE HOSTED BY THE
WEST TAMAR LANDCARE GROUP TO COMMEMORATE THE
PLATINUM JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SPEECH BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
FRANKFORD, SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER 2022**

Good morning and thank you very much for inviting me to be here with all of you and to plant a tree to commemorate the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, and culture. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I commit to a future that listens to and respects Aboriginal stories, culture and history.

May I acknowledge among us:

- Minister for Primary Industries, the Honourable Jo Palmer;
- Members of the House of Assembly, Lara Alexander; Janie Finlay; and Simon Wood;
- Federal Member for Bass, Bridget Archer;
- West Tamar Mayor Christina Holmdahl and councillors;
- Launceston Mayor Albert van Zetten;
- Mr Peter Voller, West Tamar Landcare Chair;
- all here today.

Trees have been planted as part of commemorations for some time. They represent a long-lasting memorial that also beautifies the local environment. Trees of different sorts may be chosen to represent the qualities of the person being commemorated.

During this year, a number of trees have been planted to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. Now, following her death, trees planted commemorate her lifetime of service.

Government House has a tradition of visiting Royalty and dignitaries planting trees in the grounds, during official state visits. The first of those planted by Her Majesty is on the main driveway.

The Queen visited us in Tasmania on seven occasions: in 1954, 1963, 1970, 1977, 1981, 1988, and 2000. Other members of the Royal family have also visited. Many of these visits have been recognised with special and recorded tree plantings in the grounds of our Government House.

Earlier this year, we planted a tree in the Eastern Arboretum at Government House for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. We also planted a tree at Franklin House in Youngtown. Just this week, we planted a tree that formed part of an environmental project at the Dogs' Homes of Tasmania that was dedicated to Her Majesty.

I am told that some 500 native forest trees will be planted here. They are in addition to a similar number to be planted at Franklin House as a contribution to the Queen's global Green Canopy vision. The plantings will enhance native bushland habitat and engage local communities and young people.

The trees for the larger planting will not be available until next year. By planting seven ornamental trees today at this ceremony, symbolic of the Queen's seven decades as Monarch, we shall see the plan begin to take shape.

Here in Frankford, so close to the Memorial Hall, these plantings are also dedicated to those who fell for Queen and Country in conflicts around the world, during her reign. That is a fitting tribute to The Queen that will provide benefits to the community for years to come.

Community Landcare is all about people working together to address our environmental, land management and sustainability challenges. Community Landcare organises for our land and coasts in Tasmania to be cared for by our community.

To all who have been involved in this and other community Landcare projects, you have my thanks and those of a grateful community.