

Queen's Birthday Investiture
Ball Room, Government House Tasmania
Friday 14 September 2018

Please be seated.

Ladies and Gentlemen, my husband and I extend a very warm welcome to you all to this ceremony at Government House to invest with insignia those who have been awarded Honours.

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.

Honours help define, encourage and reinforce national aspirations, ideals and standards by identifying role models. We give honours to recognise, celebrate and say thank you to those who make a difference, those who achieve their best and those who serve others.ⁱ

1975 saw the commencement of the distinctive Australian Honours System with the creation of the Order of Australia to recognise those who have given outstanding service to the nation or humanity. At the same time the Australian Bravery Decorations and the National Medal were instituted to which the Group Bravery Citation was added in 1990.

In 1987, the Australian Antarctic Medal was established to replace the British Polar Medal and its variations which date back to 1857.

There is also the Australian Police Medal for Distinguished Service, instituted in 1986 and replacing previous Imperial awards.

Today, 24 individuals will be invested with the insignia of the Order of Australia and other Honours. On behalf of all Tasmanians I thank all recipients today for your service and thank you for making a difference to our community and to the lives of others.

ⁱ <https://www.itsanhonour.gov.au/honours/index.cfm>, accessed 19 September 2014.