

**RECEPTION TO MARK THE CORONATION OF  
THEIR MAJESTIES KING CHARLES III AND QUEEN CAMILLA  
REMARKS BY  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE ALAN BLOW AO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
BALL ROOM, MONDAY 8 MAY 2023**

**VICE-REGAL SALUTE**

Please be seated.

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.

It is a great pleasure for my wife, Margaret, and me to welcome you all to this reception to mark a momentous occasion, the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla. While it has been some seventy years since we have witnessed a coronation, we need to go back even further, to 1936 and the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, to have both a King and Queen crowned in the same ceremony. At that time, Queen Elizabeth when I still think of the Queen Mother, became the first British-born Queen since Tudor times – albeit with Scottish ancestry.

Her Excellency the Governor and Professor Chalmers have attended the Coronation and related events in London and at Winsor representing the Tasmanian people. They will also later this month have an audience with His Majesty. The links between the State of Tasmania and the monarchy remain strong and we look forward to a visit from the Royal couple in due course.

We know, of course, that King Charles acceded to the throne immediately on the death of his mother, Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Some of you may well have been here in this place on 11 September last year when Her Excellency read this proclamation:

WHEREAS because of the death of our blessed and glorious Queen Elizabeth II, the Crown has solely and rightfully come to Prince Charles Philip Arthur George. We, therefore, Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, and members of the Executive Council, do now proclaim Prince Charles Philip Arthur George to be King Charles III by the Grace of God King of Australia and his other Realms

and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, and, with hearty and humble affection, we promise him faith and obedience. May King Charles III have long and happy years to reign over us. Given at Hobart This 11th day of September 2022 And in the first year of His Majesty's reign. Signed Barbara Baker, Governor, and Honourable Jeremy Rockliff, Premier.

The accession was the formal, legal and constitutionally required process of the King taking on the role of Monarch. This weekend, with the Coronation, we have witnessed the ceremonial and ritual crowning and anointing of the new King and Queen. The coronation is often seen as a public proclamation and recognition of the King's authority and legitimacy.

Over four days, the Coronation weekend has included a reception at Buckingham Palace, the Coronation itself, the Coronation procession, a Coronation Concert held at Windsor Castle, and a 'Big Lunch'.

The Big Lunch follows on from the very successful event of the same name as part of Her Late Majesty's jubilee, where communities were encouraged to celebrate by coming together and sharing food and fun together, all over Britain and throughout the Commonwealth.

One of the dishes on menus would no doubt have been the Coronation Quiche. Shortly we will be served refreshments that will include a Coronation Quiche prepared especially for this occasion by our Executive Chef and kitchen team. In a first for Government House, we will also be serving cultural wild-caught Tasmanian abalone, sourced from traditional Tasmanian Aboriginal fisheries.

As we then move to the end the Coronation weekend, during today, in the UK, the Big Help Out will see members of the public invited to try out volunteering and to join in the work being undertaken to support their local areas.

From ancient times, the coronation of a monarch has been a solemn and sacred ceremony, symbolising the continuity and stability of our system of Government, which has now evolved into a democratic system under a Constitutional Monarchy. King Charles' tireless dedication to his people, his unwavering commitment to upholding the values of the Commonwealth, and his deep sense of duty make him a worthy and deserving monarch.

King Charles possesses a deep understanding of the needs and aspirations of our people. He has earned respect and admiration through his compassionate leadership and vision for a better and more sustainable future.

Let us also acknowledge the presence of Queen Camilla, who will stand by King Charles as a pillar of strength and support.

We will shortly have a musical performance by members of the Australian Army Band – Tasmania, that will conclude with the Royal and National Anthems. I think that a fitting end to the formalities for tonight, and close with the declaration 'Long live the King'.

David...