

**CLAREMONT FLOWER SHOW GROUP
RECEPTION TO MARK THE
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLAREMONT SPRING FLOWER SHOW
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2025**

VICE-REGAL SALUTE

Good evening, everyone, and welcome to Government House for this reception to mark the 40th anniversary of the Claremont Spring Flower Show.

May I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina 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.

It is a pleasure to host you tonight to mark your ruby anniversary. Forty years is a milestone of which you can be rightly proud.

Your inaugural 1987 show was attended by over 1000 people, including a visiting representative of the English Daffodil Society, George Tarry.¹ He was reported as commenting that "he had never seen such huge support for a Daffodil Show anywhere in England." High praise indeed. Spring shows have continued to draw crowds of exhibitors and an enthusiastic public.

The Claremont Spring Flower Show is a major community event and brings together a network of garden clubs from Hobart, Glenorchy, Claremont, Derwent Valley, and Brighton. Each Club brings its own expertise and interests.

The Show also welcomes contributions from the Southern Tasmania Camellia Society, specialist daffodil groups, floral artists, children, and many others, making this Show a rich and varied celebration.

¹ https://www.claremontflowershowgroup.org/files/ugd/53cb3d_09a51cd1e5b14e47adba9556de8f6ca0.pdf
accessed 26 Aug 25

People of all ages are brought together in the celebration of flowers and plants. There is also a special section at the show for children as young as three or four to exhibit.

This year, to mark this 40th anniversary, we are hosting prominent national visitors, as well as representatives from the Royal Horticultural Society, London, and the bulb committee. Their presence reminds us that the reputation of this Show extends well beyond Tasmania. It is recognised nationally and internationally as a fine expression of community horticulture.²

Spring in Tasmania is always a time of renewal and our gardens and orchards come alive, from our own Government House gardens to the superb collections at our Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens next door, to our own home gardens. The Claremont Spring Flower Show transforms the Claremont Memorial Hall with a display of colour, fragrance, and artistry that delights visitors of all ages.³

Over the past 40 years, countless volunteers have given their time, organising, setting up displays, welcoming guests, or encouraging young gardeners to participate.

The Show also connects us to Claremont's history. Claremont House, from which the suburb took its name, was once a place of orchards and gardens along the Derwent River.⁴

I extend my warmest congratulations to all organisers, exhibitors, and supporters of the Claremont Spring Flower Show, past and present. May the Show continue, forgive the terrible pun, to bloom for many decades to come.

Thank you and enjoy your reception.

² Email Janelle Noble / GH Admin 24 Jan 25

³ <https://www.claremontflowershowgroup.org/> accessed 26 Aug 25

⁴ <https://www.ourtasmania.com.au/hobart/claremont.html> accessed 26 Aug 25