

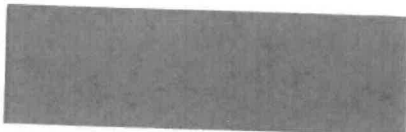
#4

Premier
Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Level 1, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
Ph: +61 3 6165 7650
Email: Premier@tas.gov.au
Web: www.premier.tas.gov.au



15 DEC 2014



Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for taking the time to write to me about the Australian of the Year Awards. It is an opportunity to honor Tasmanians for the work they do, or have done to make our State a better place.

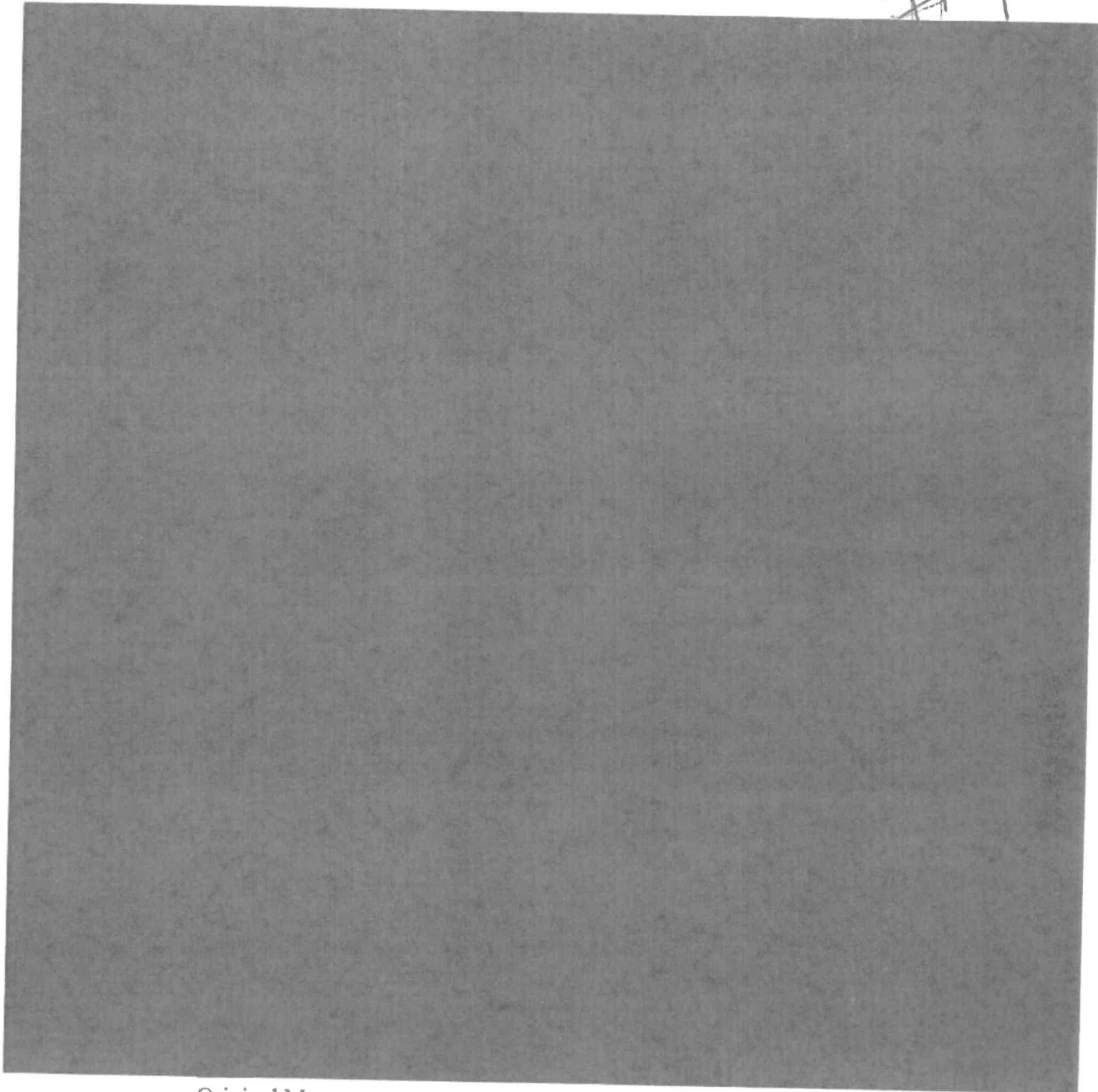
The winner of the Australian of the Year Award is chosen by a selection panel. The Tasmanian Government is not involved in the selection process and maintains an arms-length approach from the process. The selection panel members volunteer their time with the expectation that their participation on the panel is kept confidential.

Once again, thank you for making your views known to me.

Yours sincerely

Will Hodgman MP
Premier

#9



-----Original Message-----

From: Barnett, Guy (DPaC) [mailto:Guy.Barnett@dpac.tas.gov.au]

Sent: Thursday, 26 March 2015 6:09 PM

To: Johannes, Greg (DPaC)

Subject: Tasmania's Australian of the Year- review of nomination process

Greg



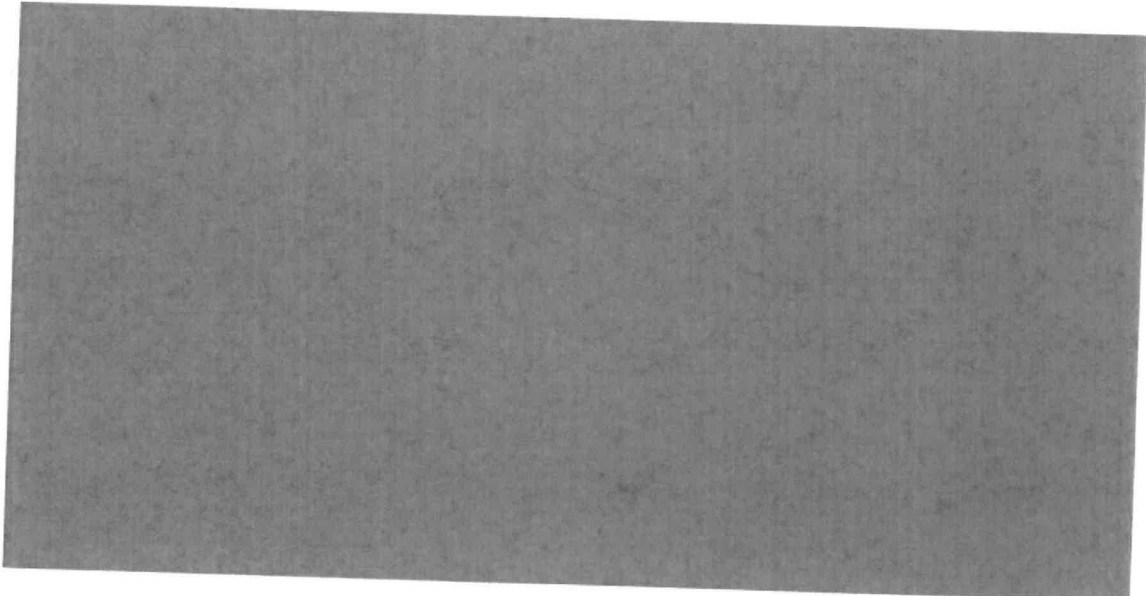
[REDACTED]
above which include the following:

concerns with the

Mercury

1. The selection panel for the Tasmanian -Australian of the year, has a majority of mainland selectors over Tasmanian selectors-8 of 13.
2. Few nominations are received in the various categories.
3. Limited scrutiny and/or vetting of the nominees.

I am also advised that each state has the power to determine, at least to a significant extent, it's own selection process. Even if this were not the case it is important to ensure confidence in the selection process and questions exist regarding the current arrangements.



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#12



BRIEFING NOTE TO THE PREMIER

CRITICAL DATE:

TRIM reference: 15/22392

Related document(s): 15/22392/2, 15/22392/3, 15/22392/4

DPAC Briefing Note number:

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS SELECTION PROCESS

NOTATION:

NOTED

SIGNED:

DATE:

*Noted on
behalf of the
Premier.*

7/5/15.

PURPOSE:

To provide information on the Australian of the Year Awards, the selection panel membership and the selection process in response to community queries about the:

1. consistency of selection process across the nation;
2. nominee reference checking procedures;
3. mix of Tasmanian and interstate representatives on the selection panel; and
4. quantity of nominations received.

KEY INFORMATION:

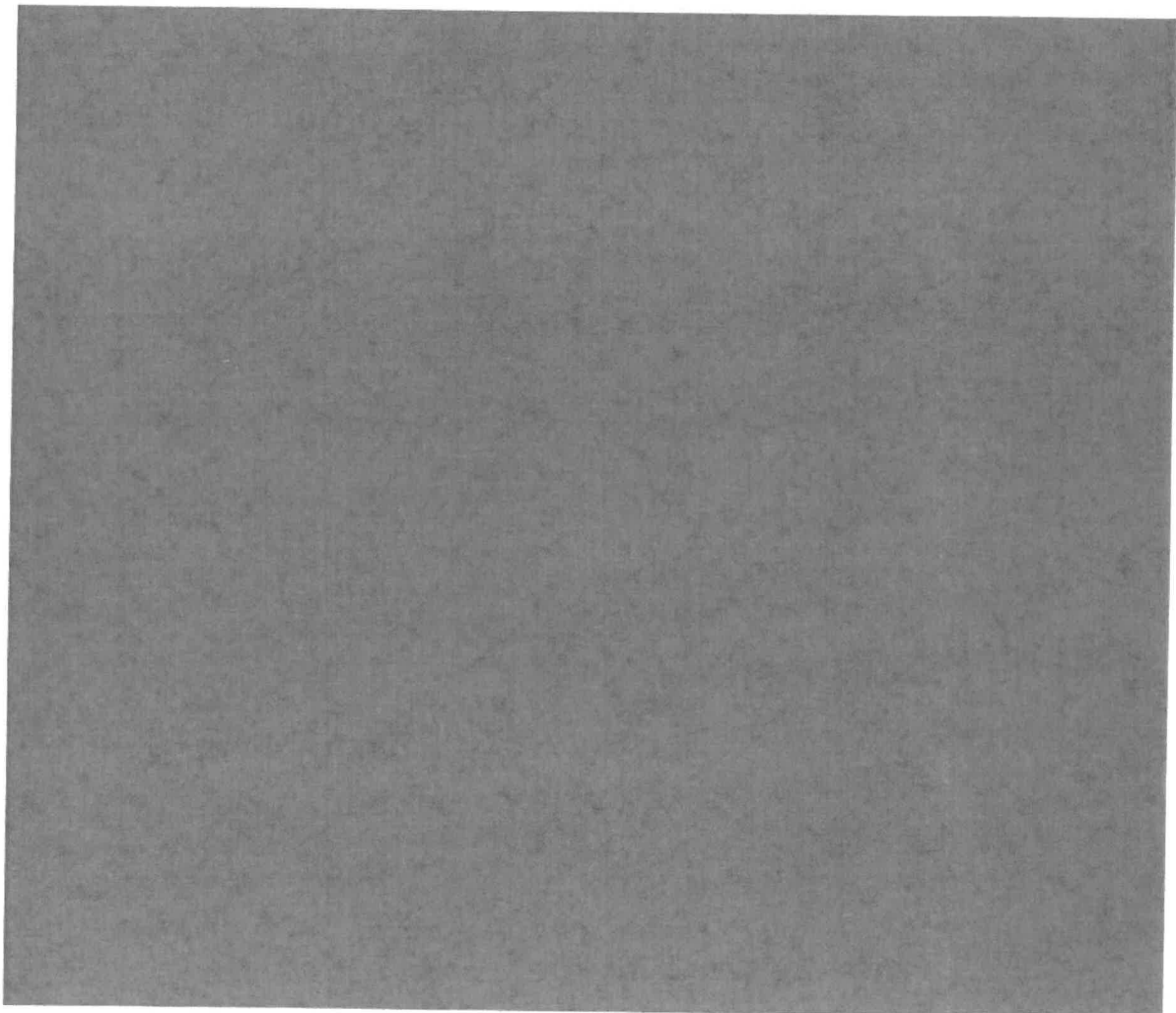
- The Australian of the Year Awards are managed by the National Australia Day Council (NADC). States and territories help deliver the Awards and follow consistent processes, as outlined in the State and Territory Awards Program Manual 2015 (refer to Attachment 1) and Reference Checking Guidelines 2015 (refer to Attachment 2).
- The 2015 Tasmanian selection panel consisted of 13 members; eight were Tasmanian and five were from interstate (full list below).
- Last year Tasmania received 91 nominations, representing 4.39 per cent of the total nominations received nationally.
- NADC is currently reviewing all aspects of the Australian of the Year Awards program, including the process for nominations and state and territory finalist selections.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

About the Awards

- Each year our nation celebrates the achievement and contribution of eminent Australians through the Australian of the Year Awards by profiling leading citizens who are role models for us all. They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia.

- The community is invited to nominate a friend, family member, community leader, colleague or even someone famous - any Australian who they believe makes our country a better place to live.
- The Awards operate at two levels - state/territory and national. State and territory selection panels choose four finalists for each Award category, with one of these finalists becoming the state/territory Award recipient. State/territory Award recipients then become the national finalists for the Awards, which are announced in Canberra on Australia Day eve.
- Award recipients are honoured in four categories:
 - Australian of the Year;
 - Young Australian of the Year;
 - Senior Australian of the Year; and
 - Local Hero.
- The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) helps NADC deliver the Awards in Tasmania as part of a broader funding agreement to support and deliver Australia Day initiatives.
- Our duties include assisting with the call for nominations, shortlisting nominations, providing administrative support to the Selection Panel and delivering the presentation ceremony. Full details are listed in the Program Manual (refer to Attachment 1).





Tasmanian
Government

Premier

16

Adviser:

Department: Department of Premier and Cabinet

Trim. Ref: 15/34233

Event Notification for Premier

Australian of the Year Awards, 1.30pm, Parliament Lawns, Wednesday 3 June 2015

Order of proceedings:	1.15pm	Current and past Australian of the Year Awards (AOTYA) Finalists assemble
	From 1.20pm	Media arrives
	1.30pm	Premier met by [REDACTED] Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) at Parliament House entrance and accompanied to lawn area. Allison introduces Premier to AOTYA Finalists Premier makes short address to media Opportunity for questions/photos from the media to Premier and Finalists
	1.40pm	Formalities end
	1.45pm	Premier departs

**In attendance (for
acknowledgement):**

Rodney Croome (2015 Australian of the Year – Tas)

Mary Kay (2015 Local Hero – Tas)

Andrew Hughes (2013 Australian of the Year – Tas)

Greg Irons (2012 Young Australian of the Year – Tas)

Mr Marco Artini, State Manager of the Commonwealth Bank - who have been the Awards major sponsor for more than 35 years

Department contact: [REDACTED]

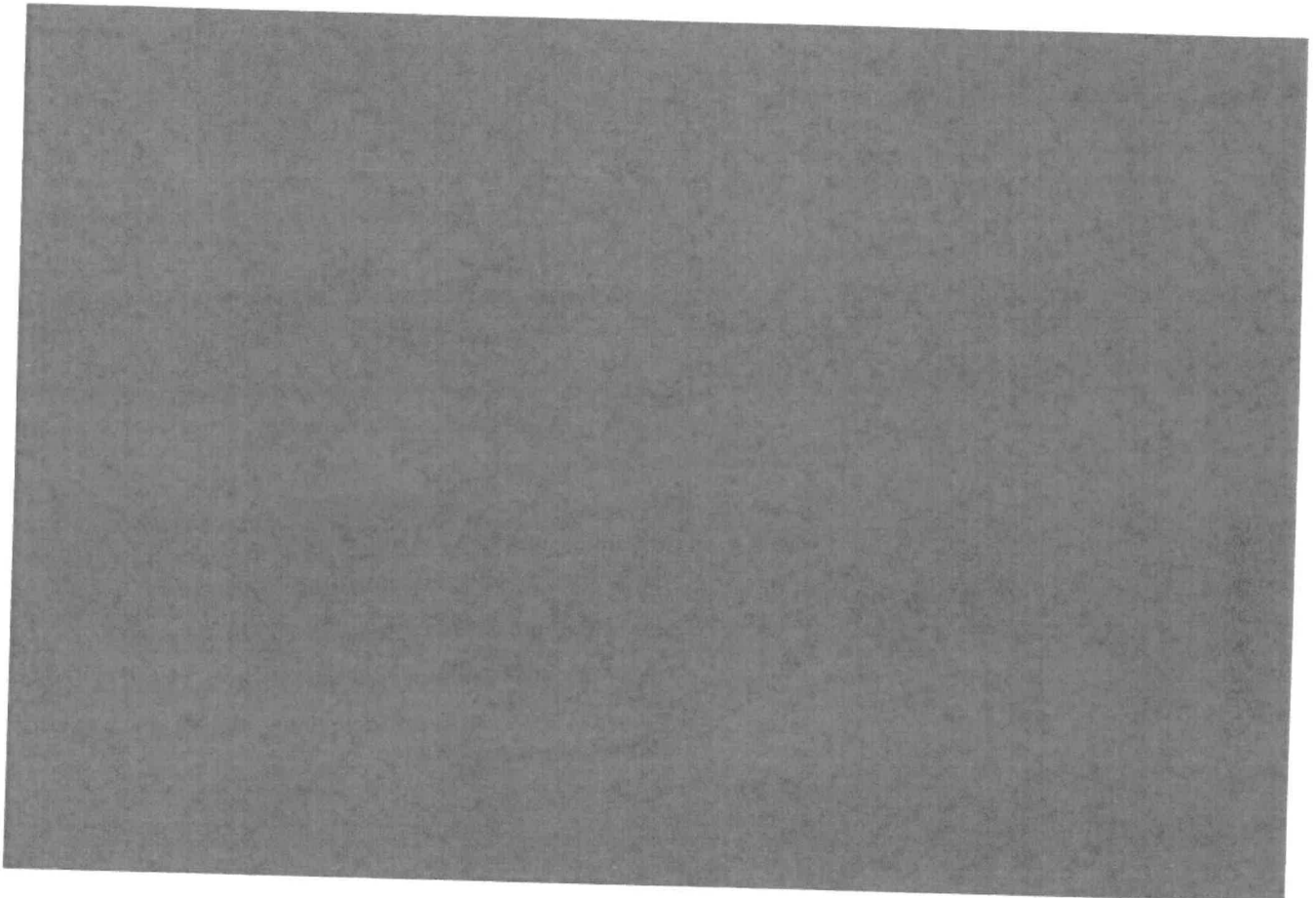
HANDLING

This media event promotes the opening of nominations for AOTYA for 2016. It is an opportunity to encourage all Tasmanians to submit a nomination, to ask the Tasmanian community "Who's worthy of attention?"

This event complements the national announcement which will take place in Canberra on Thursday 4 June 2015 and a national promotional campaign that will roll-out over the next two months.

AOTYA is a national program managed by the National Australia Day Council (NADC) in partnership with the states and territories. DPAC helps NADC deliver the Awards in Tasmania.

During the 2015 campaign we received an unprecedented number of enquiries from the public about the selection process.



BACKGROUND

- The Awards provide all Australians with the opportunity to recognise someone they consider worthy in four categories:
 - Australian of the Year
 - Senior Australian of the Year
 - Young Australian of the Year (ages 16 to 30)
 - Australia's Local Hero
- Nominations close on the 3 August 2015 and I will announce the 16 Tasmanian finalists at a presentation ceremony in Hobart on 6 November 2015.
- Promotional postcards will be available from Service Tasmania shops and local councils very soon.

18

From: media@dpac.tas.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2015 11:39 AM
To: DPaC - Media Releases Distribution List
Subject: Media Advisory



3 June 2015

Will Hodgman, Premier

Media Advisory

The Premier Will Hodgman will launch the opening of nominations for the 2016 Australian of the Year Awards. The Premier will be joined by past Tasmanian Australian of the Year winners. This is a picture opportunity only.

WHERE: Parliament Lawns, Hobart.

WHEN: 1:15 pm, Wednesday June 3, 2015.

Contact: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

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From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

media@dpac.tas.gov.au
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 1:16 PM
DPaC - Media Releases Distribution List
Australian of the Year Awards Nominations



3 June 2015

Bill Hodgman, Premier

Australian of the Year Awards Nominations

There are many Tasmanians doing remarkable things in our community every day, and the Australian of the Year Awards are a fitting way to recognise their achievements.

Nominations are now open for the 2016 Australian of the Year Awards, giving everyday Tasmanians a chance to say thank you to those in our community who are making an extraordinary contribution to our state and country.

You can nominate a friend, a family member, community leader, colleague or even someone famous – anyone you believe makes Tasmania and Australia a better place to live.

The award categories include:

- Australian of the Year;
- Senior Australian of the Year (60 years and over);
- Young Australian of the Year (16 to 30 years); or
- Australia's Local Hero.

Being nominated is a great honour and not only gives nominees due recognition, in many cases it also creates a platform for a cause.

Tasmanians need only consider the resounding impact Rosie Batty, the 2015 Australian of the Year, has had in making family violence front and centre of the national agenda to see the importance of these awards.

Nominating is simple, just go to www.australianoftheyear.org.au. If you need any help phone 1300 655 193, or email australiaday@dpac.tas.gov.au. Nominations are open August 3.

Contact: [REDACTED]

Phone: 0 [REDACTED]

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#19

From: media@dpac.tas.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2015 1:16 PM
To: DPaC - Media Releases Distribution List
Subject: HPRM: Australian of the Year Awards Nominations



3 June 2015

W. J. Hodgman, Premier

Australian of the Year Awards Nominations

There are many Tasmanians doing remarkable things in our community every day, and the Australian of the Year Awards are a fitting way to recognise their achievements.

Nominations are now open for the 2016 Australian of the Year Awards, giving everyday Tasmanians a chance to say thank you to those in our community who are making an extraordinary contribution to our state and country.

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Contact: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

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[15murray.dpac.tas.gov.au/u?id=47416.992ac551f746527e9877cc252eac81c8&n=T&l=media_office_releases&o=42484](http://lyris-15murray.dpac.tas.gov.au/u?id=47416.992ac551f746527e9877cc252eac81c8&n=T&l=media_office_releases&o=42484)

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#25

From: DPaC - Ministerial Requests (DPaC) <dpacministerialrequests@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 4:12 PM
Subject: FW: HPRM: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Attachments: Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier.PDF
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

See approved message below.

Thanks

From: Office of the Premier (DPaC)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 4:07 PM
To: DPaC - Ministerial Requests (DPaC)
Subject: FW: HPRM: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see approved message below.

Regards

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 3:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: HPRM: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Below are the approved words for WH's message in the AOTYA program.
Thanks, [REDACTED]

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Australian of the Year Awards 2016 for Tasmania.

Each nominee has in their own unique way changed Tasmania for the better, and all have done so selflessly, often without any expectation of praise or thanks.

Tonight, we have the chance to give due recognition to these extraordinary Tasmanians and to say thank you.

Our nominees are friends, family, colleagues, neighbours; everyday Tasmanians doing extraordinary things.

The great thing about the Australian of the Year awards is that each year it gives our nation the opportunity to celebrate these individuals.

They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia.

It is an absolute honour to be able to share our appreciation and acknowledgement these exceptional Tasmanians.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 2:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Importance: High

[REDACTED]
Senior Adviser
Office of the Premier, the Hon Will Hodgman MP

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000

www.premier.tas.gov.au



From: Office of the Premier (DPaC)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 10:09 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Can you please give me an update on this one? My notes say that it was returned to you on 30/9

Cheers

N

From: DPaC - Ministerial Requests (DPaC)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 9:39 AM
To: Office of the Premier (DPaC)
Cc: DPaC - Ministerial Requests (DPaC)
Subject: FW: 15/67067 : Min to the Premier - 2016 AOTYA - Program Message from the Premier
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has asked me to follow up on this Minute as the National Australia Day Council (NADC) is seeking wording urgently so that programs can be printed in time for event.

Could you let me know?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Senior Executive Officer
Ministerial Requests Team
Corporate and Governance Division
Department of Premier and Cabinet

[REDACTED]



Tasmanian
Government

Premier

#27

Adviser:

Department: Premier and Cabinet

Ministerial RMB (TRIM) Ref:

DPAC RMB (TRIM) Ref: 15/82149

Event Notification for Premier

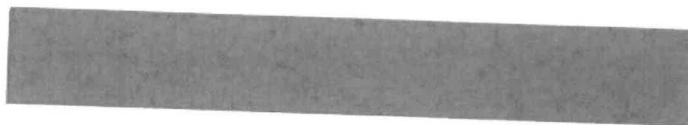
Australian of the Year Awards – Luncheon and Finalist Briefing, 12.30pm, Henry Jones Art Hotel, Friday 6 November 2015

Order of proceedings:	12.15pm	Guests begin to arrive
	12.30pm	Premier arrives. Light, stand-up luncheon commences
	12.45pm	Media arrive
	12.50pm	Welcome by [REDACTED] (Chief Executive Officer, National Australia Day Council) and introduces the Premier Premier acknowledges finalists; congratulates them on their nomination and wishes them the best at the presentation event
	12.55pm	Formalities conclude. Media depart Opportunity to mingle with guests
	1.25pm	Luncheon concludes
	1.30pm	Premier and some guests depart. Finalists assembly for briefing
	1.55pm	Briefing concludes and Finalists depart

In attendance (for
acknowledgement):

- Guest list to be confirmed – but will include - Selection panel members, current finalists, past finalists, representatives from the National Australia Day Council and from principal partner the Commonwealth Bank and award supporters.
- Local Media invited to attend

Department contact:



HANDLING

The Australian of the Year Awards (AOTYA) is an annual program managed by the National Australia Day Council (NADC) in partnership with the states and territories. The Department of Premier and Cabinet helps NADC deliver the Awards in Tasmania.

This luncheon/finalist briefing is a chance for the Tasmanian finalists of the 2016 AOTYA to meet each other and the Premier in a relaxed atmosphere before the presentation ceremony.

The luncheon will only host a close group of people and is an opportunity to brief the finalists on their role at the awards presentation.

The AOTYA attracts a lot of media attention especially with award winners and this event offers the television media the chance to secure interviews with the recipients for the nightly bulletin.

KEY POINTS

- AOTYA is a program of the National Australia Day Council in partnership with states and territories.
- The community is invited to nominate a friend, family member, community leader, colleague or even someone famous - any Australian who they believe makes our country a better place to live.
- The Awards operates at two levels - state/territory and national. State and territory selection committees choose four finalists for each Award category, with one of these finalists becoming the state/territory Award recipient. State/territory award recipients then become the national finalists for the Awards.
- Tasmania's finalists in each category are:

TAS Australian of the Year Finalists

Mr John Xintavelonis

Dr Nick Gales

Ms Jane Hutchinson

Ms Annette Downs

TAS Senior Australian of the Year Finalist

Mr Bill Casimaty

Prof Ian Allison AO AAM

Ms Jean Hearn

Mrs Beryl Smith

TAS Young Australian of the Year Finalist

Dr Lila Landowski

Mr Zac Lockhart

Ms Bianca Welsh

Ms Meg Cooper

TAS Local Hero Finalist

Ms Raymond Arnold

Mr Ross Jones

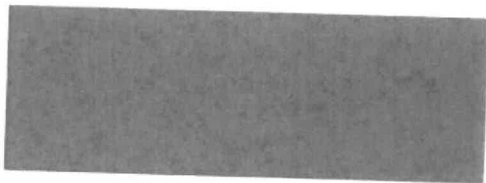
Ms Sonya Williams

Ms Ann Harrison

- The Tasmanian Award recipients will be announced at a presentation evening at the Henry Jones Hotel on 6 November 2015.
- This prestigious program culminates in the announcement of the national Award recipients in Canberra on Australia Day eve.

BACKGROUND

- Each year our nation celebrates the achievement and contribution of eminent Australians through the AOTYA by profiling leading citizens who are role models for us all. They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia.
- The Awards provide all Australians with the opportunity to recognise someone they consider worthy of your attention in four categories:
 - Australian of the Year
 - Senior Australian of the Year
 - Young Australian of the Year
 - Australia's Local Hero
- Being nominated for the AOTYA is a great honour. The Awards give the community an opportunity to recognise and reward someone who makes them proud to be an Australian.
- During October and November presentation ceremonies are held around the country announcing the finalists of each state and territory.



#28

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: media@dpac.tas.gov.au
To: Friday, 6 November 2015 5:31 PM
Subject: [REDACTED]
Tasmanian Australian of the Year



6 November 2015

Bill Hodgman, Premier

Tasmanian Australian of the Year

STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 7 PM

The 2016 Tasmanian Australian of the Year Award is conservationist Jane Hutchison.

Ms Hutchison received the honour for her important and innovative conservation work with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy (TLC).

Ms Hutchinson is one of a handful of volunteers who started the TLC in 2001. Since then, the TLC has grown from \$50 bank account to a \$30 million organisation which protects 65,000 hectares of habitat for threatened flora and fauna.

Each year our nation celebrates individuals who inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia.

There is no doubt the Tasmanian Award recipients have made a tremendous contribution to shaping our state and congratulate them all:

- * Tasmanian Senior Australian of the Year, glaciologist Prof Ian Allison AO AAM;
- * Tasmanian Young Australian of the Year, mental health advocate Zac Lockhart and
- * Tasmania's Local Hero, printmaker and founder of Landscape Art Research Queenstown Raymond Arnold.

While there can only be four award recipients, every finalist deserves our gratitude and respect.

Our award winners will now be considered for the 2016 Australian of the Year Awards, which will be announced by the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, in a ceremony in Canberra on the eve of Australia Day.

Contact:

Phone: 0

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[15murray.dpac.tas.gov.au/u?id=105020.ccebe4dc5eb8afcb6dd831b72a58edf3&n=T&l=media_office_releases&o=49947](http://lyris-15murray.dpac.tas.gov.au/u?id=105020.ccebe4dc5eb8afcb6dd831b72a58edf3&n=T&l=media_office_releases&o=49947)

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