

**QUEEN'S SCOUT AND QUEEN'S GUIDE AWARDS**  
**Ball Room, Government House Tasmania, Friday 17 May 2019**

Please be seated.

Good afternoon. I extend a very warm welcome to you all to Government House for the presentation of the 2019 Queen's Scout and Queen's Guide Awards.

As the Chief Scout in Tasmania, and as a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, I am proud to be officiating at this ceremony today.

These are important awards.

And it is fitting that each year a group of Scouts and Guides are recognised in this way here at Government House.

I say this because the Office of the Governor has long had a close association with Scouts Tasmania and Girl Guides Tasmania — both as individual organisations and collectively.

Your identification with the Vice-Regal Office of course links directly to these Awards, which carry a personal message from Her Majesty, as we will hear.

This Office, and the Scout and Guide movements, have been part of the fabric of Tasmanian society for a long period of time.

This too is a reason why Tasmanian Governors support your work and your efforts — as individuals and as youth-oriented organisations — in your commitment to doing what you can to be the best that you can be and in so doing, work positively for society.

Just this afternoon I had occasion to reflect on the positive values which are embraced and encouraged by the guiding and scouting movement. I was visited by Ralph Kelly, Founder, Director and CEO of StayKind. Ralph Kelly has lost his two two sons, Thomas Kelly to a one punch homicide in Kings Cross when he was aged 18 and four years later, his son Stuart, also 18, to suicide precipitated by cyber bullying associated with the lock-out laws promoted by the Kelly Foundation. The Foundation has been rebranded as StayKind.

The focus of StayKind is to advocate for a kinder country by instilling values of kindness in our community. And it occurred to me that this is one of the benefits of the scout and guiding movement. So look out for Kind July and its call for pledges for people to do one act of kindness a day in the month of July.

I will conclude by reminding you of the words of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the modern Scouting movement. He said: "The only standard that counts is the amount of effort on the part of the individual."<sup>i</sup>

So, well done to all of you, for being recognised today for this personal effort.

Official Secretary ...

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<http://www.girlguides.org.au/public/attach/A%20girl%27s%20guide%20to%20the%20Queen%27s%20Guide%20Award.pdf>, accessed 25 May 2017.