

**CHURCHILL FELLOWS ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA 2021
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2021**

[Vice-Regal Salute is played]

Good evening. I welcome you to this important reception to acknowledge the long-term commitment of Tasmanian Churchill Fellows in service to our community.

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:

>Robert Parker, President of the Churchill Fellows Association of Tasmania

>Dr Robert Walters, Board Director

>Patricia Corby, Secretary

This is our first reception for the Churchill Fellows Association of Tasmania. Don and I are fortunate to be hosting Churchill Fellows representing almost every year of the scheme – that dates back to 1966, the inaugural year.

This evening's presentations are a worthy alternative to what would have been the annual presentations of New Fellows certificates and Past Fellows medallions, had the Covid pandemic not put a stop to international travel.

I have enjoyed looking at some of the books associated with the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, including your publication, *Bringing Knowledge Home*.

An earlier ANU publication, *Churchill Fellows of Australia 1966-1977*, has a Foreword written in 1979 by the then Tasmanian Governor Sir Stanley Burbury. He was at the time Chairman of the National Fellowship Committee of the Trust.

In his Foreword, Sir Stanley noted “the broad objective of the Trust is giving Australians of high calibre in all walks of life opportunities which otherwise they would not have had to advance their work by overseas study and experience.”¹

This objective has translated today into over 4,500 Fellowship awards. These Fellowships cover every conceivable field of endeavour likely to be of value to the community, no doubt with ‘merit’ the overarching determinant in selection.

These Fellowships represent a marvellous collective achievement. I thank those who conceived the idea; those who have administered it and those who have made the many selection decisions. The Churchill Fellows have benefited personally and brought their expertise back into their communities. Of course, we acknowledge the individual whose name it bears, Sir Winston Churchill – soldier, statesman, wartime leader, historian and artist.

As Tasmania’s 29th Governor, I am delighted to be associated with the Churchill Fellows Association of Tasmania and your work in administering the Winston Churchill Fellowship.

My congratulations to all the certificate recipients this evening, for each of you personally and in the way that you have brought home your expertise to the benefit of our communities.

Thank you.

David ...

Invites the first of 24 recipients to the stage.

¹ Auchmuty, Margaret Walters, *Churchill Fellows of Australia 1966-1977*, Canberra, The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Australia, in association with The Australian National University Press, 1980, p. v.