

**COMBINED COMMONWEALTH SOCIETIES OF TASMANIA
LUNCHEON TO MARK THE OFFICIAL BIRTHDAY OF
HIS MAJESTY THE KING
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
RIVERFRONT RESTAURANT, ROSETTA, TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2026**

Good afternoon. I thank you for the invitation to be here. Whilst I saw many of you last Tuesday at Government House for the King's Birthday reception, this will be my final official opportunity to recognise the values and traditions that the Combined Commonwealth Societies represent.

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.

His Majesty The King has been committed to service and leadership. For decades, His Majesty has championed causes that have since become matters of global importance, including environmental stewardship, youth development, cultural understanding, and community wellbeing.

Through the work of The King's Trust, formerly The Prince's Trust, millions of young people have been supported to develop skills, build confidence, and pursue opportunities to realise their potential¹. This enduring legacy reflects His Majesty's belief in the importance of investing in future generations.

In December 2025, in a message supporting the Stand Up To Cancer campaign², His Majesty announced that, with effective treatment and careful adherence to medical advice, the intensity of his treatment schedule would be reduced. Throughout this significant personal challenge, The King has demonstrated the same qualities that have characterised his public life: dignity, courage, resilience, and a continued commitment to service.

¹ [The King's Trust Australia | A National Charity Working for Young People](#)

² [A message from The King in support of Stand Up To Cancer | The Royal Family](#)

His openness in facing this challenge has resonated with many people and served as a reminder of the strength found in perseverance, hope, and the support of family, friends, and community.

His Majesty's address to the United States Congress³ last month, again demonstrated his longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship and the links between economic benefits and national interests. In his remarks, he emphasised the importance of protecting the natural systems upon which all nations depend.

As Head of the Commonwealth, His Majesty continues to support the principles that unite its member nations: democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and respect for diversity. These values remain as relevant today as ever and provide a foundation for cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

Today, we recognise and honour His Majesty, but also all those dedicated to public service with commitment to these shared ideals.

Occasions such as this provide an opportunity to reflect on Tasmania's enduring connections with the Crown and the Commonwealth, and to reaffirm the bonds of friendship and cooperation that link us with people across the globe.

I invite you to rise and join me in a toast:

"To His Majesty King Charles III. May his reign continue to be marked by service, wisdom, compassion, and a steadfast commitment. **The King.**"

³ [The King's Address to the Joint Meeting of Congress in Washington | The Royal Family](#)