

ROTARY CLUB OF HOWRAH AND FOODBANK OF TASMANIA INC
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2023

Good afternoon and a warm 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 enduring culture and connection to land, sea and waters.

I am very pleased to be hosting this presentation to Foodbank Tasmania of the proceeds raised by the Rotary Club of Howrah at last year's Government House Open Day.

I am also pleased that Government House enjoys a close relationship with both organisations.

In the case of the Rotary Club of Howrah our link extends back to the first Government House Open Day held in 1989 – that is a remarkable 34 years in which you have served refreshments during Open Day.

There hasn't been an Open Day every year, for various reasons. Of the 27 that have been held, an average of about 5000 visitors have attended. That means many tens of thousands of people have enjoyed the hospitality of your Rotary Howrah tent near the East Terrace.

The funds you have raised go directly to charities suggested by the Governor.

So, this is an opportunity for me to thank all of you here today, who help to maintain the fine name and work of Rotary – locally, nationally and internationally.

Our Government House relationship with Foodbank Tasmania is considerably younger. The Tasmanian branch of Foodbank Australia commenced operations in 2010. And in 2015, my predecessor, Kate Warner, accepted inaugural patronage which I am honoured to continue.

Your work with Government House, with the State Government, farmers, Rotary and many other organisations across Tasmania is truly commendable.

As “the pantry to the charity sector in Australia”¹ you have first-hand knowledge of just how many people in our wealthy country are deprived of the most basic right to adequate, nutritious food.

May I also thank all the Foodbank Tasmania Directors and all other personnel here today. I also thank all your many volunteers – for helping those in need. We are all grateful to you.

Thank you. David ...

[invites Peter Lowery, Rotary Howrah President, to respond and hand the cheque to Stuart Clutterbuck, Foodbank Tasmania Chair, who will also speak briefly]

¹ [Foodbank Australia | Fighting Hunger In Australia](#), accessed 4 April 2023.