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MEDIA RELEASE

Historical sundial restored in Strathalbyn's Soldiers Memorial Gardens

8 July 2021

The landmark and significant sundial in Strathalbyn's Soldiers Memorial Gardens has undergone a restoration in recent months and was unveiled on Thursday 8 July with Mayor Keith Parkes, Councillors Rex Keily and Craig Maidment, and Richardson family members in attendance.

The original sundial was unveiled in 1938 by the then-Mayoress of Strathalbyn, Mrs JS Richardson, in memory of the late William and Margaret Richardson, who were key pioneers and benefactors of Strathalbyn. Mr and Mrs Richardson made bequests to many groups and projects including the Agricultural Society, Presbyterian Church, Soldiers' Memorial Endowment Fund, the Institute and the Strathalbyn Children's Bridge, among others.

Restoration works include a new bronze sundial plate, with the original gnomon and granite top affixed to the pedestal. In addition, a new bronze commemorative plaque in recognition of William and Margaret Richardson has been installed within the existing recess on the pedestal.

Mayor Keith Parkes spoke of the importance of the sundial and its restoration.

"It is a privilege to see this beautiful sundial unveiled in memory of William and Margaret Richardson. They were integral members of the Strathalbyn community and through their hard work and generosity, helped shape the town as we know it today. I am pleased for the community and the Richardson family that the sundial has been restored to its former glory for all to enjoy."

Next time you're walking through the gardens on a sunny day, be sure to take a look and check that your watch is on time.