

**RECEPTION TO MARK THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE HUON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2026**

VICE REGAL SALUTE

Good evening. I warmly welcome you all to Government House to mark the 80th anniversary of the Huon Agricultural Society Incorporated.

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.

Eighty years is a significant milestone, especially for a community society, built on volunteer effort and local pride.

Your Society was established in 1946, at a time when communities were emerging from the uncertainty of World War II. From the beginning, agricultural societies were not only about farming, but also about rebuilding, connecting, and strengthening community life.

Agricultural shows bring people together to share knowledge, to improve standards, and to showcase the best the land can produce. Importantly, they are also social gatherings that provide a chance to catch up, compare notes, and celebrate effort and achievement.¹ They also provide an opportunity to discuss current issues.

Today, we celebrate not just 80 years of history, but the strength of your community.

My warmest congratulations to the Huon Agricultural Society Incorporated, and my best wishes for many years to come.

Thank you and enjoy your reception.

¹ https://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/A/Agricultural%20shows.htm accessed 12 Apr 26