

MEDIA RELEASE

Alexandrina Council Heritage Awards

30 May 2022

Heritage enthusiasts from around the region attended Carruthers Hall in Strathalbyn on Thursday, 26 May for the annual Alexandrina Council Heritage Awards.

Organised by Council's Heritage Advisory Committee, the awards recognise and celebrate the hard work undertaken by residents, businesses and community groups on some of our most iconic heritage properties, along with those who contribute to recognising and researching our region's history and heritage. Guest speaker Ron Kandelaars from Seven News engaged with the audience in an interview style presentation, speaking on a number of topics including 'what makes news' and 'how do you get heritage stories into a Seven News bulletin'. Ron also displayed and provided commentary on a number of videos from some of his favourite heritage stories he has presented to date. Award categories and winners included:

- Heritage Gardens and Fencing – Rob and Helen Fairweather for 5 Ashbourne Road, Strathalbyn;
- Conservation Practice – Evan and Denise Higgins at 31 North Parade, Strathalbyn;
- Historic Research – Eastern Fleurieu School, Milang;
- Heritage Tourism – Strathalbyn Players Inc. (Youth Theatre).

Commendations were awarded in the categories of Heritage Tourism, Conservation Practice and Historic Research. Commendation recipients are recognised for their significant contributions made in preserving and promoting local heritage:

- Heritage Tourism – Woodburn Homestead and Glenbarr Estate;
- Conservation Practice – Strathalbyn RSL;
- Historic Research – Hope Forest Residents Association and Friends of the Strathalbyn Cemetery.

Congratulations to Mayoral Award recipient Evan and Denise Higgins for the restoration of the *Dollar Cottage at 31 North Parade, Strathalbyn*, who were selected by Mayor Keith Parkes from across the six categories and award recipients.

The Dollar Cottage and former Butchers Shop is a State Heritage listed property and was constructed by James Close in the 1860's. The shop and adjoining residence were constructed of stone rubble walling with brick quoining and originally had slate roofing. The complex of shop, residence and associated walled yard are an outstanding representation of early commercial premises within South Australia's rural settlements of the 1860's.

Evan and Denise have been progressively restoring the property and in particular managing the salt damp, undertaking stone repairs and re-roofing. Given that the building is state heritage listed the ongoing restoration work ensures that the building continues to remain an iconic building within the Strathalbyn township and in particular contributes to the predominantly heritage listed buildings along

North Parade. It is important to recognise the work of a private land-owner who is committing to honouring the original building and method of construction.

Council would like to thank the Strathalbyn Oval Controlling Committee for hosting the event and providing a wonderful space.

More information about the Alexandrina Council Heritage Awards can be found at www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/heritageawards



Photo Caption: Alexandrina Council Heritage Award winners at Carruthers Hall, Coronation Road Strathalbyn. Back row L-R includes Mayor Keith Parkes, Evan Higgins, Denicse Higgins, Bill Bullock, Vickie Clark, Janet Rankine, Mr David Basham, Cindy Westphalen Bev Rowe, Cr Craig Maidment, Helen Fairweather, Brian Simpson. Front row L-R includes Merran Jolley, Melissa Maidment, Tabitha Lewis and Grace Colliver. Photo credit to Rob Fairweather.