

**LINDISFARNE GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
OPENING SPEECH BY
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
LINDISFARNE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTRE 16 MARCH 2019**

Good afternoon and thank you for inviting me to officially open the 2019 Lindisfarne Garden Club Flower Show.

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 acknowledge among you Alderman Brendan Blomley, Clarence City Council.

I understand that Flower Show has been held every year since the Garden Club was established in 1961.

I was interested to read that the Lindisfarne Garden Club has been active in the community and is not just about supporting garden clubs' members, improving their horticultural knowledge and socialising, important as it is.

Community activities include planting trees on nature strips, sponsoring trees at the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Tasmanian Arboretum. Living right next door to Botanical Gardens is one of advantages of living at Government House, and I visit the gardens at least weekly if not more often for a walk and never tire of it.

I have also as Governor, visited the Tasmanian Arboretum, which I thoroughly enjoyed. It must be the one of the best places to view platypus in their natural habitat.

I have always been a keen gardener something that I inherited from my mother and we had a lovely garden in South Hobart where I grew up. When I married I was fortunate to live on the banks of the Derwent at New Norfolk – a perfect place to garden and create a garden with wonderful soil and plenty of water.

Not many gardeners, these days are lucky enough to have a plentiful water supply at little cost.

As Governor, I have much less time to get my hands dirty in the garden but I have had the opportunity to visit many gardens around the state and when we do municipal visits I do try to include a visit to a garden of some kind, a community garden for example, Port Sorell has a wonderful one; I love the Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden, where they have given me a rhododendron to name, it is Pamela Friend after my mother. And I have been to many wonderful private gardens too.

Garden visits is one of the many activities garden clubs facilitate and I am sure as a group you have had many wonderful days out on garden visits.

I now happily declare open the 2019 Lindisfarne Garden Club Flower Show.

Thank you.