Mr BARNETT (Lyons) - Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to acknowledge the hard work and success of the Norfolk Plains Jazz Festival that was held over the weekend at Longford. It started on Friday night, 18 September. The official launch was on Saturday morning and I had the opportunity to participate, together with my wife, Kate. It was launched by Mayor David Downie, and attended by the federal member for Lyons, Eric Hutchinson, and Mark Shelton and other distinguished guests. The jazz festival is in its second year and is going from strength to strength. A number of events were held, firstly at the Anglican Church in Longford, and then at the Happy Chef. They had a street march on the Saturday and further events on the Sunday. I want to pay a tribute to Don Ives who has led the charge, together with a band of volunteers to help make this happen. He has done this on the smell of an oily rag. He has people and jazz artists from all over Australia. They come down and stay for a long weekend, thoroughly enjoy themselves and give members of the public a real taste of jazz and a lot of happy and memorable times together. I want to pass on congratulations in this House to Don Ives and his team.

There was also a wonderful weekend, starting on Friday night, for the Hagley Farm School. The Hagley Farm School is celebrating a 160-year anniversary and the open day was on Saturday. On Friday night, as an old boy of the school and current president of the Friends of the Hagley Farm School, I had the honour and pleasure of launching the book, The History - The First 100 years of the Hagley Farm School by historian Jenny Walters. I also had the opportunity to launch and officially open the photographic exhibition in the hall at Hagley Farm School. I want to congratulate Jenny Walters on her painstaking work and to pull together this wonderful book. They were sold thick and fast on Friday and Saturday and, I am sure, are still selling. It has a very rich history and heritage and it is one of which we can all be very proud. I am biased and particularly proud, being a former old boy and also being a resident and living at Quamby which was built by Sir Richard Dry, whose 200-year anniversary was last Sunday. He donated the first two acres to get the school going and was a benefactor for the school and put some money into the original schoolhouse and the buildings. Sir Richard is buried under the St Marys Anglican Church at Hagley under the altar, and is one of the most famous Tasmanians. He was the first Tasmanian-born premier and first Tasmanian-born knight. He has a long history with the Hagley Farm School.

There is a lot to be said about the Hagley Farm School. The open day was really well attended. My wife, Kate, and I also attended with so many hundreds of others. I want to pass on a specific congratulations first to Mick Davy, the principal and their entire team of teachers and team at the
Hagley Farm School. Sharon Cook and Lauren Beams did so much. They had a celebration committee for the 160-year anniversary, as they should, but it involved a lot of hard work, going beyond the call. I want to thank Anthony Harris, Lou Garwood, Chris Johns, Janette Thomas and Kylie Johns.

There was a lot of history and heritage discussed and debated and the actual cocktail party on the Friday night was so exciting. You could cut the air with a knife because there were so many stories being told about the history and heritage of people involved with the school. The cottage boys, for example, were there. Those were the boys who stayed in the cottages as boarders at Hagley Farm School all those years ago. Lloyd Evans, who was the oldest cottage boy, was present on the Friday night. He rang the bell on behalf of all the cottage boys and there was a special photo with them.

There were reflections on the various principals, past and present. I have had the opportunity of knowing or being associated with many of them, including Mick Davy but also Peter Carney. I know many in this Chamber will know of him and his wonderful contribution to the school. To the principal when I was there, Ken Neville and wife Yvonne, I acknowledge their wonderful work. Mr Cross, when I arrived, was the principal and Stuart Maslin was before him. He is an institution at the Hagley Farm School and contributed so much over such a long time. Interestingly, his daughter, Toni Jones, nee Maslin, is my godmother. There is another connection. Toni Jones's father-in-law was Vernon Jones who was also a principal for a short time at the Hagley Farm School and at the Launceston Grammar School. There are a fair few connections.

The school association put in a huge effort and the Parents and Friends Association as well. It took a host of volunteers to pull it all together. The school hosts are not just the 400 students who are there currently but 4 500 to 5 000 students a year visit Hagley Farm School and learn more about agricultural education and the importance of it from paddock to plate. They learn that eggs come from a chook and the milk from a cow. There is a lot to be thankful for.

I see that more than 150 000 Tasmanians are estimated to have visited the Hagley Farm School and Environment Centre at the various camps since 1979. That is a lot of Tasmanians to visit Hagley Farm School. We can be very proud of this wonderful school.