

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE AWARDS**

*Statement by Minister for Heritage*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Minister for Heritage)** [12.20 pm]: It gives me great pleasure to advise members of this house that on Friday, 29 March, I presented awards to honour the many dedicated members of the heritage industry and community who have been instrumental in elevating the value of Western Australia's heritage. The 2019 Western Australian Heritage Awards marks the twenty-seventh year of this prestigious event, which recognises the exceptional contributions made by heritage professionals, volunteers and organisations, and celebrates their commitment to heritage conservation, adaptive re-use, interpretation and tourism across Western Australia. The people and projects that come to light during the heritage awards are defined by a passion and dedication to heritage, to conserving and restoring heritage places and telling the stories that articulate Western Australia's identity through its history and development.

Twenty individuals and heritage projects were honoured at the 2019 event. The adaptive and imaginative reuse of the historic Katanning Roller Flour Mill into the Premier Mill Hotel was recognised across three categories, receiving the prestigious Gerry Gauntlett award, acknowledging excellence in the area of conservation or adaptation of a heritage place. The Katanning Roller Flour Mill has been the heart of Katanning since its foundation in 1891. It has now been creatively conserved and gives visitors the chance to stay in an old grain silo.

I commend Rail Heritage WA, which received the judges' award—the Professor David Dolan award—for its excellent ongoing work in preserving our important rail heritage. I also commend RPS Group Australia, which received a commendation for professional contribution in recognition of its work on one of Australia's largest repatriation efforts at Fitzroy Crossing Pioneer Cemetery. The judges noted the complexity of the project, which required RPS Group Australia to use innovative technology, including advanced geomatics, to assist with the identification of potential human burial locations, which were then reinterred in a newer cemetery location, safe from flooding. I again congratulate all those who were recognised on the night and wish our WA conservation projects the very best of luck for the UNESCO awards.