

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE GRANTS AND AWARDS
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2018

Good morning all. Dick and I welcome you to Government House.

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:

- Michael Pervan, Secretary for Department of Health;
- Eric Daniels, Executive Director of Operations, Tasmanian Health Service;
- Professor Anthony Lawler, Statewide Director of Health Professional Policy and Advisory Service, Department of Health;
- Associate Professor Francine Douce, Chief Nurse and Midwife;
- Susan Gannon, Executive Director of Operations South;
- Clinical Associate Professor Coral Paton, Acting Statewide Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Tasmania Health Service;
- David Laughler and Ms Anne Laughler, representing Nell Espie's family;
- Peter Allwright and Ms Jessica Allwright, son and granddaughter of Margaret Allwright, in whose name an award is part of the Florence Nightingale suite of awards.

I'm very pleased as your Patron to once again be with you for the announcement of this year's Award recipients.

This is an excellent scheme promoting nursing education and nursing research and resultant advances in knowledge and understanding of nursing practice.

The Florence Nightingale Grants Committee was established in the 1950s to provide Tasmanian registered nurses with the financial opportunity through Study Grants to undertake postgraduate studies.

Many Tasmanian nurses have as a result been awarded Study Grants to undertake postgraduate studies at Higher Education Institutions within and beyond Tasmania.

The major source of funding has been through the St John's Hospital Association and the Tasmanian Department of Health, with donations from the Tasmanian Nurses and the general public.

Well in excess of \$500,000 has been awarded in study Grants to Tasmanian Nurses through the Florence Nightingale Grants Committee.

In respect of today's grants:

The Returned Sisters Association of Tasmania Memorial Trust grant enables registered nurses who have practised in Tasmania for at least five years to undertake a proposed leadership program or project within Tasmania, interstate or overseas. This grant is valued at up to \$10,000.

And the Nell Espie Study Grant is of course in honour of Nell Espie, who trained at the Royal Hobart Hospital, King George V Hospital, and the Tasmanian Department of Health. Nell also undertook Nursing Administration and Community Health Nursing courses at the College of Nursing. Nell joined the army in 1951. She served overseas in Japan, Korea, Malayan Emergency and Vietnam. She spent 30 years in the army, retiring in 1980 as Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services, Australia. This grant is valued at \$4,000.

Thank you.

[David introduces Francine Douce to read out the recipient details]