

**2023 QUEEN'S SCOUT AND QUEEN'S GUIDE AWARDS**  
**SPEECH BY**  
**HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC**  
**GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA**  
**BALL ROOM, GOVERNMENT HOUSE**  
**FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023**

**[Vice-Regal Salute is played]**

Please be seated.

Good afternoon. I warmly welcome you all to Government House for the presentation of the 2023 Queen's Scout and Queen's Guide Awards.

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.

May I acknowledge among us:

- Nigel Clutterbuck, Scouts Tasmania President, and Annette Clutterbuck
- Phil Harper, Scouts Tasmania Chief Commissioner
- Leonie Whitford, Girl Guides Tasmania Deputy State Commissioner.

As the Chief Scout in Tasmania, and as Patron of Girl Guides Tasmania, I am proud to be officiating at this ceremony today.

These are important awards. And it is fitting that each year a group of Scouts and Guides are recognised in this way here at Government House.

I say this because the Office of the Governor has long had a long and close association with Scouts Tasmania and with Girl Guides Tasmania — both as individual organisations and collectively. My Vice-Regal Office links directly to these Awards.

As we know, Scouts Tasmania and Girl Guides Tasmania have had notification this year that these awards remain in the name of The Queen, until such time as King Charles III may declare his patronage of them.

Many of you may know that I recently represented our State at the Coronation of The King in London, at Westminster Abbey. I represented all Tasmanians, and those organisations which, like yours, have direct links to the Monarchy via patronage or equivalent status.

It was a great privilege to be with some two thousand other guests, witnessing that ceremony in Westminster Abbey, the first coronation since 1953.

You may be interested to know that I also attended a grand Reception at Buckingham Palace, the evening before the Coronation. Our Governor-General, Prime Minister, and all the other State Governors also attended these events.

I also attended a reception and wonderful Concert at Windsor Castle on the Sunday evening following the Coronation.

There was a great variety of guests from all over the world at these events. This was a reminder of the importance of our systems of democratic government with, in our case, an apolitical Head of State, representing all of the people.

Your commitment as young Scouts and Guides to your respective “Promise and Law” principles are a good indicator of your own journey to be the best you can in our free and stable society.<sup>1</sup>

So, well done to each of you, for being recognised today for this personal effort.

Official Secretary ...

[invites Leonie Whitford, Deputy State Commissioner Girl Guides Tasmania to the lectern]

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<sup>1</sup> [Promise and Law | Scouts Australia](#); [Girl Guide Promise and Law - Girl Guides Australia](#), accessed 24 May 2023.