

**AUSTRALIAN PANCREATIC CANCER FOUNDATION (PANKIND)
OPENING OF THE
2025 HOBART PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN CHARITY WALK
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
LINDISFARNE, SUNDAY 9 MARCH 2025**

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to this 12th annual Put Your Foot Down Charity Walk.

May I begin by acknowledging the Palawa people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky, and waters.

I am pleased to see you all here to support raising awareness and funds for pancreatic cancer research through the dedicated efforts of Pankind, The Australian Pancreatic Cancer Foundation. This is the first time the walk has been held here in Lindisfarne, following a move from Sandy Bay.

May I acknowledge the commitment of Alex and Catherine Nicholson, and their leadership in steering this event over the years. May I also extend our gratitude to Kat Fraser, our new volunteer walk manager, and her team of volunteers who have worked tirelessly for this charity walk.

As many here would know, Pankind was established in 2007 by Tasmanian resident Avner Namani following his own pancreatic cancer diagnosis. He and his wife established a foundation to raise funds for and awareness of pancreatic cancer.

Pancreatic cancer remains one of Australia's significant health challenges.

In 2024, an estimated over 4,600 Australians were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, making it the 8th most commonly diagnosed cancer in the country.

Tragically, approximately 3,900 Australians lost their lives to this disease in the same year, ranking it as the 4th leading cause of cancer-related deaths.¹

In our State in 2020, pancreatic cancer was among the top five causes of cancer-related deaths.²

Put Your Foot Down walks have raised over \$3 million nationally and, in Hobart, our community has contributed over \$135,000 towards advancing research and support.³

Today is about standing together to support this charity for a brighter future.

To all participants, families, and supporters gathered here—thank you for your support.

Thank you, and let's walk together.

¹ <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer/cancer-data-in-australia/contents/cancer-data-commentaries/how-are-pancreatic-cancer-rates-changing> accessed 28 Feb 25

² https://menzies.utas.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/1675497/TCR-Cancer-Incidence-and-Mortality-2020.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com accessed 28 Feb 25

³ Email Mel Tully / David Hughes 24 Feb 25