

**MORNING TEA TO MARK THE 185<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARIES OF  
THE HOBART HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AND  
THE LAUNCESTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2024**

Good morning, everyone, and a very warm welcome to this morning tea to mark the impressive 185<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the formation of the Hobart Horticultural Society and the Launceston Horticultural Society.

I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose Country we gather, who flourished on Country as part of the South-East Nation of Aboriginal people. We honour them, and today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community, as ongoing custodians of Country. I recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, and waters.

As Patron of both your Societies, it is my great pleasure to host you today. We know that the Hobart and Launceston Horticultural Societies have enjoyed Vice-Regal patronage for many years. I am proud to continue that association.

I am sure you may know that both Societies, having been formed in 1839 therefore predate this Government House building. The House was completed on this site over the period 1855 – 1858. Then Governor, Sir Henry Fox Young, and his family took up residence, though the house was not completed, the final finishings taking another two years. That gives some historic perspective to the longevity of our two premier Tasmanian Horticultural Societies.

Last year, I had the great pleasure of attending events in both the north and south of our State with you.

I opened the Launceston Horticultural Society Early Spring Show in Evandale in September. Then, in November, I welcomed members of the Hobart Horticultural Society to a reception to mark the 185<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their first flower show. And the day after, the Lieutenant Governor opened the 185<sup>th</sup> Annual Rose, Iris and Floral Art Show.

185 years is a very significant anniversary for your societies, especially when run by volunteers. May I congratulate all members of your societies for maintaining your long tradition of horticultural excellence and exhibition.

I now invite you all to enjoy your morning tea. Later, you will enjoy a tour of the gardens with the expert knowledge of Tara, our Estate Gardens Manager.

Thank you.