

**THE LYRIC SINGERS 60TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
BALL ROOM, TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2023**

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]

Please be seated.

Good evening. I warmly welcome you all to this musical performance and reception to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Lyric Singers.

I begin by paying 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.

You may have read in the program booklet that Musical Director, Robin Short, has written a wonderful summary of the sixty years of the Lyric Singers. Robin records that the Lyric Singers had their origin from the Hobart High School in 1963.

That you have sustained your musical gifts and camaraderie over that length of time is a great achievement. I congratulate everyone associated with the Lyric Singers – performers and administrators, as well as all your family, friends, and supporters.

Robin Short has an impressive statistic of well over 300 songs practised and sung in that time. I take this as positive proof of a love of music and performance!

May I also acknowledge that during your 60 years you moved with the times. As tastes in music have shifted, your presentations have changed too. However, you have never forgotten the classics of the Beatles, which is more fitting to the age-group of Don and me.

This evening we have a quadruple of treats:

- First: The Hutchins School of Performing Arts Chamber Strings
- Second: the Lyric Singers first set, together with the Future of Tomorrow
- Third: Allison Farrow and Andrew Short with accompanist, Ingrid Leibbrandt
- And fourth, the Lyric Singers second set.

That this is also to be your final public performance means that this evening will be memorable and historic. The Ball Room is an ideal venue, when we consider its magnificent acoustic and the fact that music has been performed and sung in here for no less than one hundred and sixty-five years.

On that note – no pun intended – I congratulate you all again and I'll hand over to David.

Thank you.

[David invites Hutchins Quartet to the stage]