

**HOBART CITY MISSION 170TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

[Vice-Regal Salute is played]

Good evening and welcome to this Government House reception to mark the significant 170th Anniversary of Hobart City Mission.

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 may I acknowledge among us:

- John Minchin, President
- Harvey Lennon, CEO
- Board members and staff
- The Honourable Julie Collins MP
- and historian Dianne Snowden, author of *Always There: Hobart City Mission 1852 [to] 2022* which will be launched this evening.

Don and I are delighted to be associated with both this 170th anniversary celebration and the book launch. Both mark another high point in the consistently fine works of our Hobart City Mission over these 170 years.

In my Foreword to Dianne's excellent book, I wrote this: "The story of the Hobart City Mission is the story of people who, so often through no fault of their own, struggle and suffer. Thus it is a bleak story, but one that is also courageous, optimistic and committed to high moral principles that are put into effect in innumerable practical ways."

This is more than evident in the Hobart City Mission we see today. It is both a flourishing Hobart-based social safety net and a sound and profitable business organisation. Aligning the two aims cannot always have been easy. So, congratulations are certainly in order to Harvey and all your colleagues.

Earlier this year, in March, Don and I attended the official opening of the Hobart City Mission Supported Accommodation Units in Chigwell. These are another example of your fine, long-term response to an urgent community need.

In June, as some of you know we hosted an HCM fundraising evening. We described it as an event to mark the Birthday and Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty. That was some three months prior to her death.

As a way of marking her Silver Jubilee in 2012, The Queen had suggested that fundraising for good causes would be a suitable way of marking the occasion. At the time it was seen as something of a break with tradition.

Her Majesty's successor, King Charles may remodel and update aspects of the Monarchy. We know, for example, that guest numbers for his Coronation in May 2023 will be greatly reduced, from 8000 to 2000. Also "ancient traditions" associated with Coronations may be axed, and the traditional four-hour ceremony reduced to 60 minutes.¹

Well-considered change is positive, constructive and, often, necessary. So, we may look at our Hobart City Mission of today and appreciate just how well the organisation has adapted to the twenty-first century challenges. Dianne Snowden's book elucidates this in fine and precise detail. But more on that shortly.

¹ [King Charles to slim down Coronation with '6,000 guests and ancient traditions axed' - Mirror Online](#), accessed 21 November 2022.

My congratulations again to everyone associated with our Hobart City Mission.
This is a truly significant and worthy 170th Anniversary celebration.

Thank you.

David ... [invites CEO Harvey Lennon to respond]