

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Call goes out to University alumni in 125<sup>th</sup> milestone year: Welcome home

The University of Tasmania has announced a week-long celebration designed to engage its alumni in Tasmania and lure back those further afield.

Welcome Home Week – believed to be the first of its type in Australia – is a central component of celebrations for the University’s milestone 125<sup>th</sup> year.

“There is no greater source of pride for our University than an alumni network of more than 100,000 staff and students – present and past,” Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said. “Our record of national standing and global impact exists because of the collective intellect and energy of this group.

“It is on that basis we welcome them back to share in a celebration of our 125<sup>th</sup> year – an event which has already produced an enormous amount of pride and celebration.

Held from August 29 to September 5, Welcome Home Week will include 150 events including receptions, sporting contests, gala dinners, workshops, school and faculty reunions, public lectures, art and cultural exhibitions.

University Executive Director (Advancement) Young Dawkins said: “The University has been a central part of many lives across Tasmania, Australia and the world.

“Welcome Home Week will allow people the opportunity to come together and celebrate a connection with one of the nation’s longest-established, most esteemed centres of research and higher learning.”

Each of Tasmania’s campuses will participate in the event with a range of local attractions and celebrations morning teas, public lectures, tours and exhibits.

Throughout 2015, the University has held alumni events throughout Australia and in key international markets – each have had unprecedented attendance. Other key dates have included the University’s gala foundation dinners in Burnie on June 25, and scheduled in Launceston (September 10) and Hobart (December 11).

**Highlights include:**

- A State Reception on August 29, hosted by alumnus the Hon. Will Hodgman, Premier of Tasmania.
- A key address by University Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen on August 31.
- University Open Day – held across the University’s Hobart, Burnie and Launceston campuses and institutes on Sunday, 30 August.
- Welcome Home Week Highland Games.
- Beyond the Classroom – An art exhibition of Tasmanian educators at the Academy Gallery.
- The revival of Vice-Chancellor’s Challenge Cup – a historic rowing event, which pits the North versus South on September 5.
- A series of special public lectures.
- Future of Education Showcase – how education in Tasmania has evolved.
- Research Week – featuring innovative research and technologies where are aiming to meet local and global challenges.
- Medicine Now and Then Historical exhibit.
- A historic perspective on study and research in the Antarctic.

**For more information and event listings visit [www.utas.edu.au/alumni/welcome-home-week](http://www.utas.edu.au/alumni/welcome-home-week)**

**Information released by:**

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