




Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Heritage Conservation, Grants

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection) (9.49 am): I am delighted today to announce a grants program to conserve and promote Queensland's heritage listed places and historic shipwrecks. At the outset, I convey my thanks to Marisa Vecchio, the owner of Hanworth House, for hosting my visit yesterday in the midst of a very busy building program restoring that house following an arson attack earlier this year.

The Newman government recognises that protecting Queensland's heritage is important. It helps us to define who we are. Once lost, it is gone forever. This government has reiterated its commitment to support these valuable reminders of our past. A total of \$600,000 is available for heritage conservation projects. Funding for projects ranges from \$2,000 to \$40,000. The heritage phase of the program provides two streams of funding—smaller scale projects of \$2,000 to \$10,000 and larger scale projects of \$10,000 to \$40,000 for heritage projects that seek to engage the community in conserving, understanding and appreciating Queensland's cultural heritage.

We are particularly looking for individuals who own heritage registered properties, community groups, historical societies, friends groups, P&C associations and not-for-profit trusts and associations that want to undertake heritage projects. This is the first heritage grants program run by a state government for a number of years, because the former government took an axe to heritage grants in this state. We understand the importance of recognising our past and preserving and celebrating our heritage for future generations. This funding builds on the \$3.4 million to 83 successful projects for landscape and habitat conservation which I recently announced under round 2 of the Everyone's Environment grant program.

Successful landscape and habitat conservation projects will be implemented across a range of locations from the gulf to Southport on the Gold Coast, responding to environmental issues including weed and pest management, litter clean-up activities, habitat and wetland restoration and water quality monitoring. To date, round 1 and round 2 have allocated \$6.3 million across 157 projects throughout the state. I look forward to continuing to work with Queenslanders to protect and enhance what is great about this great state.