

Legislative Council
HANSARD
Tuesday, 18 JUNE 2024

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
Guests of Members for Nelson and Rumney

[11.16 a.m.]

Mr PRESIDENT - Before I call on special interest matters, I would like to welcome guests of honourable members to the Chamber today.

Guests of the member for Nelson are: Barbara Marshall, from Kingston Beach Coastcare; Peter Stronach, Chief Executive Officer of Landcare Tasmania; Nicole King, Trainee Aboriginal Land Manager Officer with Kingborough Council; Tracey Dillon, Chief Executive Officer of the South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation; Rene Raichert, Coordinator of Natural Areas and Biodiversity with Kingborough Council; and Elizabeth Quinn, Manager of Environmental Services with Kingborough Council. Welcome to you.

Guests of the member for Rumney are Erica Maxwell and Alan Perdon

SPECIAL INTEREST MATTERS
Tasmanian Landcare Awards

[11.17 a.m.]

Ms WEBB (Nelson) - Mr President, I am delighted to rise today to celebrate the success of those recognised last month at the Tasmanian Landcare Awards held at Government House, and also the 30th anniversary of Landcare Tasmania. The State and Territory Landcare Awards 2024 honour individuals, groups, and organisations making outstanding contributions for caring for the environment in their local communities for the benefit of all Australians - today and for generations to come.

Finalists and winners are celebrated for their dedication and the inspiration that they provide as the backbone of Landcare efforts in our state. I note that winners of the State and Territory Landcare Awards will have the opportunity to run for National Landcare Awards to be held later this year. I know members here will join me in wishing the Tasmanian winners the very best for that endeavour.

I was honoured to attend the awards event and, while I congratulate all winners recognised there, I am proud to share that three organisations connected to the electoral division of Nelson were awarded that evening. These organisations were Kingston Beach Coastcare, South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation (SETAC) and Kingborough Council.

I am pleased to have the CEO of Landcare Tasmania, Peter Stronach, as well as some of the successful award recipients join us today in the Chamber. I also acknowledge those who could not make it along today, but whose efforts we also celebrate. I am pleased to speak about these brilliant groups, how they contribute to the Kingborough community and demonstrate that keeping community at the heart of what they do creates rewarding and impactful action for improving the world around us.

The Kingston Beach Coastcare Group received the Greyhound Coastcare Award, [CHECKED] which is awarded to a community group or network that has shown active commitment towards improving a marine and coastal environment. Kingston Beach Coastcare is a group of passionate individuals under the leadership of Barbara Marshall. They meet once a month to restore the coastal, riparian and marine habitats around Kingston Beach, Browns River and Tyndall Beach. The group was founded in 2000 to

address an invasive weed that was rapidly spreading across the area. The group is always keen welcome new volunteers to monthly working days where they remove weeds, collect rubbish and plant native plants.

As someone who cherishes walking along Kingston Beach and surrounding areas, I can assure you that the enthusiastic efforts of these volunteers have not gone unnoticed. They have greatly improved the lives of many in their community who value this beautiful natural area.

The group is currently working on restoring and improving promenalinah/Browns River saltmarsh as well as working on the Tyndall Beach Car Park Coastal Erosion Mitigation Project. It is wonderful that the conservation efforts of Kingston Beach Coastcare could be recognised. I wish them all the best in their ongoing commitment to supporting these rich and diverse coastal environments.

The First Nations Landcare Collaboration Award was received by the South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation (SETAC), in partnership with the Kingborough Council. This partnership between Kingborough Council and SETAC, as well as NRM South and Bruny Farming, was established in 2018, piloting an Aboriginal schools-based apprenticeship program in conservation and ecosystem management from TAFE Tasmania.

The program equipped people with the necessary skills to work in a wide variety of roles in the conservation and ecosystem management industry, as well as in indigenous land management and ecological restoration. SETAC endeavours to empower Aboriginal people of south-east Tasmania to support the ongoing development of the Aboriginal community and promote indigenous history and culture. Their partnership with the Kingborough Council has been greatly beneficial to the environmental conservation of Bruny Island. They were able to offer a three-year trainee Aboriginal land management officer position, funded by NRM South through the Priority Actions for Eastern Quolls on North Bruny Island project.

This project was undertaken by Kingborough Council and community members to protect Bruny Island's wildlife from the threat of roaming domestic cats and better protect the biodiversity of the area. The partnership underpinning this project has facilitated the exchange of cultural knowledge to connect the community with the land and truly make a significant positive impact. I commend what has been achieved.

Landcare Tasmania was the first independent state peak body for land care in Australia.

As well as coming together to recognise award recipients on 30 May, Landcare Tasmania celebrated its 30th birthday. This is an wonderful achievement in itself with 30 years of a unique movement which has enabled the protection, restoration and care for Tasmania's beautiful natural areas.

Over those 30 years, Landcare Tasmania has grown into a robust community of more than 300 member groups and more than 6900 volunteers statewide. Together, they continue to protect and restore the soils, waterways, flora and fauna that make Tasmania unique.

It is evident that caring for the landscape is something that Tasmanians highly value. The Landcare community, represented by those thousands of volunteers all over the state, has played an important role in leading community awareness programs, facilitating citizen science and training, as well as landscape-scale projects. I know the state government has provided continued support for the land-care community through Landcare Tasmania for many years. I hope we will see that generous support continue in the future.

In conclusion, Mr President, I again congratulate all recipients of the 2024 Tasmanian Landcare Awards, especially those connected with the Nelson electorate, and extend my best wishes for their continued important efforts in caring for our beautiful state.

Members - Hear, hear.