

Queen Elizabeth II - Happy Birthday

Her Majesty has visited Tasmania on no less than seven occasions, the first being in February 1954.

During that visit—the first by a reigning monarch to Australia—Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh toured around Tasmania, visiting Hobart and Launceston and touring the North West.

Throughout her reign, Her Majesty has personified grace, dignity, duty and service.

For all of us, republicans monarchists or whoever, we can be proud to wish Her Majesty a happy birthday and many happy returns.

Her Majesty's enduring service and commitment to duty over the past 63 and a half years is a record for any British monarch.

During her reign, Australia has had 14 Prime Ministers and Tasmania 15 Premiers.

For most Tasmanians, Her Majesty is the only monarch and Australian head of state that they have known.

She has been head of state of 32 different Commonwealth countries and is currently head of 16 realms whose Westminster system of government and democracy is a legacy for which we can all be thankful.

Her majesty's record long reign has represented stability in an unstable world and has been a source of comfort and strength for the institution.

She has provided hope and inspiration for the community, particularly during times of crisis or war.

Although holding a privileged position, her commitment to duty and deep love of Australia and Tasmania, has ensured that she continues to be held in great esteem within this country.





I had the privilege of hearing her speak in the Great Hall of Parliament House in Canberra during her 2011 visit.

Apart from being dazzled by her regal dress and sparkling crown, her speech was one of the best I have heard.

You knew she cared deeply for our country and was aware of the issues of the day.

Her Majesty knew of Australia's place in the world in the context of history and admired our growing confidence as a nation.

Tasmanians have long admired Her Majesty and we are thankful for her faithful and enduring service.

Last September I compiled a book of special good wishes from hundreds of Tasmanians from across the state congratulating Her Majesty upon her becoming Britain's longest serving monarch and have now hosted a special birthday celebration in the state parliament in honour of her Majesty's birthday which is 21 April although as a state we recognise her birthday officially on Monday I3 June.

Let us pay our respect and honour to Her Majesty for her outstanding service over the years and recognise her birthday by raising our glasses in her honour.

- Her Majesty The Queen's visits to Tasmania
- 1954 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart, Launceston, the North-West and Connorville
- 1963 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart
- 1970 The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne visited Hobart, Launceston, Ranelagh and Longley
- 1977 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart, Launceston and Bridgewater
- 1981 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart, Launceston and Rokeby
- 1988 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart, Launceston and the North-West
- 2000 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Hobart and Launceston