

Mountain is a place cherished by all

THE Hobart City Council is to be commended for its ongoing recognition that Mt Wellington is a special place for both locals and visitors. The recent news that it has allocated \$1.42 million in its capital works budget for trackwork on the mountain demonstrates its commitment to the ongoing need for maintaining and upgrading this network. The improvements to the Organ Pipes track are progressing well and recent photos in the

Mercury captured helicopters delivering bags of surface material to the site. When completed this trail will undoubtedly become an iconic walk for all ages to enjoy. Fern Tree park is a popular access point to the mountain and the Council has approved a redevelopment of this area. The proposed new toilet, picnic and playground facilities, more parking spaces and improved signage is an exciting prospect. Finally, the coun-

cil's initiative to commission a pre-feasibility study to establish some guidelines for the future development of a visitor centre at The Springs is visionary. It is 50 years since Tasmania lost the Springs Hotel and with tourist numbers increasing, a centre which not only provides a gateway to the mountain but showcases its offerings will be welcomed by all.

Mick Hawkins
Bellerive

Mercury 28 June 2017