

**SCOUTS TASMANIA AND GIRL GUIDES TASMANIA  
2026 KING'S SCOUT, QUEEN'S GUIDE AND  
OLAVE BADEN-POWELL AWARDS  
REMARKS BY  
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA  
BALLROOM, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026**

**[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]**

Please be seated.

Good evening, everyone. I warmly welcome you all for the presentation of the 2026 King's Scout and Queen's Guide 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.

As the Chief Scout in Tasmania and as Patron of Girl Guides Tasmania, I am honoured to be officiating at this ceremony to recognise Scouts and Guides with the highest awards available to a Venturer or Guide.

These Awards are important and require substantial work.

To achieve the prestigious King's Scout award today, a Venturer Scout must be able to set personal goals, plan and organise activities and maintain a high level of determination to complete attainment.

This Award was founded in 1911 under the patronage of King Edward VII as the King's Scout Badge. It continued under Queen Elizabeth II as the Queen's Scout Award

from 1952. From May 2024, Royal Patronage was granted by King Charles III, and it is now known as the King's Scout Award.<sup>1</sup>

The Queen's Guide Award is similarly an opportunity for substantial personal development. The stringent requirements for this Award are recognised by the education system in Tasmania, and by four other States and territories.

The Queen's Guide Award incorporates the Gold Endeavour Award and extends in service and leadership challenges across six key skill areas: creative thinking, communication, character, collaboration, community and commitment to learning.<sup>2</sup>

The Olave Baden-Powell Award is the highest Award available. The Award can be started at age 18 and must be completed before turning 30, in a minimum of two years to a maximum of six years.<sup>3</sup> The Award requires a plan to complete a number of challenges during the registration period. Upon completion, the challenges are presented to peers for approval before being recommended to the State Program Coordinator for Award approval.

The commitment to the founding principles of Guides and Scouts demonstrates the hard work and dedication of all our recipients.

So, well done to each of you on your awards, which recognise your personal effort. May I also thank all the leaders who helped you on your individual journeys. Finally, may I also acknowledge all the family and friends who supported and continue to support you.

Paula ...

*[DOS invites Linda Durran, State Commissioner Girl Guides Tasmania, to the lectern.]*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/activities-events/activity-teams/heritage/kings-and-queens-scout-honour-roll/?src=redirect> accessed 18 May 26

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.girlguides.org.au/resources/queens-guide-award/> 18 May 26

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.girlguides.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/OBP-Awards-2017.pdf> accessed 18 May 26