

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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## HISTORIC BRISTOL HILL TOWER RESTORED AND OPEN TO VISITORS

Maryborough's historic Bristol Hill Tower has officially re-opened, allowing community and visitors to safely enjoy this unique landmark and help draw more visitors to regional Victoria over the summer holidays.

The re-opening follows comprehensive renovations by local builder Daryl Maffescioni. Specialised equipment and skills were required to work on the 15-metre-tall tower, ensuring its heritage values were preserved and safety improved.

Works included installing new rails and mesh-fencing as well as rendering, graffiti removal and fresh paint applied inside and out. Repairs were also undertaken to the stairs and plaques featuring words from Australian poet and writer Henry Lawson, as well as non-slip surfaces added to some steps.

The lookout boasts panoramic views over Maryborough and surrounding bushland but was closed in 2021 due to vandalism and concern for visitors' safety.

A newly installed gate can will be locked to protect the tower from vandalism and deter anti-social behaviour. It is expected that access to the top of the tower will be available between sunrise and sunset.

The Labor Government continues to work closely with members of the local community to manage the Tower's function.

The refreshed Bristol Hill Tower is again the centrepiece in its natural bush setting and a beacon for locals and visitors. It will draw more people outdoors and not only help promote health and wellbeing but bring economic benefits of increased tourism to the area.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos**

*"We're incredibly proud to see the community and visitors in Maryborough enjoying the tower's history, surrounding bush walks and grand views for many years to come."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett**

*"The Bristol Hill Pioneer Memorial Tower is an iconic Maryborough landmark. I'm thrilled that it has now been restored by a local builder and will be back open for the community to enjoy."*