

**AFTERNOON TEA TO MARK THE 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
BELLERIVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2025**

Good afternoon, everyone. I warmly welcome you all to Government House to mark the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bellerive Historical Society.

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.

Today, we are here to celebrate not only 35 years of your Society, but also two centuries of Bellerive itself.

First settled by Europeans in the 1820s, the community across the River Derwent from Hobart Town was initially known as Kangaroo Point.<sup>1</sup> By the 1830s, however, it became the more poetic Bellerive – 'beautiful riverbank',<sup>2</sup> in French.

As the years passed, an increasing number of people settled in Bellerive as their home. Schools, churches, inns and fine houses were steadily built. Many are still standing today.<sup>3</sup>

Still more people made the ferry journey from the city to enjoy a day at Bellerive Beach or a trip on the train from Kangaroo Bay to Sorell.<sup>4</sup> In the late 1800s, Bellerive also played a role in Hobart's defence, establishing the Kangaroo Bluff Battery.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Bellerive Heritage Walk](#), accessed 26 September 2025

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> [Bellerive Heritage Walk](#), accessed 26 September 2025

Today, Bellerive is a popular and lively suburb of Hobart, known worldwide for its international cricket ground. It has many parks and a wonderful riverside walk which we have done many times.

Importantly, the stories of Bellerive over the past 200 years are still able to be enjoyed and treasured, thanks to the Bellerive Historical Society.

Since 1990, you have been working to preserve Bellerive's history and to educate people about its rich heritage.

Through your popular publications and DVDs, as well as hosting events and activities such as heritage walks, you have uncovered and shared the stories, sites, and significant events that have shaped Bellerive.<sup>6</sup>

You have conducted oral histories and ensured that residents' memories of life in Bellerive continue to live on.<sup>7</sup>

I also commend your focus on cataloguing a wealth of historic documents and images, which will ensure Bellerive's history continues to be preserved.<sup>8</sup> May I also applaud your commitment to sharing research and information through your regular newsletters and monthly meetings.

Over these past 35 years, you have built a community of people committed to caring for local heritage. May I thank you for all that you do to remember and celebrate Bellerive's stories.

Today, may we particularly acknowledge two of your founding members, Maggie Mars and Jill Robertson. On behalf of the Society, I am pleased to present them with a gift of thanks. David ...

*[OS calls Maggie and Jill forward to receive gifts]*

Thank you and please enjoy your afternoon tea.

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<sup>6</sup> Information provided by Bellerive Historical Society to DOS, 25 September 2025

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.