

VOLUNTEERING TASMANIA INC
AFTERNOON TEA TO ACKNOWLEDGE WINNERS OF THE
TASMANIAN VOLUNTEERING AWARDS 2025
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2025

Good afternoon, everyone. I warmly welcome you all to Government House to acknowledge winners of the 2025 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards.

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.

I am always delighted to acknowledge members of our community who give their time to improve the lives of their fellow Tasmanians. I attended the 2025 awards ceremony last month, and I congratulate all the award winners who are with us today.

You represent a range of organisations and community sectors. You also all have different backgrounds and life experiences. However, you all share a common dedication to making a difference in our community.

Your contributions as volunteers to all aspects of Tasmanian life cannot be understated.

Volunteering Tasmania's recent State of Volunteering Report states that more than 330,000 Tasmanians, aged 15 years and over, volunteered their time in 2023.¹

On average, each volunteer contributed 22.4 hours a month. That is a yearly total of 89.4 million hours volunteered by Tasmanians to a diverse range of causes.²

¹ Volunteering Tasmania, [State of Volunteering Report 2023: Key Findings](#), accessed 17 September 2025.

² Volunteering Tasmania, [State of Volunteering Report 2023: Key Findings](#), accessed 17 September 2025.

The cost of replacing the labour of these volunteers was estimated at \$3.6 billion per year.³ That is why it is so important not only to continue recruiting new volunteers, but also to support and celebrate our existing volunteers.

Our Tasmanian Volunteering Awards are an excellent way to show appreciation to our outstanding volunteers and thank them for their efforts.

As Patron, I commend Volunteering Tasmania on a decade of recognising excellence in Tasmanian volunteering through these Awards.

Congratulations to all of you who received awards at last month's ceremony. On behalf of all Tasmanians, I thank you for your efforts, commitment, and selflessness to help our State.

Please, enjoy your afternoon tea and take this opportunity to explore our State Rooms.

Thank you.

³ Ibid.