My congratulations to the event organisers of the first ever Gone Nuts, Tasmania’s 101 Adventure Run. It was such a great event for the region and my best wishes to them for this to become an annual event on the calendar. To witness the start of the run at The Nut in Stanley at 6am on the Saturday was just magic. The mindset of the competitors to focus on the test of endurance that faced them must have been enormous. The stamina, guts and determination on show was overwhelmingly admired by the spectators and support crews that followed the event to the finish line. It was a great sight to see them come in to welcoming cheers in Gutteridge Gardens. Well done to all those involved (including some council staff members) on a mammoth and once again my best wishes for the future.

Friday February 24 saw the finals of the Australian Tourism Awards in Darwin. It was great to see so many Tasmanian businesses among the finalists, including our very own Wonders of Wynyard Exhibition Centre. To have done so well at the national awards is really great for Tassie.

Last week I attended the site of the old Somerset Primary School, where work is due to begin shortly to build housing. The council is supportive of this development and it’s pleasing to see the site put to use, after the school was closed in 2011. Having a good quality housing development close to the central area of Somerset will be good for the community.