

A FAIRER WORLD
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2022

Good evening and welcome to Government House.

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 continued connection to land, sea, and waters. I acknowledge the impacts of colonisation upon our First People and commit to a future that listens to and respects Aboriginal stories, culture and history.

It is fitting that this reception is occurring close to Human Rights Week to give us the opportunity to thank all those members, staff, human ‘books’, and Committee, all the volunteers, and all the donors and clients – for their support of A Fairer World’s programs in schools and workplaces.

The significance of and support for A Fairer World is reflected in the many guests here this evening. May I begin by warmly acknowledging my predecessor, Kate Warner; and also Robin Banks, who is Co-Patron of A Fairer World, as am I.

May I also acknowledge:

- Rob Valentine
- Meg Webb
- Ella Haddad
- Ginna Webster

The attendance of a number of MPs and senior public administration officials is a measure of the importance of the work of A Fairer World. Helen Hortle, Coordinator, and Abi Binning, President, we thank you for the great work you do in facilitating the running of A Fairer World, through your education and training programs.

A Fairer World started its work in 1985. With your 40th anniversary approaching, you have established a track record of the enduring value of your work, outreach, and dedication.

Many of you will know that, in May this year, we hosted a fundraising 'Inclusion Forum' for A Fairer World. Some days after we were advised by Hobart Human Library Manager Emalia Al-Gadry that the Forum was already having a positive impact on the organisation's capacity to work towards a social enterprise model. And a feedback form generated by Forum participants had some valuable observations, including:

- the honesty of the human 'book'
- the emotional and meaningful experiences shared
- practical advice offered, and
- appreciation of the presenters' time and commitment to improving inclusion.

One question asked how the Forum could be improved. One response was: "More time hearing people's experiences."

Listening and learning are the essential first steps in the pathway to your stated aim of "creating a fairer world through innovative education and training."¹

Thank you for coming this evening and for your support for "A Fairer World."
David

¹ [A Fairer World](#), accessed 8 May 2022.