

**175th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE HUTCHINS SCHOOL
RECEPTION REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
BALL ROOM, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TUESDAY 3 AUGUST 2021**

[Vice-Regal Salute is played]

Good evening and welcome to Government House for this reception to mark the 175th anniversary of the founding of The Hutchins School.

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, who have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity, culture and Indigenous rights.

May I also acknowledge among you:

- Dr Rob McEwan, Headmaster
- Mr Richard Davies, Deputy Headmaster and Head of Senior School
- Mr Gene Phair, Chairman of Hutchins School Board
- Board members and staff of The Hutchins School

The 3rd of August is an auspicious day for the School, having been founded in 1846 as a memorial to The Venerable William Hutchins, first Archdeacon of the colony of Van Diemen's Land. Intended by the Church of England as a southern feeder school for Christ's College at Bishopsbourne, it outlived the College and eventually absorbed its replacement – along with several other notable schools – to become the pre-eminent boys' school in Tasmania.¹

Earlier today Don and I had the privilege of attending the opening of the new Chris Rae Middle School building. Education is all about the future, and the new building is a demonstration of the commitment to learning and development of students for the future for which The Hutchins School is well known.

Tonight acknowledges the future but is also about celebrating the history of the School. I mentioned the newest building but the two earliest buildings utilised by the School were both on Macquarie Street, where they remain to

¹ <https://www.hutchins.tas.edu.au/history/> accessed 29 Jul 21

this day. The main School building on the corner of Macquarie and Barrack Streets is now the headquarters of the secretariat of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Marine Resources and thus remains an important part of the history and future of Hobart.²

Through the years as the School has grown. A move to the Sandy Bay campus occurred in 1947 with the establishment of a sub-Junior School. Over the next decade, expansion continued to include a boarding house, science wing and other classrooms. Following sale of the Macquarie Street building in 1965, full operations at the Sandy Bay site added a Middle School, Early Learning Centre, chapel, gymnasium, auditorium, sports grounds and performing arts centre.³

As we look to the future, your Strategic Directions for 2021 and beyond⁴ articulate a focus on the five priorities of learning, wellbeing, sustainability, character and community. Those priorities align with the School values and motto: *Vivit Post Funera Virtus – Character Lives on After Death*.

Shortly we will hear the Senior School Choir, accompanied by Greg Stanton and conducted by Brett Budgeon, perform the well-known ballad *Danny Boy*.

In conclusion, congratulations to all on the achievement of this significant milestone and enjoy the reception.

David...

² <https://www.ccamlr.org/en/organisation/secretariat> accessed 29 Jul 21

³ <https://www.hutchins.tas.edu.au/history/> accessed 29 Jul 21

⁴ <https://vision.hutchins.tas.edu.au/> accessed 29 Jul 21