

**MARITIME MUSEUM OF TASMANIA “LADY EAST” PAINTING UNVEILING  
SPEECH BY  
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AC  
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA,  
MARITIME MUSEUM OF TASMANIA, HOBART, MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019**

Thank you for inviting Dick and me to be part of this important Maritime Museum of Tasmania event.

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.

Tasmanian Governors have enjoyed being Patron of the Maritime Museum for many years now, and so it is both a pleasure and an honour for me to be associated in this way with the acquisition of this rare work.

As Kim has said, the Museum’s Endowment Fund enabled purchase of the painting. And it will be marvellous to be able to offset that not inconsiderable expense through the fundraising effort. Not least because replenishing the Endowment Fund will mean the Museum won’t be caught short if another rare opportunity presents itself, as was the case with John Wadsley being made aware unexpectedly of the availability of the “Lady East” painting.

So my encouragement to you as Patron of the Maritime Museum of Tasmania is to consider doing your bit for the fundraising effort. And in fact once we see the painting I’m sure you’ll be – excuse the pun – sold on the idea!

I am very much looking forward to hearing from Hamish about the *Lady East* and convict transport ships in general – my interest having been piqued by reading about Dick’s convict ancestor and first fleeter Elizabeth Bruce, who arrived at Sydney Cove on the *Lady Penhryn* after a dreadful voyage during which she fell from the fo’c’sle and broke her leg and with the other 100 surviving female convicts spent a total of 13 months on board.

Therefore without further ado I will take great pleasure in unveiling the painting of “Lady East”.