

**Speech for Tasmanian Seafarer's Memorial**  
**Sunday 19 October 2008**

**Acknowledgements**

- Michael Polley, Speaker of the House of Assembly and member for Lyons
- Senator Eric Abetz
- Mayor Cadart of Glamorgan-Spring Bay
- Lord Mayor of Hobart, Rob Valentine
- Representatives of our armed services
- Representatives of our ex-servicemen's associations
- The many distinguished guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour to be able to represent the Premier, David Bartlett, in saying a few words on this important Memorial Day.

The life of the sea is synonymous with the life of Tasmania.

From surfers catching the next wave, to fishers catching the next tuna – we have all felt the allure of the sea - and the waters around this island have been the scene of great triumphs.

But throughout history, the sea has exacted a terrible price in return for what it has given us.

Today, we add new names to this memorial, in honour of our fellow Tasmanians who gave their lives in the service of their country.

Each generation – in war and in peace – has endured the dark tragedy of lives lost at sea.

This memorial is important because it gives us a place to remember them - to read their names and celebrate their lives.

Today, in our small way, we pay tribute to those who never returned to shore.

We salute the spirit of adventure and service that they embodied;

And though the sea may have taken their lives, we retain their memory in this community.

Lest we forget