

**A TOAST TO LAUNCESTON LEGACY
BY
THE HONOURABLE PETER UNDERWOOD AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
LAUNCESTON - SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST 2012**

Thank you for asking me again to come to Launceston and propose a toast to Launceston Legacy. It is customary when proposing this toast to trace the history of Legacy and refer to Tasmanian born General Sir John Gellibrand, who founded the Remembrance Club in Hobart and Sir Stanley Savige, a former officer in Sir John's battalion who visited Hobart in 1923, admired the good work that the Remembrance Club was doing there and took the concept to Melbourne where he established a similar Club there and thereafter dedicated his life's work to its success.

However, I was reading your latest annual report that arrived on my desk a couple of weeks ago and as I did so I thought that although the history of Legacy is important, of equal importance is the work that is done by Legacy today and the Legatees who are doing that work and maintaining the proud traditions established by Gellibrand and Savige nearly 90 years ago. And although the annual report was full of figures and general reports of Legacy activities during the past year it was short on the identities of the individual legatees that had done the hard yards to produce those figures, not only of course, during the past year but over many years. So I sent a

message north from Hobart to find out who have been the key players in Launceston Legacy.

Of course, every Legatee of Launceston Legacy has contributed to its success over the years, and every contribution is valued, but out of the information that I received from your Club I discovered the amazing fact that there are four Legatees who between them have contributed no less than 166 years' service. They are:

1. Legatee Ted Pedley who was inducted into Launceston Legacy in 1957. Ted served as President in 1965 and 1978 and has been an active member of the Board of Management for most of his time as a Legatee.
2. Legatee Len Smith who was inducted in 1968 and following his induction immediately became the Project Manager for the building modifications for the new Legacy House here at 59 York Street. I am told that Len marshalled the volunteers for the renovations including the brick layers, builders, plasterers, electricians and painters. Currently he is a supernumerary living in St. Helens.
3. Legatee Col Mitchell was inducted into Launceston Legacy in 1978 and like Len is now fulfilling his Legacy duties in St. Helens, also as a supernumerary; and

4. Legatee C.C.S. Long, aka Dodger Long. Dodger was inducted into Launceston Legacy in 1979 and is fulfilling his Legacy duties in the Circular Head region. He is the stalwart of the Stanley Legacy Golf Day and Smithton Legacy Golf Day and has been active in other fund raising activities in the Circular Head district for Launceston Legacy.

I refer to the outstanding long service given by these four men not to suggest that they are alone in giving such service, but because in giving that service they have followed the principles established by the founders of Legacy all those years ago. They and their work epitomise what Legacy does and what the Legatees do today. In Launceston Legacy and in the 49 or so Legacy Clubs right across the country men and women like those four have given their lives to what Legacy is all about – personalised service and support to over 100,000 widows, and 1,900 children and dependents with a disability.

The annual report tells me that today Launceston Legacy is strong and there is every indication that its prospects for the future are good. In addition to the content of the annual report a clear indicator of a strong future lies in the fact that three former wards of Legacy, namely Joan Gofton, Bronwyn Walsh and your current President are now themselves all Legatees.

So, I am indeed privileged to be the Patron of Legacy in Tasmania and privileged to be here today and to be able to invite you all to proudly join me in a toast to Launceston Legacy.