

**ANTARCTIC TASMANIA
RECEPTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ROLE OF
THE HONOURABLE SIR GUY GREEN AC KBE CVO
AS HONORARY ANTARCTIC AMBASSADOR 2005 — 2022
AND APPOINTMENT AS TASMANIAN ANTARCTIC PATRON
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022**

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]

Please be seated.

Good evening and welcome to this special Antarctic Tasmania event to honour Sir Guy Green as outgoing Honorary Antarctic Ambassador and inaugural Tasmanian Antarctic Patron.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I stand for a future that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal stories, culture, language and history.

May I acknowledge among us:

- First and foremost, Sir Guy and Lady Rosslyn Green, immediate family members and close family friends;
- The Honourable Roger Jaensch, whose portfolios include Minister for State Growth;
- Kim Evans, Secretary Department of State Growth;
- and thanks to Karen Rees, Director Antarctic Tasmania for facilitating much of this event.

I am one of three speakers this evening, so my remarks shall be brief. Considering Sir Guy's exceptional and stellar career that is rather difficult, if not impossible!

Allow me to try. In respect of the Office of Governor, Sir Guy acted as Administrator of Tasmania at various times from late 1973, through to his appointment as Governor in October 1995. His Vice-Regal appointment extended through to October 2003. This included a period of four months in 2003 as Administrator of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Sir Guy was also Chancellor of our University for ten years beginning in 1985 and played a pivotal role in our University's successful application to establish the multi-disciplinary national key centre, Institute for Antarctic and Southern Ocean Studies (IASOS). His involvement in Antarctica expanded during his governorship beginning in 1995 and now extends to decades of dedication and service to Antarctica and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

In our archives, I have found dozens of speeches delivered by Sir Guy, as Governor when opening national and international conferences or forums directly related to Antarctica and Antarctic and Southern Ocean issues. His dedication, knowledge and intellectual commitment to Antarctica, is strongly evoked in his library of speeches. May I quote a few fragments that, I hope, capture his considerable contributions.

From an Antarctic Forum opening speech in September 1996:

"It may be thought that research into developments in Antarctic law and policy is only of academic or political interest, but in fact it can have significant technical and commercial ramifications ..."

From an ANARE [Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition] Jubilee Symposium in July 1997:

"... It is to this exciting world of wide-ranging and important scientific programs – one of the most civilised and successful examples of international cooperation in history of people having a degree of social responsibility and sense of community of which any society in the world would be very proud – that ANARE has made such a very significant contribution over the last 50 years..."

From an Institute of Antarctic and Southern Ocean Studies conference in June 2001:

"I think this is also an occasion when we should recognise what an extraordinarily successful arrangement the Antarctic Treaty System has been. The Treaty was negotiated and entered into force at the height of the cold war and ever since it has successfully operated and achieved its main goals despite the tensions of the cold war and other conflicts which have had such an impact on the history of the rest of the world during that time."

On the day Sir Guy's term of office ended in October 2003, then Parliamentary Secretary for the Antarctic, Dr Sharman Stone, encapsulated Sir Guy's contribution. I quote: "The Australian Government's Antarctic Program and policy interests have benefited greatly from Sir Guy's passion for the frozen continent." She noted Sir Guy's "deep understanding of the significant role Australia plays in Antarctica, our scientific research and our commitment to protecting the Antarctic environment."¹

Sir Guy, may I recognise Lady Green's support, in thanking you, on behalf of a grateful State and nation, for your international vision, life-time commitment and enduring enthusiasm for Antarctica.

Thank you.

¹ [A great supporter of the Antarctic – Australian Antarctic Program \(News 2003\) \(antarctica.gov.au\)](https://www.antarctica.gov.au/news/2003/03/a-great-supporter-of-the-antarctic), accessed 23 September 2021.