

**AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF
CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Good evening and welcome to delegates and associates attending the 2018 Australia New Zealand Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ANZACPE) Conference.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land—the Mouheneener people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community, who have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity, culture and Indigenous rights.

May I acknowledge among you:

- Paul Hueston and conference Organising Committee colleagues;
- Reverend Eric Cave, past president of TASPE and past President of ANZACPE;
- Katrina Timms, Secretary of the hosting organisation, the Tasmanian Association for Supervised Pastoral Education;
- Keynote Speaker the reverend Michael Paterson.

This being the end of day two of your conference, visitors from interstate and New Zealand will by now have experienced some of Hobart's ambience as a small city nestled between a large mountain and deepwater estuary. And I daresay that our relatively quiet lifestyle is suitable to much of the reflective nature associated with your professional engagement in the areas of pastoral and spiritual care.

This of course is not to say that Tasmania is not a microcosm of difficult social issues affecting all communities – and to alleviate which you have committed yourselves.

My own lengthy career as a legal academic brought me very much into the orbit of social complexities and difficulties of the type that are so familiar to you. I engaged extensively in the areas of Criminal Law, Evidence, Criminology and Sentencing, Criminal Justice, gaming regulation, gaming policy and harm minimisation; and rape law reform, drug diversion and mental health diversion programs.

So I greatly appreciate and admire your commitment to those who are in hospitals, aged care facilities, mental health institutions and prisons, and who benefit from your professionalism and experience.

I might now say a word about this Government House, because for those of you who haven't been here before, it will be worth your while to have a look around our lovely State Rooms. This is the Drawing Room; through there is the exquisite French Room; the Conservatory; Ball Room; and Dining Room.

Their furnishing have remained largely unchanged since this building was first occupied 160 years ago, in 1858, soon after Van Diemen's Land had become the independent Colony of Tasmania.

The building itself – some seventy rooms on three levels – is built of quality sandstone, which was quarried on site, and is one reason the building is situated here; the other being its prominence as a visible feature overlooking the city and river.

As you might imagine, it wasn't cheap to build and so there was a fair amount of controversy associated with the expense involved in building what was a second Government House, given that one already existed in the town, in Macquarie Street and not far from your conference venue at The Old Woolstore.

But that ramshackle building had been very poorly constructed and the Governors who lived in it frequently complained that strong winds might blow it over!

Today we all very proud of this establishment as a symbol of our Tasmanian democracy and we do what we can to ensure that many thousands of locals and visitors are able to come here each year and enjoy the hospitality of Government House Tasmania.

Dick and I, here and right across the island, engage with people from all walks of life and we invariably find that the simple virtues of friendliness, good manners and listening to people, are always beneficial. People open up once they realise that a Governor isn't some sort of unapproachable elite but, really, one of them.

No doubt this resonates with you, in the way that you engage with your clients and those needing your care.

On which note I wish you all the best for your conference proceedings through to Thursday evening.

Thank you.