

**CHURCHILL FELLOWS ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA INC  
PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIPS  
FOR TASMANIA ON BEHALF OF THE  
WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER 2023**

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

Good evening. I warmly welcome you all to Government House, for the presentation of the 2023 Churchill Fellowships of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

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.

First, may I express my appreciation to Churchill Fellow and flautist, Lloyd Hudson, for that very haunting rendition of 'Syrinx' by Claude Debussy.

Each year we host this Churchill Fellowship event at Government House and recognise the significant efforts represented by selection as a Fellow. I am very pleased that we can be here this evening not only to recognise new Fellows but also to present medallions to past Fellows, who have met the requirements for the completion of their Fellowships.

Shortly, I shall have the honour to present these distinguished Churchill Fellowship awards for Tasmania: to eight New Fellows; five Past Fellows; and two Fellows, who will receive 25-year certificates.

These awards are considered and decided by our Tasmanian Regional Committee of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. I would like to acknowledge their hard work and dedication. Our Committee navigates through challenges involved in making selections from the many and varied applications received each year.

This evening we have an unusual event to celebrate. While she is not able to attend, Dr Shampa Sinha has been awarded a 2023 Fellowship. Her father, Professor Sankar Sinha, is also a doctor, and was awarded a Fellowship in 2001. We have had parent and child Fellowship pairings in the same field before, but this one is unique in that both recipients are currently practising. Congratulations to the Sharma family for continuing the tradition of medicine and being awarded Fellowships by the Trust.

Before I hand over to Dr Rob Walters to say a few words about the Trust, may I mention to the family members here today that Government House has been the venue for this award ceremony for many years. That is a reflection of the esteem held for these Fellowships within our community. It is also one way to thank you for your support of these Fellows and the significant service they provide to our diverse Tasmanian society.

Thank you.

David ... [invites Dr Walters to the stage right lectern]