

**AUSTRALIA DAY 2022 INVESTITURE
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
BALL ROOM, 2.30 PM FRIDAY 6 MAY 2022**

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED BY AABT – MINSTRELS' GALLERY]

PLEASE BE SEATED

It is with great pleasure that my husband and I welcome you to this Australia Day investiture ceremony at Government House.

I begin by paying 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.

Our Australian Honours System was founded in 1975 by the creation of the Order of Australia. The Order is designed to recognise excellence, achievement or meritorious service by individual citizens.

The Order of Australia helps to define, encourage and reinforce national aspirations, ideals and standards by identifying role models.

Accordingly, honours are awarded to recognise, to celebrate and to say thank you to those who make a difference, to those who achieve their best and to those who serve others.

Australian honours are unique in that they were designed for nominations made by the community. Our Australian honours system is free of patronage or political influence. Anyone can nominate an Australian citizen for an honour.

There are some 58 awardsⁱ in the Australian Honours System – of which the best known are the awards in the Order of Australia, which will be conferred today.

Our ceremony today is restricted in numbers of guests attending, due to ongoing COVID safety measures. However, this in no way diminishes the importance and significance of this ceremony. In the text in your Investiture booklets on each of today's recipients, you will see they work in areas that are of great community assistance, highly inspirational, and often challenging and complex.

You have detailed information about their wonderful contributions, however I would like to say a few words about each of them.

Mr Terence Bracken has been a steward since the 1980s, becoming a senior steward and member of the Tasmanian State Stewards Panel. He has been a dedicated volunteer to the Motor Sport Club Tasmania and is a former president. He was a founding member and is a life member of the Club. He was awarded State Official of the year in 2004. He was a course checker for Targa and a communications/timing official for more than 10 years.

(The Examiner, 26 January 2022, page 5.)

Mr Malcolm Cash has worked tirelessly for Vietnam Veterans. He is the current State Secretary of the Vietnam Veterans' Association and a life member. He is also Treasurer of the Launceston sub-branch and does volunteer maintenance at the Lake Sorell Veterans' Shack. Mr Cash joined the Veterans' Support Group – mowing lawns and doing home maintenance for elderly veterans and widows, which led to him becoming a member of the Vietnam Veterans' Association.

(The Examiner, 26 January 2022, page 4.)

Mrs Mavis Chugg has served the community through the Inner Wheel Clubs of Burnie and Kings Meadows, both of which she was President, as well as the Inner Wheel District A80, of which she was Chairman in 2011-2012. She was also heavily involved with the Rotary Club of Evandale as a supporter and a Paul Harris Fellow. *(The Examiner, 26 January 2022, page 5.)*

Mr John Cornish has over 50 years of experience volunteering and working for Scouts Tasmania. He has been loyal and dedicated to the organisation and has coordinated several troops throughout the State. He initially became involved in scouts as a young boy, then as an 18-year-old he became involved again. He has served as Scouts Tasmania's Chief Commissioner and has held many other State Committee positions. He has also been involved in the Tasmanian External Branch, Scouts Australia and Scouts Australia. He has been fully committed to serving youth through scouts.

Mrs Pamela Watkins has volunteered for various organisations for over half a century. She has volunteered at the Old Umbrella Shop and Franklin House. She was a volunteer driver for the Australian Red Cross. She has been President of the Northern Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society, former vice-Chairman of Spurr Wings, a Board member of the John Lewis Foundation and former President of the Penguin Club. She has also been involved in Inner Wheel Australia.

I warmly congratulate you all.

And so, it is now my privilege to invest with insignia these worthy Tasmanians.

Official Secretary ...

<https://www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/government/pictorial-guide-awards-australian-honours-system>