

**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TASMANIAN
BRANCH 2022 ANNUAL LECTURE
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2022**

Please be seated.

Good evening and welcome to this annual Government House lecture of the Australian Institute of International Affairs Tasmania.

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 waters. 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.

And I am pleased to acknowledge among us:

- The Honourable Sir Guy Green, former Governor of Tasmania
- Allan Gyngell, AIIA National President and Zara Kimpton, Vice-President
- Kim Boyer, State President and AIIA members
- Dr Timothy Ault, Director DFAT Tasmania office
- I, of course, acknowledge our guest lecturer this evening, the Honourable Warwick Smith.

This is the eighth Government House lecture in the AIIA Tasmania series. It is an honour for me to be your Patron and to continue our tradition of Governors' Patronage of the Institute in Tasmania dating back to the 1980s;¹ your Federal body itself dates back much longer to the 1930s.

I note that among the objectives of your Institute, are that it provides a forum for debate; promotes the dissemination of ideas; and has an educational role on international issues — while however being “precluded by its constitution from expressing any opinion of its own on international affairs”.²

This, I have no doubt, enables the provision of high quality empirical, independent and intellectual analysis, free of the restraints of any particular political leaning.

We are therefore privileged to be able to enjoy and appreciate lectures such as the one we are about to hear.

On a personal note, I am especially pleased to welcome Warwick here, as we attended University at the same time and he and his wife even attended our wedding, very Tasmanian! I have memories of being very impressed by Warwick’s interest and knowledge of the American political system.

I look forward to hearing Warwick’s lecture shortly.

Thank you. David ...

[OS invites Kim Boyer to introduce the speaker]

¹ Since at least 1985, Sir James Plimsoll.

² <http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/about-us/about-the-aiia/>, accessed 18 November 2021.