

**RHODES SCHOLAR FOR TASMANIA FOR 2026
ANNOUNCEMENT BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025**

Good afternoon and thank you all for attending the announcement of the Tasmanian Rhodes Scholar for 2026.

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.

This year, there were six applicants at the interview stage, all having demonstrated academic excellence in their various fields. As is almost always the case, the task of the selection committee was very difficult. We commend each of you for making it to this interview stage.

The Tasmanian Rhodes Scholar for 2026 is:

Heath Dimsey

[Applause]

I have an additional announcement to make. As well as sending a Rhodes Scholar from each State, the Rhodes Trust sends scholars from what is called 'Australia-at-Large'.

Each State and Territory is permitted to nominate one or two people for this Rhodes Scholarship and the nominees from around the country are interviewed for selection by a National Selection Panel.

The Tasmanian Selection Committee has not always nominated an applicant for the National Rhodes Scholarship, but this year we have decided to send two candidates:

Neve Clippingdale and Jakob Haas

[Applause]

Thank you.