

**QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CONCERTS
REMARKS BY HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR
THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AM
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
WEDNESDAY 8 AND THURSDAY 9 JUNE 2016**

Please be seated.

Good evening and welcome to the first of two very special concerts to mark and to celebrate the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen.

The impetus for these events dates back almost a year, to July 2015 when I received a letter from the Deputy Private Secretary to The Queen, Edward Young. That letter advised me of a charitable event being planned in London to mark her 90th Birthday, to be called The Patron's Lunch.

As some of you no doubt know, that event is being held this coming Sunday the 12th of June in The Mall in St James Park, London. Up to ten thousand guests are expected. Her Majesty will be joined by the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family to celebrate the occasion – with all proceeds from the event being distributed among selected charities of which Her Majesty is patron. The lunch will be the grand finale to a weekend of celebrations.

In his letter Edward Young raised the possibility of similar events across the Commonwealth to provide a platform for charitable fundraising.

Hence these two concerts. All proceeds raised from the ticket sales – and including generous donations from Tasmanians unable to attend – will be forwarded to Foodbank Tasmania, of which organisation I am Patron.

Foodbank Tasmania has been chosen as the fundraising recipient because it has a very broad reach across Tasmania, supplying food to over 200 Tasmanian welfare agencies, as well as running a significant School Breakfast Program.

In addition to its regular work, Foodbank Tasmania is standing by to provide assistance if required for those affected by the floods in Launceston and other flood affected regions.

May I therefore take this opportunity to state that our thoughts are with all of those who are being affected by these floods. If in some small way the funds raised this evening can be of assistance in the future then that is a good thing – and so I thank all of you here this evening for the contribution you have made to Foodbank Tasmania by electing to attend this concert.

I would also like to acknowledge, on behalf of all Tasmanians, the vitally important work that is being done at this stressful time by Tasmania Police, the State Emergency Service, the Emergency Management Group within Government, and Local Government Councils. Your efforts are hugely appreciated by all of us.

Ladies and gentlemen, that is a sombre note to conclude these remarks. Notwithstanding that, I am sure that we are now in for a special concert, the music composed for this event by Dean Stevenson, Kelly Ottaway and Julius Schwing, with fellow musicians Lucy Carrig-Jones, Anita Schleebs, Nara Dennis, Sophie Radke, Tim Jones, Jo Cook, David Robins and Sean Priest.

Please enjoy “God Save The Queen: Themes and variations.”

Thank you.