

**MORNING TEA TO ACKNOWLEDGE TWO TASMANIAN  
JOHN MONASH SCHOLARS ON BEHALF OF THE  
GENERAL SIR JOHN MONASH FOUNDATION  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
DRAWING ROOM, FRIDAY 16 JUNE 2023**

Good morning everyone. I warmly welcome you all to this morning tea to acknowledge two outstanding Tasmanians recently awarded with John Monash Scholarships for 2023.

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.

The General Sir John Monash Foundation was established in 2001. The Foundation's mission is to provide postgraduate scholarships for outstanding Australians to further their studies anywhere in the world. As part of the selection criteria, it is acknowledged that scholars all have the qualities of commitment to academic excellence, leadership and community service embodied by General Sir John Monash.<sup>1</sup>

Since it was established, the Foundation has awarded 248 scholarships in fields as varied as health, engineering, science, fine arts, education, law, political theory, business and entrepreneurship. This range reflects Sir John Monash's diversity of education. He earned a Bachelor of Arts, and a Master and Doctor of Engineering. He was also awarded Doctorates of Laws from three universities, Melbourne, Oxford and Cambridge.

Despite the fact he spent most of his life in Victoria, Sir John built links to Tasmania during his military service in WWI, in which he commanded Companies and Battalions at Gallipoli and on the Western Front. He rose to the rank of General and is recognised as instrumental in the success of the Allied

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.johnmonash.com/about-us/mission-statement> accessed 5 June 23

forces. He was knighted in the field and is revered for his leadership in both battle and post-war care and repatriation of the Australian troops.

After the War, Sir John Monash made significant contributions to his community, including playing a significant role in the origins of Anzac Day and being a driving force for the establishment of the Shrine of Remembrance.

No doubt, Sir John would have been very proud of our two Tasmanian Scholars for 2023, who are two of only nine Tasmanians to be awarded this Scholarship. The Scholarship provides generous travel support to enable scholars to study at an overseas institution of their choice.

You will hear shortly about our scholars from Annemarie Rolls, CEO of the General Sir John Monash Foundation, who will read their citations.

May I warmly congratulate Bridget Dunne and Eve Poland. I also congratulate their families, friends and colleagues for supporting them to reach this point. Their scholarships acknowledge leaders in their fields of academic endeavour. More widely, they will bring back to our society a wealth of international experience to benefit and advance our community.