



Heather Butler, MP

Labor Member for Lyons

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See Maria Island's Sea Beds Like Never Before

The wonders of Maria Island's marine reserve have been revealed for visitors with a new \$150,000 multi-media presentation on the island.

Labor Member for Lyons Heather Butler officially launched the facility today, saying that the new multi-media presentation would add yet another dimension to Maria Island National Park's special appeal.

"Maria Island has a unique mix of natural beauty, both on the island and in the marine reserve, as well as its rich cultural heritage."

Ms Butler said the project was funded under the State Government's Tourism Infrastructure fund which delivered power and internet access to the Commissariat Store on the island allowing it to be utilised better by visitors and staff. The Department of Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts also purchased a high definition underwater video camera and housing.

"The new multi-media presentation provides the opportunity for all island visitors to experience the stunning marine environment from the comfort of the Commissariat Store."

"The presentation showcases the Maria Island marine reserve, including underwater footage of seals at the nearby Ile des Phoques, colourful jewel anemones under the jetty and a wreck dive on the Troy D.

"It also includes vision of other Tasmanian marine reserves such as Macquarie Island and the Kent Group.

"Visitors who want to get more involved in the marine environment can investigate underwater action in real time from the remote camera under the jetty or explore the rock pools at the Painted Cliffs with a new waterproof brochure.

"The new interpretation is part of a Tourism Infrastructure Fund project to improve Tasmania's top 10 Great Wildlife Sites, including Maria Island."