

2 February 2023

Councillor Anna Reynolds  
Lord Mayor  
Hobart City Council

*Ref – Endorsement for commemorative bench for Shirley and Bill Foster*

I am writing to express my support for the installation of a commemorative bench for Shirley and Bill Foster. I have known the Fosters for approximately 35 years and feel the plaque would be an appropriate acknowledgement of Shirley and Bill and their connection with Hobart, particularly Battery Point, both in terms of their long-term presence in the area, as well as their support of the community.

Shirley was a wonderful and generous woman who has contributed so much to so many over the years. She lived in St Georges Terrace for over 60 years, where she brought up her five lovely daughters. She was known in the area for her beautiful roses, always immaculate, as was her house.

Shirley was an active member of the community all of her life, being involved in various clubs and also being an unofficial ambassador for Hobart, always happily greeting and welcoming tourists and the like into her home, being a beacon of happiness and positivity.

Bill is also a wonderful ambassador for Battery Point, growing up in the community, completing his apprenticeship at the local boat building facility and continuing his life in and around the area. Bill also generously contributed his time as a guide for National Trust Walks, being supported by Shirley providing an open house and morning tea.

Bill's passion for Battery Point and Hobart is evident in the way he has expressed and carried himself throughout his life. His memoir *A Battery Point Kid* depicts his love and fond memories of all aspects of his life. Bill received a medal of the Order of Australia in 2007 for his service to the community, particularly through preserving and promoting Tasmania's maritime heritage.

I am happy to provide any more information, wonderful stories and further detail in support of the endorsement. Please feel free to contact me.

Regards

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